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0521419646 - Liu Tsung-yuan and Intellectual Change in T'ang China, 773-819

Jo-Shui Chen

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This book is the first comprehensive study in a Western language of Liu Tsung-yüan (773–819), a major literary and intellectual figure in Chinese history. The main aspects of Liu's life and work are explored: the social and cultural background of his family, his relationship with the *ku-wen* prose reform and new canonical scholarship in the mid-T'ang, his social and political criticism, his views on Confucian doctrine, and his sentiments and reflections regarding the private realm of human life.

But the scope of this study goes beyond the "life and work" of this principal intellectual figure. With his special emphasis on the connections between Liu's thought and mid-T'ang intellectual change, the author offers a new interpretation of the origins of the T'ang–Sung intellectual transition. Through a comparison of Liu's ideas with those of other major Confucian thinkers, Jo-shui Chen modifies the conventional view that the mid-T'ang Confucian revival led by Han Yü (768–824) and Liu Tsung-yüan was a precursor of Sung Neo-Confucianism. He suggests that the mid-T'ang Confucian movement was essentially a revival of an old form of Confucianism and that Liu's was a powerful voice expressing this sentiment. But some new elements, particularly certain ideas held by Han Yü and his followers, emerged in this revival, finally paving the way for the burgeoning of Neo-Confucian metaphysical and moral philosophy.

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To my parents

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Chronology

Former Han		202 B.C. – A.D. 8
Later Han		A.D. 25 – 220
Three Kingdoms		220 – 280
Western Chin		265 – 316
Era of Disunion		
North:	Sixteen Kingdoms	301 – 439
	Northern Wei	386 – 534
	Eastern Wei	534 – 550
	Western Wei	535 – 556
	Northern Ch'i	550 – 577
	Northern Chou	557 – 581
South:	Eastern Chin	317 – 420
	[Liu] Sung	420 – 479
	Southern Ch'i	479 – 502
	Liang	502 – 557
	Ch'en	557 – 589
Sui		581 – 618
T'ang		618 – 907
	Emperor Kao-tsu	618 – 626
	Emperor T'ai-tsung	627 – 649
	Emperor Kao-tsong	650 – 683
	Empress Wu	684 – 690
[Wu] Chou	Empress Wu	690 – 705
	Emperor Chung-tsung	705 – 709
	Emperor Jui-tsung	710 – 712
	Emperor Hsüan-tsung	712 – 755
	Emperor Su-tsung	756 – 761
	Emperor Tai-tsung	762 – 779
	Emperor Te-tsung	780 – 804
	Emperor Shun-tsung	805
	Emperor Hsien-tsung	806 – 820
Five Dynasties		907 – 960
Northern Sung		960 – 1127
Southern Sung		1127 – 1279

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Abbreviations

<i>CTS</i>	<i>Chiu T'ang shu</i>
<i>CTW</i>	<i>Ch'üan T'ang wen</i>
<i>CYKWC</i>	<i>Ch'en Yin-k'o wen-chi</i>
<i>CYLY</i>	<i>Chung-yang yen-chiu-yüan li-shih yü-yen yen-chiu-so chi-k'an</i>
<i>HCLC</i>	<i>Han Ch'ang-li chi</i>
<i>HTS</i>	<i>Hsin T'ang shu</i>
<i>LTYC</i>	<i>Liu Tsung-yüan chi</i>
<i>LYHC</i>	<i>Liu Yü-hsi chi</i>
<i>Taishō</i>	<i>Taishō shinshū daijōkyō</i>
<i>TCTC</i>	<i>Tzu-chih t'ung-chien</i>
<i>TFYK</i>	<i>Ts'e-fu yüan-kuei</i>
<i>THY</i>	<i>T'ang hui-yao</i>
<i>TKSC</i>	<i>Tu Kung-pu shih chi</i>
<i>TLHW</i>	<i>T'ang Lü Ho-shu wen-chi</i>
<i>TTCC</i>	<i>T'ang ta chao-ling chi</i>
<i>YTC</i>	<i>Yüan Tz'u-shan chi</i>