

The Zheng Family and the Shaping of the Modern World: 1620-1720



Conflict and Commerce in Maritime East Asia: The Zheng Family and the Shaping of the Modern World, c.1620–1720 (Studies in Weatherhead East Asian Institute, Columbia University) by David Marr

★★★★☆ 4.6 out of 5

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The Zheng family was a powerful maritime force in the 17th and 18th centuries. They controlled Taiwan and parts of the Chinese coast, and their trade networks extended throughout Asia. The Zheng family's activities had a significant impact on the development of the modern world.

The Rise of the Zheng Family

The Zheng family originated from Fujian province in southern China. In the early 17th century, the family became involved in piracy. Zheng Zhilong, the founder of the family's maritime empire, was a skilled pirate who eventually became a powerful admiral in the Ming navy. In 1624, Zheng Zhilong surrendered to the Qing dynasty, which had recently conquered China. However, he continued to maintain a degree of autonomy in Fujian.

In 1661, Zheng Zhilong's son, Zheng Chenggong, better known as Koxinga, rebelled against the Qing. Koxinga was a brilliant military strategist, and he quickly defeated the Qing forces in Fujian. In 1662, he established the Kingdom of Tungning in Taiwan. The Kingdom of Tungning was a maritime empire that controlled Taiwan and parts of the Chinese coast. Koxinga's kingdom was a major threat to the Qing dynasty, and it played a significant role in the development of the modern world.

The Kingdom of Tungning

The Kingdom of Tungning was a prosperous and powerful maritime empire. The kingdom's economy was based on trade, and its merchants traded with countries throughout Asia. The kingdom also had a strong military, and it was able to defend itself against attacks from the Qing dynasty. The kingdom's capital, Tainan, was a major port city, and it was a center of trade and culture.

The Kingdom of Tungning was a major player in the maritime trade of East Asia. The kingdom's merchants traded with countries such as Japan, Korea, Southeast Asia, and India. The kingdom also had a significant impact on the development of Taiwan. The kingdom's rulers promoted agriculture and industry, and they also encouraged the settlement of Taiwan by Chinese immigrants. The Kingdom of Tungning was a major factor in the development of Taiwan as a modern nation.

The Fall of the Kingdom of Tungning

The Kingdom of Tungning was eventually defeated by the Qing dynasty in 1683. The Qing forces invaded Taiwan, and they quickly defeated the kingdom's army. The kingdom's last ruler, Zheng Keshuang, surrendered to

the Qing. The fall of the Kingdom of Tungning marked the end of the Zheng family's maritime empire.

The Zheng family's legacy is still felt today. The family's activities had a significant impact on the development of Taiwan and East Asia. The Kingdom of Tungning was a major maritime power, and it played a key role in the development of the modern world.

The Zheng family was a powerful maritime force in the 17th and 18th centuries. Their control of Taiwan and their trade networks throughout Asia had a significant impact on the development of the modern world. The family's legacy is still felt today.

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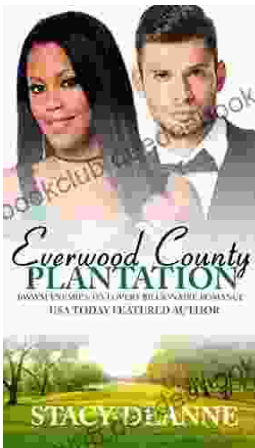
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