

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910461827303321
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Titolo	A passion for facts [[electronic resource]] : social surveys and the construction of the Chinese nation state, 1900-1949 // Tong Lam
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Berkeley, : University of California Press, c2011
ISBN	1-283-29187-8 9786613291875 0-520-95035-6
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (278 p.)
Collana	Asia Pacific modern ; ; 9
Disciplina	300.72/051
Soggetti	Social surveys - China - History - 20th century Electronic books. China Social conditions 1912-1949 China Social policy
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Description based upon print version of record.
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	The rise of the fact and the re-imagining of China -- From divide and count to combine and count -- Foolish people versus soulstealers -- The nationalization of facts and the affective state -- Time, space, and state effect -- China as a social laboratory.
Sommario/riassunto	In this path-breaking book, Tong Lam examines the emergence of the "culture of fact" in modern China, showing how elites and intellectuals sought to transform the dynastic empire into a nation-state, thereby ensuring its survival. Lam argues that an epistemological break away from traditional modes of understanding the observable world began around the turn of the twentieth century. Tracing the Neo-Confucian school of evidentiary research and the modern departure from it, Lam shows how, through the rise of the social survey, "the fact" became a basic conceptual medium and source of truth. In focusing on China's social survey movement, A Passion for Facts analyzes how information generated by a range of research practices-census, sociological investigation, and ethnography-was mobilized by competing political factions to imagine, manage, and remake the nation.

