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# COMPLETE HISTORY OF TAI-PING TIEN-KUO

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一九五七年夏至一九五九年夏，香港大學東方文化研究院之研究費，先後由美國哈佛燕京社（Harvard-Yenching Institute）及亞洲協會（Asia Foundation）捐出。著者於此兩年內，繼續任研究員。本書全部草稿，在本人加入本院前早已完成，但在此期內整理舊稿，修正全部及重寫一部分，兼編製附圖，乃以付梓，謹此誌謝。

本書共印一千部，排印費約需港幣二萬餘元。叨蒙本院及各親友慷慨捐助其大部分，始得出版。謹將芳名表出（以捐款先後爲序），用申謝忱，並留紀念。

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## 引言

這部新書，是著名的太平天國歷史家簡又文先生所撰「太平天國典制通考」之姊妹作。前書爲二千二百餘頁的鉅著，分訂三冊，于一九五八年由著者印行，在香港出版。同樣，本書亦分訂三冊，但比前著尤爲豐厚，計共二千四百頁有奇，附圖八十六幅。

這兩部偉大著作，表出簡先生四十餘年的研究搜討工作之總成績。于其間，他曾遊歷昔年太平天國區域內許多地方，到處蒐羅本土人民所珍藏而未經發表之太平史料、文物。凡此皆能吐射新光以顯出此一運動之性格者。然其于兩書所施用之方法則各異。前著，卽如書名涵義，所載各篇都爲太平治下各方面的生活之研究，表出太平天國典章制度之橫截面，如天號、官職、禮儀、璽印、宮室、科舉、天曆、鄉治、田政、泉幣、食貨、外事、女位、軍紀、及宗教等是也。至本書則將整個運動的史事作系統的敘述，由太平天國之開基創業者洪秀全之出生始，直至太平軍全部之消滅止。事蹟之紀載，大致均按史乘先後次序，惟有幾個特殊戰役，則分別寫出，各爲獨立的一章。其中，雖時期交錯而與全部史蹟不能聯接，讀者却

可于每一重要的戰役順序追蹤而得知其一始一末。綜合全書二十九章，我們便有這一部「太平天國全史」。

這部書所採用的史料，大概由四大源頭蒐集而來：（一）太平遺物、文件、及書籍；（二）中國文件及書籍，包括中國大陸最近所發見者；（三）外國著者之專著及論文，內有百年前出版者；（四）由著者親到洪氏故鄉及廣西十三邑——凡太平軍崛起及走過之地——采訪觀察之所得。

著者于每一史蹟之地點、時期、實況、及人物，均一一加以最慎重的考證。這實是艱難的及刻苦的任務。結果：乃得到許多新的結論，甚至新的發見，而與種種傳說的信念大不相同的。（其中有些新結論或新發見，著者早已發表于以前的著作中，為現代中外史家所接納而奉為權威之作。）于這些精密的研究之外，更補充以「注釋」，附錄于各段有關的正文之後，如「腳注」式，常有很詳細的引語及討論，以利便學人。

所希望者，這部學術巨著之問世，將向太平運動自始至今仍有好些晦暗不明的部分，吐出大量新光，使其日趨清明。尚有可言者：前後這兩部書另有便利適宜的摘要，在「洪秀全載記」可以得見。這是著者應臺灣當局之邀約，特為其最近印行之一清史——而特撰者。此當為讀者所樂聞的。



簡先生現爲香港大學東方文化研究院名譽研究員。以前，由一九五四年至一九五九年六月，曾連任本院研究員。本院這幾年之研究費，均係哈佛燕京社所捐出者。簡先生在此期間，將本書全部舊稿修正及重寫其一部分。我們對於哈佛燕京社之贊助，謹表謝忱。而簡先生撰著這部書最後的工作乃在本院完成，此亦我們所樂爲銘誌的。

一九六二年一月二日 香港大學東方文化研究院院長林仰山

UNIVERSITY



OF HONG KONG

INSTITUTE OF ORIENTAL STUDIES

FOREWORD

This new book by Mr. Jen Yu-wen (Kan Yau Man) well-known historian of the Taiping Tienkuo, is a companion volume of his previous vast publication of over 2,200 pages in three volumes, 'Studies on the Institutions of Taiping Tienkuo' published by the author in Hong Kong in 1958, and like it, it is in three volumes, but on a still vaster scale, reaching to some 2,400 pages with eighty-six maps and illustrations.

These two great works together represent the results of some forty years of study and research, during which time Mr. Jen travelled extensively through Taiping Tienkuo country, collecting on the spot unpublished source material and relics of the Taiping regime preserved among the local people, which throw new light upon the character of the movement. The method however is different in each book. While the previous work, as its name implies, consists of a series of studies of different aspects of life under the Taipings, so presenting a cross-section as it were of Taiping Tienkuo institutions, such as the official system, rites, seals, palaces, appointments, the calendar, examinations, rural administration, land administration, numismatics, the economic system, foreign affairs, women's status, military

discipline, and religion; the new book on the other hand offers a systematic presentation of the historical events of the entire movement, beginning from the birth of Hung Hsiu-ch'üan, the originator and founder of the Taiping Tien-kuo, to the final collapse of the Taiping army. Events are narrated mainly in historical order, but some particular campaigns are treated in separate independent chapters in spite of some overlapping in time, so that the reader may follow each important event from the beginning to the end. Thus taking the twenty-nine chapters together, we have a 'Complete History of the Taiping Tienkuo'.

The source materials used in the book are chiefly gathered from four main sources: (1) authentic relics, documents, and publications of the Taiping; (2) documents and books by Chinese writers including recent discoveries from Mainland China; (3) books and articles by foreign writers including works published some hundred years ago; and (4) findings from the author's own field-trips to the home village of Hung and thirteen districts of Kwangsi province in which the Taiping army arose or which it traversed.

The checking of places, dates, circumstances, and persons connected with each event, a difficult and painstaking task, has been most carefully done; as a result of which the author has arrived at many new conclusions, even new discoveries, differing considerably from traditional beliefs. (Some of these, reported already in his earlier writings, have been accepted as authoritative by contemporary historians, Chinese and foreign). These critical studies have been appended



immediately after the paragraphs concerned in the form of footnotes, often including lengthy quotations and discussions, for the benefit of scholars.

It is hoped that the publication of this scholarly work will throw much new light on hitherto obscure parts of the Taiping movement. The reader will be interested to know that a convenient digest of these two works may be found in the Biography of Hsü-ch'üan, which the author was commissioned to write for the Ch'ing History published by the authorities in Taiwan.

It remains to add that Mr. Jen, who is at present an Honorary Fellow of the Institute of Oriental Studies at the University of Hong Kong enjoyed a Research Fellowship financed by the Harvard-Yenching Institute from 1954 to June 1959 tenable at the Institute of Oriental Studies, University of Hong Kong, during which time he revised and in part rewrote the work here presented. We record our gratitude to the Harvard Yenching Institute for this assistance, and our pleasure that Mr. Jen was connected with the Institute of Oriental Studies of this University during the final part of his labours.

*F. S. Drake*

F. S. Drake  
Director  
Institute of Oriental Studies

January 2, 1962.

## 蕭序

曩聞友人陳援菴、洪煨蓮、二先生稱簡又文先生研究太平天國史，頗心儀其人。後讀所著「太平天國雜記」及韓山文「太平天國起義記」譯本，始知其學有專詣。余以治清史之故，對太平軍之史實，亦加意蒐討，因鈐「太平天國叢書」及「詔諭」「書翰」等。又文先生既創「逸經」半月刊於海上，余亦主辦「經世」半月刊於南京，乃以書抵余，約爲同道，始訂文字之交。抗日軍興，先生遷香港，復創「大風」雜誌，以立法院會議蒞渝，訪余驛館，抵掌傾譚，相期甚殷。香港淪陷，逃難北來，盡棄所有，惟太平天國史料，視同性命。在粵西調查經歲，徧歷紫荆金田遺跡，訪其耆獻，證以地形，因先成「太平軍廣西首義史」如千卷，示余索序。余與先生既數聚處，深知其博雅亢爽，乃當代俊傑士也。斯編豈足以盡又文之學？實不過一嚆引耳。余之言抑何能增益吾友？特略述所感而已。

太平軍爲我國近代民族革命之壯瀾，行動思想，均有源流可尋，事之不成，蓋由時代使然。以洪楊所處之環境，正列強帝國主義方張之時。以洪楊所受之教育，正滿清鈐制政策生效之後。世界潮流，閤智無識，中國

變局，懵焉莫辨。以故襲耶教之餘義，而不能革新文化，利用外交；受儒家之影響，而不知託古改制，汲引士人；其敗宜也。然一線相承之民族主義，一瞥所見之民權民生主義，均足以啓後聖而開新運，爲國民革命之先河。此中因緣，余論之者數矣。顧其事爲清室所禁忌，一時典章偉蹟，概付焚如。說者或以赤眉黃巾視之，豈不可嘆也哉！民國以後，發潛德之幽光，揚皇漢之武功，太平史蹟，始漸爲學者所注意。然實錄野乘，殘編遺文，傳諸異域，散藏民間。十餘年來，流傳既多，一撮一勺，輒號專家。殊不知學術有賴功力，纂輯而非著述，尙未能博覽洽聞，慎思明辨，則亦無以成一代之全史。甚矣，其難也！又文先生既傾力於中外新舊史料，復掇拾於菰蘆山澤之間，以廿載之幾掣，寫八桂之遺史。客民迺徼，粵士顯績，躍然如覲。至子註繁於正文，則「淮海亂離志」，「洛陽伽藍記」，「關東風俗傳」，均有厥體，而近人重系統，其例尤難縷指。先生於中西學術，早登壺奧，宜能就科學方法，考據確核，綜合融貫，以成多年失眞之「太平天國全史」。余日夕馨禱於吾友者，蓋在本末之僉載，而不在一隅之初紀矣。盱衡宇內，微又文其孰與責！

中華民國三十二年一月蕭一山謹識