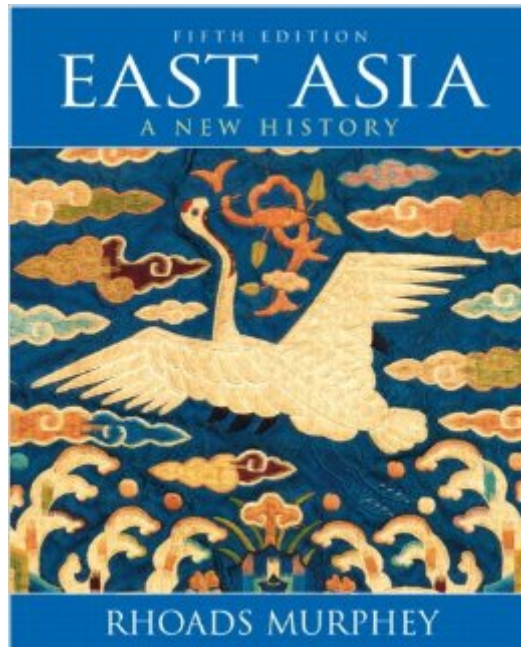


The book was found

# East Asia: A New History (5th Edition)



## Synopsis

This accessible text offers a comprehensive history of China, Japan, Korea, and Vietnam, including coverage of everyday life, women and gender-related issues, and the environment—topics often neglected in other texts. Throughout his distinguished career, author Rhoads Murphey has inspired within students an appreciation for the rich and unique history of Asia. The Fifth Edition of this text on East Asia is certain to bring this fascinating region to life for many of today's students.

## Book Information

Paperback: 504 pages

Publisher: Pearson; 5 edition (July 31, 2009)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0205695221

ISBN-13: 978-0205695225

Product Dimensions: 8 x 1.1 x 9.9 inches

Shipping Weight: 2.2 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.0 out of 5 stars See all reviews (17 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #178,677 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #13 in Books > History > Asia > Korea > South #198 in Books > Textbooks > Humanities > History > Asia #261 in Books > History > Asia > Japan

## Customer Reviews

I found this book in 1997 after desperately searching for something to replace Shirokauer's creaky Modern China and Japan. I have used it for several Modern East Asia courses and am presently using it for a Traditional East Asia survey, and I find that students of all levels of knowledge appreciate it. It does have a few shortcomings, as I feel would be the case for any textbook on Asia, as the topic is so expansive and many situations are downright confusing. However, it gives a good balance of political to social history, has extremely useful maps and insets, and the writing is consistently good. I would also recommend it for the casual reader who wants to get a decent background on Asian culture.

There are a few weaknesses and factual errors in this book. 1. Index is very weak. Many important concepts are not listed in the index. 2. Too much emphasis on ancient/imperial China but not enough coverage of modern and contemporary East Asia. 3. Organization is puzzling. For instance,

such an important historical period as the Northern Expedition is put under the chapter "China and Japan: the Road to War." This is an important period that deserves to have its own chapter.<sup>4</sup> Opinions(?) as facts. On page 349, the following description is given: "Zhang Xueliang and his troops kidnapped Chiang Kai-shek where he was spending a few days at a hot spring resort (with a lady not his wife!) and demanded...." The author has provided no documentation for Chiang's alleged liaison with another woman. Moreover, no other reference to this affair seems to be available in all relevant literature about the Xian Incident and Chiang Kai-shek. Chiang is a controversial figure but this allegation just cannot be supported. Also stated in the book is the following statement: "The [Chinese] communists were tying down about a million Japanese troops..." during WWII. Considering the total number of Japanese troops in China during that period, this is tantamount to suggesting that the communist guerrillas pretty much single-handedly handled all the Japanese troops whereas the Nationalist troops did nothing. This is factually wrong and cannot be supported by historical facts. These are just a few examples of the problems associated with this book. Here is hope that future editions will correct some of the aforementioned problems. The author did make an effort to weave all countries and historical periods together, which was challenging. He succeeded in some areas, but failed in some other.

Rhoads Murphey's *East Asia: A New History* covers everything a lay person needs and wants to know about this complex region and culture. This book is a fascinating and easy-to-read summary of Dr. Murphey's 60-year-long living and teaching experience in China, Japan, Korea, Vietnam and other Asian countries. It is an excellent introduction to Asia not just as a textbook but a very useful primer for corporate executives, professionals and even tourists. I've read this book and its various editions ever since 1973 when I first studied with Professor Murphey as a graduate student. Readers will get from this book not just the facts, images, philosophy and poetry of East Asia. You will see the humanity of a great teacher, scholar, writer and romantic who knows how to make Americans understand and appreciate our fellow men and women of this important part of the world. The book never fails to make me smile and re-discover the many simple truths about cultures that we so easily forget.

This book is written very poorly. I find myself distracted by the informal speech and confusing sentences. This book might be more worth while with A LOT of editing. Typos, run-on sentences (seriously, like a sentence ran on for 12 lines!), and inserting opinion as fact. Very unprofessional. If I didn't need it for school, I would have given up reading it.

Not only did this book help me with my studies and was 40% cheaper than my campus bookstore and it actually helps keep my attention as a good read rather than that of just a book to source in my essay.

I love this book more than life! I will treasure it and will more than likely be using it again for my research!

BetterEmbree,Ainslee Thomas Asia in Western and World HistoryEbrey,Walthall,Palais Pre Modern East Asia to 1800Ebrey,Walthall,Palais Modern East Asia 1800 to the PresentMatthew,Helen G. Asia in the Modern WorldMorris,Ian Why the West Rules--for Now: The Patterns of History, and What They Reveal About the FutureNisbett, Richard "The Geography of Thought : Asians vs WestBestTignor,Robert Worlds Together Worlds Apart . A History of the Modern world from the Mongol Invasion to the Present

I needed this for school. It was required. I saved a lot of money compared to my local school book store. This was a real bargain and was in great shape.

[Download to continue reading...](#)

East Asia: A New History (5th Edition) Capitalist Development and Economism in East Asia: The Rise of Hong Kong, Singapore, Taiwan and South Korea (Routledge Studies in the Growth Economies of Asia) China: History of China - History of an Empire: A Historical Overview of China, & East Asia. Including: Ancient China, Communism, & Capitalism (Chinese ... Medicine, Mao Zedung, Confucius Book 1) New frontiers: Imperialism's new communities in East Asia, 1842-1953 (Studies in Imperialism MUP) Vocational & Technical Schools - East: More Than 2,600 Vocational Schools East of the Mississippi River (Peterson's Vocational & Technical Schools & Programs: East) Islam Translated: Literature, Conversion, and the Arabic Cosmopolis of South and Southeast Asia (South Asia Across the Disciplines) The Lost History of Christianity: The Thousand-Year Golden Age of the Church in the Middle East, Africa, and Asia--and How It Died Ritual, Politics, and the City in Fatimid Cairo (Suny Series in Medieval Middle East History) (Suny Series, Medieval Middle East History) Gender in Modern East Asia Political Systems of East Asia: China, Korea, and Japan Historical Dictionary of Fiji (Historical Dictionaries of Asia, Oceania, and the Middle East) The Bamboo Texts of Guodian: A Study and Complete Translation, Volume 2 (Cornell East Asia Series) Sources of East Asian Tradition, Vol. 1: Premodern Asia (Introduction to Asian Civilizations)

(Volume 1) The Struggle for the State in Jordan: The Social Origins of Alliances in the Middle East (Library of Middle East History) A History of the Modern Middle East, 5th Edition History: Human History in 50 Events: From Ancient Civilizations to Modern Times (World History, History Books, People History) (History in 50 Events Series Book 1) History: British History in 50 Events: From First Immigration to Modern Empire (English History, History Books, British History Textbook) (History in 50 Events Series Book 11) Democracy and Youth in the Middle East: Islam, Tribalism and the Rentier State in Oman (Library of Modern Middle East Studies) The Charitable Impulse: NGOs and Development in East and North East Africa The Art of Not Being Governed: An Anarchist History of Upland Southeast Asia (Yale Agrarian Studies Series)

[Dmca](#)