

Cambridge University Press

0521482267 - From Chronicle to Canon: The Hermeneutics of the Spring and Autumn,

According to Tung Chung-shu

Sarah A. Queen

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

Every general account of the development of Chinese thought makes mention of Tung Chung-shu (ca. 195–105 B.C.E.) as one of the pivotal philosophers of the Han (206 B.C.E.–220 C.E.). Tung's interpretations helped establish the first state-sponsored Confucian Canon, and created an ideal of the ruler and his role in government that was central to political discussion for two thousand years. The lengthy work attributed to him, the *Luxuriant Gems of the Spring and Autumn* (*Ch'un-ch'iu fan-lu*), has long been viewed as an important text for understanding the development of Chinese Confucianism.

Professor Queen provides a new reading of this text and concludes that it was compiled several centuries after Tung's death, sometime between the third and sixth centuries C.E., from Tung's authentic writings and other materials not authored by him. By historicizing the *Luxuriant Gems of the Spring and Autumn*, Queen allows a new view of Tung Chung-shu, one that sees his hermeneutics evolving not outside of history, but in relation to the political factors and doctrinal discourses that defined his day. Queen challenges the common assumption that Tung's purpose was to legitimate the political status quo. The author argues that Tung was a reformist, intent on persuading the emperor, whose power was institutionally unlimited, to accept voluntarily the role of sage-priest and become the ritual center of the realm, separated by his self-discipline from the business of governance for which his officials were responsible.

From chronicle to canon also addresses Chinese religious phenomena.

Approaching 'scripture' not as a literary genre but as a religiohistorical phenomenon, Queen illuminates the nature of Confucian spirituality both in its own right and in relation to Western traditions of religiosity and textuality.

Cambridge University Press
0521482267 - From Chronicle to Canon: The Hermeneutics of the Spring and Autumn,
According to Tung Chung-shu
Sarah A. Queen
Frontmatter
[More information](#)

Cambridge Studies in Chinese History, Literature and Institutions

General Editor, Denis Twitchett

FROM CHRONICLE TO CANON

Cambridge University Press
 0521482267 - From Chronicle to Canon: The Hermeneutics of the Spring and Autumn,
 According to Tung Chung-shu
 Sarah A. Queen
 Frontmatter
[More information](#)

Other books in the series

- William T. Graham, Jr.** 'The Lament for the South': Yü Hsin's *Ai Chiang-Nan Fu*
Michael Godley The Mandarin-Capitalists from Nanyang: Overseas Chinese
 Enterprise in the Modernisation of China, 1893–1911
Charles Backus The Nan-chao Kingdom and T'ang China's
 Southwestern Frontier
A. R. Davis T'ao Yüan-ming: His Works and Their Meaning
Victor H. Mair Tunhuang Popular Narratives
Ira E. Kasoff The Thought of Chang Tsai
Robert Hymes Statesmen and Gentlemen: The Elite of Fu-chou, Chang-hsi, in
 Northern and Southern Sung
D. L. McMullen State and Scholars in T'ang China
Tim Wright Coal Mining in China's Economy and Society, 1895–1937
Chih-P'ing Chou Yüan Hung-tao and the Kung-an School
Arthur Waldron The Great Wall of China: From History to Myth
Hugh R. Clark Community, Trade, and Networks: Southern Fujian Province
 from the Third to the Thirteenth Centuries
Jo-Shui Chen Liu Tsung-yüan and Intellectual Change in T'ang China, 773–819
Brian E. McKnight Law and Order in Sung China
J. D. Schmidt Stone Lake: The Poetry of Fang Chengda
Denis Twitchett The Writing of Official History under the T'ang
David Pong Shen Pao-chen and China's Modernization in the
 Nineteenth Century
J. D. Schmidt Within the Human Realm: The Poetry of Huang Zunxian,
 1848–1905
Eva Shan Chou Reconsidering Tu Fu: Literary Greatness and
 Cultural Context

Cambridge University Press

0521482267 - From Chronicle to Canon: The Hermeneutics of the Spring and Autumn,

According to Tung Chung-shu

Sarah A. Queen

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

From chronicle to canon

The hermeneutics of the
Spring and Autumn,
according to Tung Chung-shu

Sarah A. Queen

Connecticut College



Cambridge University Press
 0521482267 - From Chronicle to Canon: The Hermeneutics of the Spring and Autumn,
 According to Tung Chung-shu
 Sarah A. Queen
 Frontmatter
[More information](#)

Published by the Press Syndicate of the University of Cambridge
 The Pitt Building, Trumpington Street, Cambridge CB2 1RP
 40 West 20th Street, New York, NY 10011-4211, USA
 10 Stamford Road, Oakleigh, Melbourne 3166, Australia

© Cambridge University Press 1996

First published 1996

Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data

Queen, Sarah A. (Sarah Ann)

From chronicle to canon: the hermeneutics of the *Spring and Autumn*, according to Tung Chung-shu/Sarah A. Queen.

p. cm.

Includes bibliographical references and index.

ISBN 0-521-48226-7 (hc)

1. Tung Chung-shu, 2nd cent. B.C. Ch'un ch'iu fan lu.
 2. Confucianism and state - China - History. 3. China - History - Han dynasty, 206
 B.C.E.-220 C.E. I. Title.
 PL2470.Z7Q43 1996
 299'.51282 - dc20

95-43438
 CIP

A catalog record for this book is available from the British Library.

ISBN 0-521-48226-7 hardback

Transferred to digital printing 2003

Cambridge University Press
0521482267 - From Chronicle to Canon: The Hermeneutics of the Spring and Autumn,
According to Tung Chung-shu
Sarah A. Queen
Frontmatter
[More information](#)

To the memory of my friend,
Robert Andrew Heller,
for his courage and love

Contents

<i>List of tables</i>	<i>page</i> ix
<i>Acknowledgments</i>	xi
<i>List of abbreviations</i>	xiii
1. Introduction	1
PART I: Three perspectives on the authenticity of the <i>Ch'un-ch'iu fan-lu</i>	
2. A biography of Tung Chung-shu	13
3. A history of Tung Chung-shu's literary corpus	39
4. The authorship of the <i>Ch'un-ch'iu fan-lu</i>	69
PART II: Exegesis and canonization	
5. The <i>Spring and Autumn</i> and <i>Kung-yang</i> tradition	115
6. Reforming the Ch'in laws	127
7. The wider circle of Han jurisprudence	163
8. Refashioning the imperial rites	182
9. Canon, cosmos, and court patronage	206
10. Conclusion	227
<i>Appendix 1. The birth and death dates of Tung Chung-shu</i>	241
<i>Appendix 2. The dates of the <i>Han-shu</i> 56 memorials</i>	249
<i>Appendix 3. Han transmission of <i>Kung-yang</i> learning</i>	255
<i>Appendix 4. Han dynasty disciples of Tung Chung-shu</i>	256
<i>Appendix 5. Citations and titles attributed to Tung Chung-shu</i>	259
<i>Appendix 6. Transmission of <i>Ch'un-ch'iu fan-lu</i> editions</i>	264
<i>Selected bibliography</i>	269
<i>Index</i>	279

Cambridge University Press
 0521482267 - From Chronicle to Canon: The Hermeneutics of the Spring and Autumn,
 According to Tung Chung-shu
 Sarah A. Queen
 Frontmatter
[More information](#)

Tables

1.	The composition of the <i>Ch'un-ch'iu fan-lu</i>	<i>page</i> 77
2.	The exegetical chapters 1–6	78
3.	The exegetical chapters 7–37	80
4.	The Huang-Lao chapters	86
5.	The technical terminology of the Huang-Lao chapters	87
6.	The yin–yang chapters	94
7.	The five-phase chapters	102
8.	The ritual chapters	105
9.	A synoptic view of 74/2 and 75/2	109
10.	A synoptic view of 75/1 and 75/3	110
11.	Directives to induce rain	111
12.	Celestial–terrestrial correlations	224

Cambridge University Press
0521482267 - From Chronicle to Canon: The Hermeneutics of the Spring and Autumn,
According to Tung Chung-shu
Sarah A. Queen
Frontmatter
[More information](#)

Acknowledgments

Perhaps more than any other cultural heritage that has enriched our world, Confucianism has held tenaciously to the view that personhood is an interdependent process, coming into being and growing in relation to and participation with others. What is true of individuals pertains most assuredly to their creative endeavors. I am consequently indebted to many teachers, colleagues, institutions, and friends.

First and foremost I would like to thank Benjamin Schwartz, Tu Wei-ming, and William Graham, who directed this study in its first transmutation as a doctoral dissertation submitted to History and East Asian Languages at Harvard University. During its second metamorphosis from doctoral dissertation to book manuscript, conversations and correspondence with such eminent scholars as Michael Loewe, Wm.T. de Bary, A. F. P. Hulsewé, and Nathan Sivin proved invaluable. I extend special thanks to Nathan Sivin, who commented extensively on the manuscript and generously contributed to improving this study.

A number of other colleagues offered their criticisms and insights at various stages of this project. I am indebted to Irene Bloom, John Major, Lisa Raphals, Harold Roth, Karen Turner, Sze-kar Wan, Wu Hung, Robin Yates, and Judith Zeitlin. Jen Chi-yu of the Peking Library, K'ung Fan and Chung Chao-p'eng of the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, Institute of World Religions, and my classmates from Nankai University, Hsü Ya-min and Wu Ch'ung-kao, made great efforts to facilitate research conducted in the People's Republic of China. Special thanks are also due my students at Connecticut College who read and discussed earlier drafts of this work.

I would also like to extend my thanks to those institutions which provided financial assistance during the evolution of this study to its present form: to Wellesley College for granting me the Edna F. Moffet Fellowship to begin research on the dissertation, to the Woodrow Wilson National Fellowship Foundation for selecting me to receive the

Cambridge University Press
0521482267 - From Chronicle to Canon: The Hermeneutics of the Spring and Autumn,
According to Tung Chung-shu
Sarah A. Queen
Frontmatter
[More information](#)

Acknowledgments

Charlotte W. Newcombe Fellowship to continue research and writing, to the Mrs. Giles S. Whiting Foundation for providing a summer stipend to conduct research in the People's Republic of China and a year-long grant to complete the dissertation, and to Connecticut College for supporting a semester's leave of absence to conclude revisions on the manuscript. A subvention from the Chiang Ching-Kuo Foundation defrayed some of the publication costs for which I am grateful.

Most importantly I would like to thank my mother, Sylvia Queen, and my dearest friends Martha Fenn, Shelley Fried, Kathleen Harrington, Sandra Horbach, Robyn Rosen, and Johan van Wegen, whose gifts of friendship sustained me through these difficult years of loss and enabled me to complete this project.

Abbreviations

<i>CCFL</i>	<i>Ch'un-ch'iu fan-lu</i> (Luxuriant Gems of the Spring and Autumn) <i>Ssu-pu ts'ung-k'an</i> edition
<i>CCFLCCCI</i>	<i>Ch'un-ch'iu fan-lu chin-chu chin-i</i> (New Commentary and Explanations to Luxuriant Gems of the Spring and Autumn)
<i>CCFLIC</i>	<i>Ch'un-ch'iu fan-lu i-cheng</i> (Verification of the Meanings in the Luxuriant Gems of the Spring and Autumn)
<i>CHC</i>	<i>Ch'u-hsüeh chi</i> (Records of Elementary Learning)
<i>CLCSC</i>	<i>Chou-li Cheng-shih chu</i> (Master Cheng's Commentary to the Rites of Chou)
<i>CS</i>	<i>Chin-shu</i> (History of the Chin Dynasty)
<i>HHS</i>	<i>Hou-Han shu</i> (History of the Later Han Dynasty)
<i>HHSC</i>	<i>Hou-Han shu-chu</i> (Liu Chao's Commentary to the History of the Later Han Dynasty)
<i>HS</i>	<i>Han-shu</i> (History of the Former Han Dynasty)
<i>HTHHSC</i>	<i>Hsin-T'ang Hou-Han shu-chu</i> (New T'ang Commentary to the History of the Later Han Dynasty)
<i>HYISIS</i>	<i>Harvard-Yenching Institute Sinological Index Series</i>
<i>IWLC</i>	<i>I-wen lei-chü</i> (A Categorized Collection of Literary Writings)
<i>KWY</i>	<i>Ku-wen yüan</i> (Garden of Ancient Literature)
<i>LHCS</i>	<i>Lun-heng chu-shu</i> (Explanatory Notes to Discourses Weighed)
<i>LSCCCCI</i>	<i>Lü-shih ch'un-ch'iu chin-chu chin-i</i> (New Commentary and Explanations to Master Lü's Spring and Autumn)
<i>PTSC</i>	<i>Pei-t'ang shu-ch'ao</i> (Book Excerpts from the Northern Hall)
<i>SC</i>	<i>Shih-chi</i> (Records of the Historian)
<i>SS</i>	<i>Sung-shu</i> (History of the Sung Dynasty)
<i>SWCTC</i>	<i>Shuo-wen chieh-tzu chu</i> (Tuan Yü-ts'ai's Commentary

Cambridge University Press
 0521482267 - From Chronicle to Canon: The Hermeneutics of the Spring and Autumn,
 According to Tung Chung-shu
 Sarah A. Queen
 Frontmatter
[More information](#)

Abbreviations

	to the Explanation of Writings and Elucidation of Graphs)
<i>SYCC</i>	<i>Shuo-yüan chiao-cheng</i> (Collated and Revised Garden of Theories)
<i>TKYCC</i>	<i>T'ang K'ai-yüan chan-ching</i> (The T'ang Dynasty K'ai-yüan Reign Period Canon of Prognostications)
<i>TPYL</i>	<i>T'ai-p'ing yü-lan</i> (Imperial Digest of the T'ai-p'ing Reign Period)
<i>TT</i>	<i>T'ung-tien</i> (Comprehensive Documents)