

THE CHINESE RESPONSE TO  
BRITISH AND RUSSIAN  
ENCROACHMENT IN NORTHWEST  
CHINA.

FRANKLIN, LAWRENCE ANTHON  
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ST. JOHN'S UNIVERSITY, PH.D., 1978

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THE CHINESE RESPONSE TO BRITISH AND RUSSIAN  
ENCROACHMENT IN NORTHWEST CHINA

A dissertation submitted in partial  
fulfillment of the requirements  
for the degree of

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY

to the faculty of the Department of

HISTORY

at

St. John's University  
New York

by

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Submitted

Date

✓ July 5, 1978  
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July 5, 1978

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## PREFACE

The nineteenth century confrontation between Anglo-Russian imperial interests that transformed the southern rim of the Eurasian landmass into an arena of high tension has often been the subject of historical inquiry. While the majority of existent studies focus on the British presence, there are a goodly number of works that treat the Russian dynamic in Central and east Asia. However this dissertation will undertake a study of the Chinese overall response to European encroachment in its northwestern territories, most particularly Sinkiang. Heretofore, there has been a pronounced lack of elaboration of the Chinese historical profile in Sinkiang, of what their interests and policy imperatives have been in the area.

This dissertation will address itself to the above-described deficiency. The dynamics of the Ch'ing decision making process and the uniquely Chinese character of its policy with regard to the various crises in Sinkiang is worthy of scholarly analysis.

This study is of value because it examines the less apparent elemental motivations that propelled the competitors to become protagonists in a series of imbroglios in northwest China. This dissertation will endeavor to portray convincingly the profound reappraisal China was impelled to make of itself, its reexamination of the truth of traditional axioms, and the readjustments that were forged in its

diplomatic relations with nation-states, all as a consequence of the vicissitudes of China's fortunes in the northwest.

Finally, this project is both timely and useful in its attempt to supply, in historical perspective, an assessment of the possible future significance of Sinkiang as it affects China's internal integrity and relationships with bordering states, in particular those with the Soviet Union.

Chinese language primary source materials have been extracted from the Asian Collection of St. John's University and the Oriental Collection of the Kent Library at Columbia University.

Russian language primary source materials have been researched at Columbia University's Russian Institute and at the Slavic Collection of the Main Branch of the New York Public Library.

The initial phase of research involved a review of British governmental documentation, i.e. Consular Reports, Military Correspondence, Parliamentary Blue Books, and the private papers of personalities who occupied positions of policy making stature, and who directly influenced events in the area. This documentation was catalogued in the British Museum, the British Public Records Office--drawing upon records of the War, Admiralty and Foreign Offices--and various British Public Library branches, museums and semi-official repositories.

Secondary source materials have been researched at branches of the New York Public Library and at various metropolitan university libraries. Supplementary governmental documentation was obtained from the Library of Congress and National Archives in Washington, D.C. In



addition newspaper, periodical and cartographic sources were utilized at the Main Branch of the New York Public Library, the United States Army War College Library in Carlisle, Pennsylvania, and the holdings of the American Geographical Society in New York City.