In the Shadow of the Mongol Empire

During the thirteenth century, the Mongols created the greatest empire in human history. Genghis Khan and his successors brought death and destruction to Eurasia. They obliterated infrastructure, devastated cities, and exterminated peoples. They also created courts in China, Persia, and southern Russia, famed throughout the world as centers of wealth, learning, power, religion, and lavish spectacle. The great Mongol houses established standards by which future rulers in Eurasia would measure themselves for centuries. In this ambitious study, David M. Robinson traces how in the late fourteenth century the newly established Ming dynasty (1368–1644) in China crafted a narrative of the fallen Mongol empire. To shape the perceptions and actions of audiences at home and abroad, the Ming court tailored its narrative of the Mongols to prove that it was the rightful successor to the Mongol empire. This is a story of how politicians exploit historical memory for their own gain.

DAVID M. ROBINSON is Robert H. N. Ho Professor in Asian Studies and Professor of History at Colgate University in New York State. He is widely published, including Seeking Order in a Tumultuous Age: The Writings of Chŏng Tojŏn, A Korean Neo-Confucian, Martial Spectacles of the Ming Court, Empire's Twilight: Northeast Asia under the Mongols, and Bandits, Eunuchs, and the Son of Heaven: Rebellion and the Economy of Violence in Mid-Ming China.
In the Shadow of the Mongol Empire

*Ming China and Eurasia*

David M. Robinson

*Colgate University*
For Emily
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Abbreviations

Annals  Choi Byonghyon, The Annals of King T’aejo
BTGZ  Beijing tushuguan guji zhenben congkan
CHC  Cambridge History of China
CWS  Chosôn wango sillok T’aejo sillok
DMB  Goodrich and Fang, eds., Dictionary of Ming Biography
DMTZ  Zhu Yuanzhang, Da Ming Taizu huangdi yu zhi ji
DVSK  Đại Việt sử ký toàn thư (Chongqing and Beijing, 2015 edition)
EHHWZ  Sun Jimin, ed., E cang Heishuicheng Hanwen fei Fojiao wenxian zhengli
EHWX  E cang Heishuicheng wenxian
GCDG  Deng Shilong, ed., Guo chao dian gu
GCXZ  Jiao Hong, ed., Guo chao xian zheng lu
GQ  Tan Qian, Guo que
HCW  Li Yiyou, ed., Heicheng chutu wenshu
HFLB  Han fen lou bi ji
HGMJ  Han’guk munjip ch’onggan,
HGYT  Han’guk Yŏktae munjip ch’ongsŏ
HMZL  Fu Fengxiang, ed., Huang Ming zhao ling
HMZZ  Kong Zhenyun, ed., Huang Ming zhaoyi zhì
HSCYSP  Eluosi guoli Aiermitashi bowuguan cang Heishucheng yishupin
HYYY  Hua yi yi yu
JSLJZ  Li Xinfeng, Jishilu jianzheng
KS  Koryŏsa
KSCY  Koryŏsa choryŏ
MCKG  Mingchao kaiguo wenxian
MHWYB  Zhu Yuanzhang, Ming Hongwu yubi
MS  Zhang Tingyu, et al., eds., Ming shi
MSSL  Yang Xueke, Ming shi shi lu
MTHQ  Zhu Yuanzhang, Ming Taizu huangdi qinlu
MTZSL  Ming Taizu shilu
MYZSL  Ming Yingzong shilu
MZZC  Mingdai zhuanji ziliao congkan

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Abbreviation</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NCL</td>
<td>Zhu Yuanzhang, <em>Ni chen lu</em></td>
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<td>SKCM</td>
<td><em>Siku Quanshu cunmu congshu</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>SKJH</td>
<td><em>Siku quanshu jinhuishu congkan</em></td>
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<td>SLQJ</td>
<td>Song Lian, <em>Song Lian quan ji</em></td>
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<td>Shen Defu, <em>Wanli yehuo bian</em></td>
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