

BRIEF HISTORY OF CONTEMPORARY CHINA

FROM THE BOXER REBELLION TO THE 21ST CENTURY

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Historical essay

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Delve into the history and culture of the world's most populous state, which during the 20th century went from the Qing dynasty to the most important economic power on the planet. From the end of the monarchy, the civil and Sino-Japanese war, the People's Republic of China, and the Korean War, to Tian'anmen, Xi Jinping, and their leadership in the globalised world.

Synopsis

China's history has been, since prehistory, convulsive and full of infighting and civil wars. Unfortunately, the second half of the 19th and 20th centuries was no different. Nor has China been without controversy in a period when the press, and international interference, have played an active role in the country. However, outside the historiographic realm, few works have decided to treat this century and a half rigorously. This book thus brings clarity to the contemporary history of a country, without whose presence, the current reality of the planet could not be understood. Beginning in the last years of the Qing dynasty, the reader will attend to the end of the monarchy, and to the beginning of the Republic of China, and then make way for the present-day People's Republic of China. The reader will picture its importance in the Korean War, and by extension in the Cold War, and its openness to the global economy. In addition, the emblematic people of each period will be studied, as well as the importance of each period, and the literary and artistic productions of each moment.

Biography

Rubén Almarza González holds a degree in History by the UCM, and a Master's Degree in Archives, Document Management, and Digital Continuity by the UC3M. He works as an editor for the magazine ArtyHum, he has published in different Spanish, and Argentine university journals. He regularly collaborates with the publishing house Playa de Akaba for which he co-edited the anthology of stories "Things That Matter To Us". He is the webmaster of the blog "Against Inertia": <https://contralainercia.wordpress.com> dedicated to Japanese culture and society. He has published the work *Brief History of Feudal Japan*.



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Sales pitch

- *Brief History of Contemporary China* explains the historical, political, and cultural processes of Chinese society from the Boxer Rebellion to the present day. The book will cover the most significant episodes in China's history: the Qing dynasty – the last in its history – , the loss of Korea as an ally, the Chinese Republic, the Chinese Civil War, the establishment of communism, Mao's rise, and subsequent death, as well as the country's openness to the global economy, the Tiananmen protests, and the economic expansion of recent years.

- This title presents an overview of a territory, paying special attention to the second half of the 19th and 20th centuries which have been little treated in historiography. It also presents the international influence on the country, and the role that China played in politics in key episodes such as the Korean War, World War II, the Cold War, or globalisation.

- This work presents a different perspective about the country from that of existing historiography. It has an informative character, and focuses on historical, political, and cultural processes, dealing tangentially with the war aspects.

- The book explains the role of great figures such as Mao tse Tung, the current President Xi Jinping, or Den Xiaoping, and discusses the processes that led China to become the world's first economic power. It dedicates a chapter to the Westernisation of Chinese culture through literary texts, audiovisual productions, and works of art.

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