Record Nr. UNINA9910778013403321 Autore Schwartz Benjamin I (Benjamin Isadore), <1916-1999.> Titolo In search of wealth and power: Yen Fu and the West // Benjamin Scwartz Cambridge, : Belknap Press of Harvard University Press, 1964 Pubbl/distr/stampa **ISBN** 0-674-04332-4 Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (321 pages) Collana Harvard East Asian series;; 16 190 Disciplina Soggetti Political science Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Note generali Description based upon print version of record. Nota di bibliografia Includes bibliography. Introduction / Louis Hartz -- The setting -- The early years -- The Nota di contenuto declaration of principles -- Western wisdom at its source: Evolution and ethics -- The wealth of nations -- On liberty -- The spirit of the laws -- A history of politics -- Mill's Logic -- Meditations on the Tao -- The later years -- Some implications. Sommario/riassunto In a serious effort to divine the secret of the West's success in achieving wealth and power, Yen Fu, a Chinese thinker, undertook, at the turn of the century, years of laborious translation and commentary on the work of such thinkers as Spencer, Huxley, Adam Smith, Mill, and Montesquieu. In addition to the inevitable difficulties involved in translating modern English into classical Chinese, Yen Fu was faced with the formidable problem of interpreting and making palatable many Western ideas which were to a large extent antithetical to traditional Chinese thought. In an absorbing study of Yen Fu's translations, essays, and commentaries, Benjamin Schwartz examines the modifications and consequent revaluation of these familiar works as they were presented to their new audience, and analyzes the impact of this Western thought on the Chinese culture of the time. Drawing on a unique knowledge of both intellectual traditions, Schwartz describes the diverse and complex effects of this confrontation of Eastern and Western philosophies and provides a new vantage point to assess and appreciate these two disparate worlds.