

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910786172903321
Titolo	Dilemmas of victory [[electronic resource] ] : the early years of the People's Republic of China // edited by Jeremy Brown, Paul G. Pickowicz
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Cambridge, Mass., : Harvard University Press, 2007
ISBN	0-674-72522-0 0-674-03365-5
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (480 p.)
Classificazione	NQ 9030
Altri autori (Persone)	BrownJeremy <1976-> PickowiczPaul
Disciplina	951.05/5
Soggetti	HISTORY / Asia / China China History 1949-1976
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 (p. [387]-443) and index.
Nota di contenuto	The early years of the People's Republic of China : an introduction / Jeremy Brown and Paul G. Pickowicz -- ; pt. I : Urban takeover -- "Clean-up" : the new order in Shanghai / Frederic Wakeman, Jr. -- Masters of the country? Shanghai workers in the early People's Republic / Elizabeth J. Perry -- New democracy and the demise of private charity in Shanghai / Nara Dillon -- ; pt. II : Occupying the periphery -- From resisting communists to resisting America : civil war and Korean war in southwest China, 1950-51 / Jeremy Brown -- The Chinese communist "liberation" of Tibet, 1949-51 / Chen Jian -- Big brother is watching : local Sino-Soviet relations and the building of new Dalian, 1945-55 / Christian Hess -- The call of the oases : the "peaceful liberation" of Xinjiang, 1949-53 / James Z. Gao -- ; pt. III : The culture of accommodation -- The crocodile bird : Xiangsheng in the early 1950s / Perry Link -- "The very first lesson" : teaching about human evolution in early 1950s China / Sigrid Schmalzer -- Acting like revolutionaries : Shi Hui, the Wenhua studio, and private-sector filmmaking, 1949-52 / Paul G. Pickowicz -- Creating "New China's first new-style regular university," 1949-50 / Douglas A. Stiffler -- ; pt. IV : Family strategies -- The Ye family in New China / Joseph W. Esherick -- Birthing stories : rural midwives in 1950s China / Gail Hershatter -- Capitalists choosing

communist China : the Liu family of Shanghai, 1948-56 / Sherman Cochran.

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Sommario/riassunto

This illuminating work examines the social, cultural, political, and economic dimensions of the Communist takeover of China. Instead of dwelling on elite politics and policy-making processes, *Dilemmas of Victory* seeks to understand how the 1949-1953 period was experienced by various groups, including industrialists, filmmakers, ethnic minorities, educators, rural midwives, philanthropists, stand-up comics, and scientists. A stellar group of authors that includes Frederic Wakeman, Elizabeth Perry, Sherman Cochran, Perry Link, Joseph Esherick, and Chen Jian shows that the Communists sometimes achieved a remarkably smooth takeover, yet at other times appeared shockingly incompetent. Shanghai and Beijing experienced it in ways that differed dramatically from Xinjiang, Tibet, and Dalian. Out of necessity, the new regime often showed restraint and flexibility, courting the influential and educated. Furthermore, many policies of the old Nationalist regime were quietly embraced by the new Communist rulers. Based on previously unseen archival documents as well as oral histories, these lively, readable essays provide the fullest picture to date of the early years of the People's Republic, which were far more pluralistic, diverse, and hopeful than the Maoist decades that followed.

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