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0521780713 - Chinese Professionals and the Republican State: The Rise of Professional Associations in Shanghai, 1912-1937

Xiaoqun Xu

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Chinese Professionals and the Republican State

The Rise of Professional Associations in Shanghai,
1912–1937

Xiaoqun Xu makes a compelling and original contribution to the study of modern China with this book on the rise of professional associations in the Republican era. Xu focuses on their origins and political and socio-cultural milieu in Shanghai, the center of their professional activities. This book is rich in detail about the key professional figures and organizations in Shanghai and fills an important gap in the city's social history.

The professional associations were, as the author writes, “unambiguously urban and modern in their origins and functions . . . representing a new breed of educated Chinese” and they pioneered a new type of relationship with the state. In analyzing the relationship between the state and society in this period, a central issue in China studies, Xu proposes an alternative to the Western-derived concept of civil society. This book illuminates the complexity of modernization and nationalism in twentieth-century China and provides a concrete case for comparative studies of professionalization and class formation across cultures.

Xiaoqun Xu is Associate Professor of History at Francis Marion University and a National Endowment for the Humanities Fellow.

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XIAOQUN XU

Francis Marion University



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For Yin and Daniel

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Acknowledgments

This book is the final incarnation of my Ph.D. dissertation at Columbia University. My interest in China studies started with my taking a class with Madeleine Zelin in the fall of 1989. Professor Zelin's engaging doctoral seminar attracted me to the study of modern Chinese history. Subsequently, as my dissertation adviser, she supported my idea to explore the rise of Chinese professional associations – at the time, a seemingly unpromising topic. During my years at Columbia, the rest of my dissertation committee – Andrew Nathan, Myron Cohen, Robert Hymes, and Michael Tsin – believed in the potential of my work and helped me in various ways.

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The completion of a draft manuscript for this book brought me into

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Abbreviations of Frequently Cited Sources

CSPSR	<i>Chinese Social and Political Science Review</i>
CWR	<i>China Weekly Review</i>
DZ	<i>Dongfang Zazhi</i>
FP	<i>Falü Pinglun</i>
FZ	<i>Faling Zhoukan</i>
GZG	<i>Guomin Zhengfu Gongbao</i>
MRD	<i>Minguo Renwu Dacidian</i>
MSX	<i>Minguo Shanghai Xianzhi</i>
NCH	<i>North China Herald</i>
QYTZHH	<i>Quanguo Yiyao Tuanti Zonglianhehui Huiwu Huibian</i>
SB	<i>Shi Bao</i>
SLGB	<i>Shanghai Lushi Gonghui Baogaoshu</i>
SnB	<i>Shen Bao</i>
STSFH	<i>Shanghai Tebieshi Shizheng Fagui Huibian</i>
SWZX	<i>Shanghai Wenshi Ziliao Xuanji</i>
SYZ	<i>Shanghai Yanjiu Ziliao</i>
SYZX	<i>Shanghai Yanjiu Ziliao Xuji</i>
WZX	<i>Wenshi Ziliao Xuanji</i>
XYZ	<i>Xinwen Yanjiu Ziliao</i>
YC	<i>Yijie Chunqiu</i>
YCH	<i>Yijie Chunqiu Huixuan</i>
YP	<i>Yiyao Pinglun</i>
ZG	<i>Zhengfu Gongbao</i>
ZGFH	<i>Zhengfu Gongbao Fenlei Huibian</i>
ZMXFD	<i>Zhonghua Minguo Xianxing Fagui Daquan</i>
ZXS	<i>Zhongyi Xin Shengming</i>