

CONTENTS

*List of Tables*      page viii  
*Sigla and Translator's General Notes*      xi  
*Introduction to the English Edition*  
Timothy Cheek      xii  
*Author's General Notes on the 1937 Print*      xvii  
*Author's Foreword to the 1958 Reprint*      xviii

**Introduction**      1

**PART I Disasters and Famines in China**      5

1 Disasters and Famines in China: A Review of the Facts      7

Disasters and Famines in China: Historical Records      7

Disasters Recorded in Ancient Legends and in the History of the Shang Dynasty      7

Disasters Recorded in the Western Zhou, Eastern Zhou, Qin and Han Dynasties      12

Disasters Recorded in the Wei, Jin and the Southern and Northern Dynasties      15

Disasters Recorded in the Sui, Tang and the Five Dynasties      19

Disasters Recorded in the Northern and Southern Song Dynasties, the Jurchen Jin Dynasty and the Yuan Dynasty      23

Disasters Recorded in the Ming and Qing Dynasties      34

Disasters Recorded in the Republic of China      47

Disasters and Famines in China: Trends and Characteristics      54

2 Disasters and Famines in China: A Review of Causes      64

Natural Causes      64

The Role of Natural Conditions in Disasters and Famines      64

Climate Variability and Disasters      65

Geographical Conditions and Disasters      71

Social Causes      77

The Role of Social Factors in Disasters and Famines      77

Tyranny and Famines      80

Wars and Famines      91

Technological Backwardness and Famines      100

3	Consequences of Famines and Disasters	113
	Social Unrest	113
	Population Migration and Mass Deaths	113
	Peasant Uprisings	126
	Wars between Nations, States and Ethnic Groups	149
	Economic Recession	151
	Drastic Reduction of the Labour Force and Desertion of Farm Fields	152
	Collapse of the National Economy	159
	<b>PART II Disaster and Famine Relief: A Review of Ideas</b>	<b>169</b>
4	Praying to Deities to Disperse 'Evils'	171
5	Ideas for Reactive Relief	176
	Ideas for Relief during Disasters	176
	Giving Emergency Relief to Disaster Victims	176
	Regulating Grain Supply and Demand	181
	Carrying Out Rescue Operations	187
	Fighting Pests and Plagues	191
	Ideas for Post-Disaster Rehabilitation	198
	Relocating Disaster Refugees	199
	Tax/Corvée Exemption and Tax Relief through Instalment Agreements	203
	Granting Free Loans	209
	Practising Economy	212
6	Ideas for Disaster Prevention	217
	Ideas for Improving Social Conditions to Prevent Disasters	217
	Establishing Agriculture as the Fundamental Economic Sector	217
	Building Grain Reserves	221
	Ideas for Improving Natural Conditions to Prevent Disasters	225
	Construction of Flood-Control/Water-Conservation Projects	225
	Afforestation and Land Reclamation	235
	<b>PART III Implementation of Disaster and Famine Relief Policies in Chinese History</b>	<b>241</b>
7	Sorcery as a Relief Measure: A Review of Records	243
8	Implementation of Reactive Relief Policies in Chinese History	255
	Implementation of Emergency Relief Policies	255
	Types of Emergency Relief Policies and Their Effectiveness	255
	Regulation of Grain Supply and Demand: Methods and Prerequisites	279
	Types of Rescue Operations and Their Effectiveness	292
	Types of Pest- and Plague-Control Policies and Their Effectiveness	315

CONTENTS vii

Implementation of Policies of Post-Disaster Rehabilitation	330
Relocating Disaster Refugees	331
Tax/Corvée Exemption, Tax Relief through Instalment Agreements and Clemency	337
Carrying Out Agricultural Loan Relief Schemes	364
Practising Economy	377
9 Implementation of Policies of Proactive Disaster Prevention	388
Improvement of Social Conditions	388
Agricultural Promotion Policies and Their Effectiveness	388
Building Granary Systems	410
Improvement of Natural Conditions	440
Policies of Constructing Water-Conservancy Projects and Their Effectiveness	440
Policies of Afforestation and Land Reclamation and Their Effectiveness	457
 <i>Afterword: Tuo Deng and His History of Famine Relief in China</i>	
Wenhai Li and Mingfang Xia	471
<i>Appendix I Chronicle of Events in the History of Famine Relief in China</i>	
	477
<i>Appendix II Chronology of Tuo Deng</i>	510
<i>Appendix III List of Terms</i>	515
<i>Bibliography</i>	600
<i>Index</i>	618