1. Record Nr. UNINA9910781215903321 Autore Hershatter Gail Titolo The gender of memory [[electronic resource]]: rural women and China's collective past / / Gail Hershatter Berkeley, : University of California Press, c2011 Pubbl/distr/stampa **ISBN** 1-283-27851-0 9786613278517 0-520-95034-8 Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (481 p.) Collana Asia Pacific modern;;8 Disciplina 305.48/89510514309045 Soggetti Rural women - China - Shaanxi Sheng - Social conditions Rural women - China - Shaanxi Sheng - Economic conditions Socialism - China - Shaanxi Sheng - History Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia "A Philip E. Lilienthal book." Note generali Includes bibliographical references and index. Nota di bibliografia Frames -- No one is home -- Widow (or, the virtue of leadership) --Nota di contenuto Activist -- Farmer -- Midwife -- Mother -- Model -- Laborer --Narrator. Sommario/riassunto What can we learn about the Chinese revolution by placing a doubly marginalized group-rural women-at the center of the inquiry? In this book, Gail Hershatter explores changes in the lives of seventy-two elderly women in rural Shaanxi province during the revolutionary decades of the 1950's and 1960's. Interweaving these women's life histories with insightful analysis, Hershatter shows how Party-state policy became local and personal, and how it affected women's agricultural work, domestic routines, activism, marriage, childbirth, and parenting-even their notions of virtue and respectability. The women narrate their pasts from the vantage point of the present and highlight their enduring virtues, important achievements, and most deeply harbored grievances. In showing what memories can tell us about gender as an axis of power, difference, and collectivity in 1950's rural China and the present, Hershatter powerfully examines the nature of

socialism and how gender figured in its creation.