

## MIDDLE IMPERIAL CHINA, 900–1350

In this highly readable and engaging work, Linda Walton presents a dynamic survey of China's history from the tenth through the mid-fourteenth centuries from the founding of the Song dynasty through the Mongol conquest when Song China became part of the Mongol Empire and Marco Polo made his famous journey to the court of the Great Khan. Adopting a thematic approach, she highlights the political, social, economic, intellectual, and cultural changes and continuities of the period often conceptualized as "Middle Imperial China." Themes are addressed that also inform scholarship on world history: religion, the state, the dynamics of empire, the transmission of knowledge, the formation of political elites, gender, and the family. Consistent coverage of peoples beyond the borders – Khitan, Tangut, Jurchen, and Mongol, among others – provides a broader East Asian context and a more regionally and globally integrated representation of China's past.

LINDA WALTON is Professor Emerita of History and International Studies at Portland State University.

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MIDDLE IMPERIAL CHINA,  
900–1350

A New History

LINDA WALTON  
*Portland State University*



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Shaftesbury Road, Cambridge CB2 8EA, United Kingdom  
One Liberty Plaza, 20th Floor, New York, NY 10006, USA  
477 Williamstown Road, Port Melbourne, VIC 3207, Australia  
314–321, 3rd Floor, Plot 3, Splendor Forum, Jasola District Centre,  
New Delhi – 110025, India  
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For Griffin (b. 2017) and Nellie (b. 2021)

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## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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scholarship cited here is almost entirely in English. The justification for this from my point of view is that relevant scholarship in the English-speaking world is vast enough to present a daunting challenge to any attempt at synthesis, and that it is virtually impossible for a single scholar to be familiar with the wide range of scholarship in European languages, as well as Chinese, Japanese, and/or Korean, well enough to make use of beyond one's own area of expertise. I hope this explanation will convince most readers as a validation of the approach taken here.