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	Collana	Welten Ostasiens / Worlds of East Asia / Mondes de l'Extrême Orient : Im Auftrag der Schweizerischen Asien-gesellschaft - On behalf of the Swiss Asia Society - Au nom de la Société Suisse-Asie , , 1660-9131 ; ; 37
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	Nota di contenuto	Frontmatter -- Contents -- Acknowledgements -- Periodization -- Abbreviations -- 1 Introduction -- 2 The Manuscripts -- 3 Calendar and Timekeeping Systems -- 4 Administrative Geography -- 5 Corvée Labor -- 6 Resource Management -- 7 Conclusion -- Appendix -- List of Figures -- List of Tables -- Bibliography -- Index
	Sommario/riassunto	The Ly text corpus, which is named after an ancient township in present-day Lóngshn , Húnán province, grants unique opportunities to reshape the image and redefine our knowledge about

social, legal, political, administrative and ritual responsibilities of the first Chinese empire. The impressive collection of over 37,000 documents span a time period from 222 to 208 BC and grant a unique opportunity to reshape the image and redefine our knowledge about social, legal, political, logistical and ritual responsibilities of the first Chinese empire. This book is concerned with the overall governance at the southern fringes of the Qín dynasty as reflected in the excavated documents from Ly well J1. It contributes to a revised understanding of the Qín dynasty by demonstrating that the degree of decentralization in the empire was high and to a large extent coordinated by relatively autonomously governed regions. It furthermore displays the Qín dynasty's strong sense of historical continuity and a desire to strive towards unification by embracing the predominant standards of earlier rulers. After an introductory part on the Ly material, this book analyzes Qín's sophisticated methods of calendar and timekeeping. It then dwells into the territoriality of the young empire and focuses on unification attempts bound to transform the pre-imperial multistate order into a standardized system of governance and control. The last part deals with the organization of essential resources, including unprecedented tax calculations 'district' (xing ) level. Overall, this book offers a fascinating glimpse at the many microstructures and complexities in the peripheral area of a larger administration. The manuscripts available to us to this day and the ones that will be excavated from wells J2 and J3 in the future will undoubtedly continue to be a basic reference point when it comes to the research of pre-imperial and early imperial documents.

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