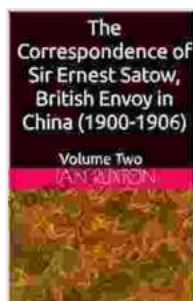


Unveiling the Hidden History: The Correspondence of Sir Ernest Satow, British Envoy in China, 1900-1906



The Correspondence of Sir Ernest Satow, British Envoy in China (1900-1906): Volume Two by Ian Ruxton

★★★★★ 5 out of 5

Language : English
File size : 30441 KB
Text-to-Speech : Enabled
Screen Reader : Supported
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled
Word Wise : Enabled
Print length : 501 pages
Lending : Enabled

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As the 20th century dawned, China stood at a crossroads of history. The Boxer Rebellion, a violent uprising against foreign influence, shook the nation to its core. At the heart of this tumultuous period was Sir Ernest Satow, a skilled British diplomat who served as the envoy to China from 1900 to 1906.

Satow's keen observations and detailed correspondence provide an invaluable window into this pivotal era. His letters, meticulously preserved in the British Foreign Office archives, offer a firsthand account of the Boxer Rebellion, the subsequent negotiations, and the complex diplomatic maneuvers that shaped Sino-British relations.

The Boxer Rebellion: A Diplomat's Perspective

Satow arrived in Beijing in the midst of the Boxer Rebellion. His dispatches vividly capture the chaos and violence that engulfed the city. He described the burning of foreign legations, the murder of missionaries, and the widespread destruction that left Beijing scarred.



In his correspondence, Satow not only reported on the events but also provided astute analysis. He identified the deep-seated resentment against foreign influence as a root cause of the rebellion and warned of the potential for further unrest if Western powers did not address Chinese grievances.

Negotiations and Aftermath

After the suppression of the Boxer Rebellion, Satow played a central role in the negotiations that followed. He represented Britain in discussions with the Chinese government, seeking reparations and guarantees to prevent future violence.

Satow's correspondence reveals the intricate diplomatic maneuvers and challenges involved. He navigated conflicting demands from various foreign powers and the complexities of Chinese politics. His skill and patience ultimately contributed to the signing of the Boxer Protocol in 1901, which established new terms for foreign presence in China.

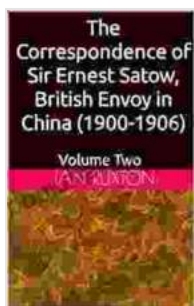
Sino-British Relations: A Changing Landscape

Beyond the Boxer Rebellion, Satow's correspondence sheds light on the broader evolution of Sino-British relations during his tenure. He witnessed the decline of British influence and the rise of other powers, such as Japan and Russia.

Satow advocated for a more conciliatory approach towards China, emphasizing the importance of respecting Chinese sovereignty and fostering economic cooperation. His views, however, were not always shared by his superiors in London.

The Correspondence of Sir Ernest Satow, British Envoy in China, 1900-1906, offers an invaluable resource for scholars, historians, and anyone interested in the complex history of Sino-British relations. Through Satow's insightful observations and detailed correspondence, we gain a deeper understanding of the Boxer Rebellion, the subsequent negotiations, and the changing landscape of power in early 20th-century China.

The book, published by Cambridge University Press, is a must-read for anyone seeking to delve into this fascinating period of history. It provides a unique perspective from one of the most astute diplomats of his time.



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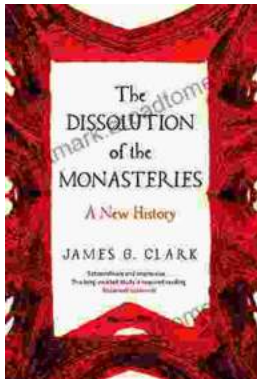
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