Papers

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History 3/5465 (EAS 3465): Early Modern China

You will be required to write three 3-5 page papers. Two of them will be essays on the required reading, one on the book by Philip Kuhn and the other on the book by Jonathan Spence. The third assignment will be to pick an event (the Sino-Japanese war, the Boxer rebellion, the fall of the Qing dynasty or some other event) which is discussed in this course and find accounts of the event in at least two newspapers published at the time of the event, one of which must be from a newspaper which was not published in the U.S. (You may not write on an event which happened after 1917.) Your paper should include a xeroxed copy of the newspaper accounts, plus your analysis of the accounts in the light of the readings, lectures and class discussions. You must turn in a one paragraph statement on what you will be writing on on May 9. Our library has the following newspapers:

- New York Times beginning in 1851
- Washington Post beginning in 1877
- North China Herald 1861-67
- Japan Weekly Mail 1886-1916
- Globe and Mail (Toronto) 1844-1869
- Illustrated London News, beginning 1842
- If you read Chinese, you might want to take a look at Shen pao (in East Asia Library) which we have from 1872-1887

This list is by no means exhaustive: it is simply an indication of what is available. You may use any newspaper from the relevant time period. The newspapers are available in microfilm and microform in the basement of the Wilson library.

The papers will be due:

- April 18 (Soulstealers)
- May 7 (God's Chinese Son)
- May 16 Newspaper essays due

Your papers on Soulstealers and God's Chinese Son should address the question: What is the central argument (or thesis) of this book? You should also look at what sorts of evidence the author uses and how he uses his evidence. The point of the papers is to encourage you to look at the ways in which a book is put together.