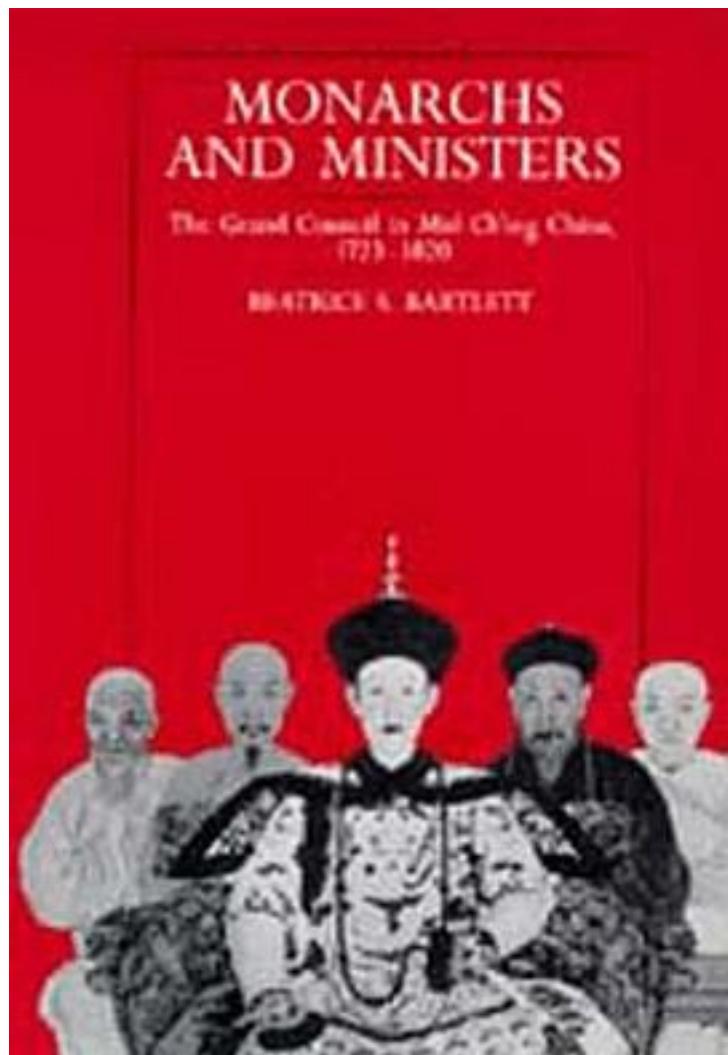


# Monarchs and Ministers



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著者:Beatrice S. Bartlett

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This book describes the transformation of Ch'ing governance from monarchical rule to ministerial administration, presenting a wholly new account of the Grand Council's founding and rise to dominance. This period has been viewed as an era of intensified government centralization and increasing autocracy, but Bartlett persuasively demonstrates that this characterization must be modified in the light of her findings.

Bartlett identifies the inner-outer court dichotomy—often studied in earlier dynasties but never before in the Ch'ing—as the key framework for understanding Grand Council development. She conclusively shows how the council arose from the Yung-cheng Emperor's attempt to enhance his own power by establishing several small subordinate (and not at all grand) inner-court staffs to bypass the outer-court bureaucracy. A single centralizing and managing body worthy of the title "grand" came into being only after Yung-cheng's death. As a result of the council's first century of growth, imperial power was subtly undermined even though it continued in force. Bartlett argues that it was the council's consolidated power as much as the strength of the monarchy that enabled the Ch'ing dynasty to achieve greatness in its middle years—defeating the Mongols and enlarging its territories—and at the end prolonged its life in spite of foreign incursions, internal rebellions, and infant emperors.

The Grand Council is the only high privy council of imperial China for which substantial documentation survives. For this book Bartlett traveled to both Taipei and Beijing to consult the newly available archival sources in both Chinese and Manchu necessary for her research. Her feat of archival reconstruction is a tremendous service to the entire field. Her findings on the Grand Council's patterns of growth, particularly such factors as inner-court informality and secrecy, the far-flung eighteenth-century military campaigns, the tripling of paperwork, and the manipulation of communications, will be useful to scholars studying similar phenomena in other periods and contexts, as Bartlett suggests in connection with the rise of the Ming grand secretaries.

Monarchs and Ministers offers a lively and fresh account of eighteenth-century Chinese political history that will engage the general reader as well as China specialists in many fields.

## 作者介绍:

Beatrice S. Bartlett is Professor of History at Yale University. She has lived and traveled widely in Taiwan and the People's Republic of China and has written extensively on Ch'ing communications systems and the Ch'ing archives.

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## 标签

清史

海外中国研究

新清史

政治史

白彬菊

历史

明清史

军机处

评论

姜还是老的辣，欧立德本科老师。清代军机处的源起与发展，“法外”的概念，内廷与外朝的分野，军机处期初作为内廷一部分、逐渐成为连接内外桥梁的壮大过程，取代原有议政王大臣会议，并比原有会议更加确立满汉双支柱的大臣决策地位。注重特定官员个人在皇帝面前利用军机处角色与功能发挥的作用。

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描述了军机处的诞生过程，认为是多个机构融合的结果。对中国读者来讲，看看序言和结论就行了。extra-legal的概念很棒。本书认为皇上不是全知全能的，得跟大臣掰扯东西；国内学界似乎不太承认这一点。

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very very hardcore institutional history, oh dear

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整书以内廷、外朝的视野观察军机处的诞生史。面对政治运作困境，康熙与雍正采取一系列改革，但雍正时军机处只是内廷的多个分散机构之一，而乾隆初年的总理事务王大臣则将各部整合为一后，军机处才真正出现，形成沟通内外的满汉大臣决策政府，实现从monarchical rule到ministerial administration转变。换言之，皇帝与大臣不得不合作，大臣拥有着极高的决策权，军

机处实际上改变了康熙、雍正通过内廷改革维持独裁的初衷，君权反而得到限制。通过白彬菊(Beatrice S. Bartlett)这部描述18世纪清代政治的《君与臣》，能更好地理解孔飞力(Philip A. Kuhn)《叫魂》中提到的官僚君主制。

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law and bureaucracy

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## 书评

军机处之于清代中后期的政治生态，如同内阁之于明代中后期的政治生态一般，都具有非同寻常的重要意义。加上清代是距离当下最近的一个王朝，因此各种关于军机处和军机大臣故事的展现，在各类影视文学作品里屡见不鲜。然而遗憾的是，关于军机处的专著，却一直以来颇为鲜见。最近...

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对一棵大树来说，如果它的根脉越深，那么它的树干就越稳定，由于吸取的水分够多，所以树冠也就愈发茂盛。不幸的是，树可以成为一个整体，而人却很难做到。  
对于一位君主来说，他就好比一棵树的树干，仅树干而已。假如根脉过分延伸，就可能导致周遭平地上一颗新树苗破土而出， ...

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网络上曾流传过雍正和乾隆两位皇帝的“搞笑”批示。前者的批示感情色彩浓厚，夸人都直抒胸臆，而后的批示则套话连篇，各式各样的“知道了”被网友玩坏了。总之，两位清代皇帝的批示都与想象严重不符，甚至让人大跌眼镜。  
经由美国学者白彬菊的这本讨论清中期军机处的书， ...

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