1. Record Nr. UNINA9910427037603321 Autore Chen Guangyu <1946-> Titolo Reading of Shaing inscriptions / / Kuang Yu Chen [and three others] Pubbl/distr/stampa Singapore:,: Springer,, [2020] ©2020 **ISBN** 981-15-6214-8 Edizione [1st ed. 2020.] 1 online resource (XIII, 558 p. 25 illus., 17 illus. in color.) Descrizione fisica Disciplina 495.111 Soggetti Oracle bones - China - History Signs and symbols - China - History Cultural property - China Historical linguistics - China Inscriptions, Chinese - China - History China History To 1500 Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Nota di bibliografia Includes bibliographical references. Nota di contenuto 1 Gnzh Cycle -- 2 The Millet Harvest -- 3 Fifteen Dogs -- 4 Rain in the First Month -- 5 Rain from the East -- 6 From Daybreak to Morning -- 7 Tricolored Clouds -- 8 Heavy Rain -- 9 Encounter Gusty Wind --10 Strong Gale. . Sommario/riassunto This book introduces readers to oracle bone inscriptions (OBI), the oldest known form of Chinese writing. It presents 120 rubbings made from unearthed animal bones and turtle shells that the Shang royal court employed to record royal divinations 3500 years ago, covering topics ranging from ancestor worship, rituals, and astronomy to

agriculture, war, and hunting. Each rubbing is accompanied by a graph-to-graph transcription, a translation and a detailed annotation. The book is intended for both general readers and scholars who are interested in ancient civilizations and Early China in particular,

acquainting them not only with OBI graphs and the development of the Chinese writing system, but also the history of the Shang Dynasty. The didactic and tutorial format makes this book ideal for teaching and for self-learning. Sumerian, Egyptian, Chinese OBI and Mayan constitute the four pristine writing systems. Of these, only Chinese writing has

remained logographic and survived to the present day. The study of OBI not only plays a pivotal role in connecting archaeology to history, but is also of great importance to the comparative study of the origin of writing and civilization. Though there are numerous books on Mayan and Egyptian hieroglyphs, there are very few on OBI; this book fills that gap.