Record Nr. UNINA9910369921203321 Autore Hwang Minhyuk Titolo Fukuzawa Yukichi's Bourgeois Liberalism : The Betrayal of the East Asian Enlightenment / / by Minhyuk Hwang Pubbl/distr/stampa Cham:,: Springer International Publishing:,: Imprint: Palgrave Macmillan, , 2020 **ISBN** 3-030-21530-X Edizione [1st ed. 2020.] Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (185 pages) Collana Critical Political Theory and Radical Practice, , 2731-6599 320.51 Disciplina 320.092 Soggetti Political science Asia - Politics and government Japan - History World politics **Political Theory Asian Politics** History of Japan Political History Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia 1. Introduction -- 2. Social Background: Fukuzawa Yukichi and the Nota di contenuto Transformation of Japan -- 3. Learning to Reason: An Encouragement of Learning (Gakumon no susume) -- 4. Progress for National Autonomy: An Outline of a Theory of Civilization (Bunmeiron no gairyaku) -- 5. Existential Turn: Seeking National Recognition -- 6. Conclusion. Sommario/riassunto Fukuzawa Yukichi's Bourgeois Liberalism introduces readers to the East Asian Enlightenment led by Fukuzawa Yukichi, one of the most important figures in the intellectual history of modern Japan. Despite his impact on political theory and modern Japanese history, Fukuzawa remains under-researched in Western academia, and while a few English-language books have been written about Fukuzawa, none have

dealt with his political theory. This book describes Fukuzawa as a character with universal relevance and a unique view of the

Enlightenment tradition. Emphasizing the power of bourgeois liberalism and the debate regarding its potential for transforming the strict class-caste society of Tokugawa Japan, Hwang discusses Fukuzawa's belief in the significance of individual autonomy, progress, and liberal rule of law in developing his project of the East Asian enlightenment, as well as his supposed "betrayal" of his early commitments due to his existential desire for Western recognition of Japan's greatness. The book ends with an analysis of the complex relation between liberalism and progress in the East Asian context.