

Empire at the Margins

*Culture, Ethnicity,
and Frontier in Early Modern China*

EDITED BY

Pamela Kyle Crossley,
Helen F. Siu, and Donald S. Sutton

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA PRESS

Berkeley Los Angeles London

University of California Press
Berkeley and Los Angeles, California

University of California Press, Ltd.
London, England

© 2006 by The Regents of the University of California

Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data

Empire at the margins : culture, ethnicity, and frontier in early modern China / edited by Pamela Kyle Crossley, Helen Siu, and Donald Sutton.

p. cm. — (Studies on China ; 28)

Includes bibliographical references and index.

ISBN 978-0-520-23015-6 (cloth : alk. paper)

1. Ethnicity—China—History. 2. China—Ethnic relations—History. I. Title: Culture, ethnicity, and frontier in early modern China. II. Crossley, Pamela Kyle. III. Siu, Helen F. IV. Sutton, Donald S. V. Series.

DS730.E67 2005

305.8'00951'0903—dc22

2005018339

Manufactured in the United States of America

15 14 13 12 11 10 09 08 07

10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2

The paper used in this publication meets the minimum requirements of ANSI/NISO Z39.48-1992 (R 1997) (*Permanence of Paper*).

CONTENTS

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS / *vii*

NOTES TO READERS / *ix*

Introduction / *i*

PART I. IDENTITY AT THE HEART OF EMPIRE

1. Ethnicity in the Qing Eight Banners
Mark C. Elliott / *27*
2. Making Mongols
Pamela Kyle Crossley / *58*
3. "A Fierce and Brutal People": On Islam and Muslims in Qing Law
Jonathan N. Lipman / *83*

PART II. NARRATIVE WARS AT THE NEW FRONTIERS

4. The Qing and Islam on the Western Frontier
James A. Millward and Laura J. Newby / *113*
5. The Cant of Conquest: Tusi Offices and China's Political Incorporation of the Southwest Frontier
John E. Herman / *135*

PART III. OLD CONTESTS OF THE SOUTH AND SOUTHWEST

6. The Yao Wars in the Mid-Ming and their Impact on Yao Ethnicity
David Faure / *171*
7. Ethnicity and the Miao Frontier in the Eighteenth Century
Donald S. Sutton / *190*
8. Ethnicity, Conflict, and the State in the Early to Mid-Qing: The Hainan Highlands, 1644–1800
Anne Csele / *229*

PART IV. UNCHARTED BOUNDARIES

9. Ethnic Labels in a Mountainous Region: The Case of She "Bandits"
Wing-hoi Chan / 255
10. Lineage, Market, Pirate, and Dan: Ethnicity in the Pearl River Delta
of South China
Helen F. Siu and Liu Zhiwei / 285
- Conclusion / 311
- NOTES ON CONTRIBUTORS / 321
- BIBLIOGRAPHY / 325
- GLOSSARY OF CHARACTERS / 347
- INDEX / 367

Focusing on the Ming (1368–1644) and (especially) the Qing (1644–1912) eras, this book analyzes crucial moments in the formation of cultural, regional, and religious identities. The contributors examine the role of the state in a variety of environments on China's "peripheries," paying attention to shifts in law, trade, social stratification, and cultural dialogue. They find that local communities were critical participants in the shaping of their own identities as well as the character and behavior of the state, which was sometimes institutionally definitive but could also be a symbolic and contingent entity. They demonstrate how the imperial discourse is many-faceted, rather than a monolithic agent of cultural assimilation.

The nine case studies encompass the external borders of the Ming and Qing empires in the Northeast, Mongolia, and Xinjiang, and the rich cultural diversity and complex political dynamics of south and southwest China, including Hainan. They emphasize the internal boundaries linking the sedentary and the nomadic, the more and less intensive forms of agriculture, written and oral histories, the city and the countryside, legal and hidden economies, Chinese religious traditions and Islam. The volume as a whole illustrates how, in late imperial times as well as in the past century, people at the margins of empire often had a role in the struggle for control of history, whether by drawing the center around themselves or struggling to define and legitimate life outside that center.

"This book makes a major contribution to our understanding of the construction of identity, especially ethnic identity, in China. The essays are well written and of high quality, and the research is uniformly impressive. *Empire at the Margins* will likely become a standard work concerning the frontiers of China and the peoples who lived there in the early modern period."

JOANNA WALEY-COHEN, New York University

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA PRESS BERKELEY 94704 WWW.UCPRESS.EDU

ISBN-13: 978-0-520-23015-6

ISBN-10: 0-520-23015-9



9780520230156