

**IMPERIAL RULERSHIP AND CULTURAL CHANGE IN TRADITIONAL CHINA, edited  
by Frederick P. Brandauer and Chun-chieh Huang.**

Seattle: University of Washington Press, 1995. 312 pages. \$40.00.

These eleven interdisciplinary papers originated in a 1992 conference in Taiwan. Though some will interest only historians, several will interest specialists in Confucianism and Chinese Buddhism. Two focus upon efforts by T'ang and Sung rulers to utilize Buddhism for legitimacy purposes; several others address the ideas and activities of Confucians of diverse periods, including Chu Hsi. Only Huang Chi-chiang and Brandauer seem aware of the profound imperial interaction with Taoism throughout medieval times. The scholarship is quite sound, and papers by Thomas H. C. Lee, Ku Wei-ying, and Brandauer are particularly stimulating. The editors contribute a useful introduction and conclusion that help integrate the volume. In sum, this is a sound and valuable collection of scholarly studies and belongs in all serious collections.

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