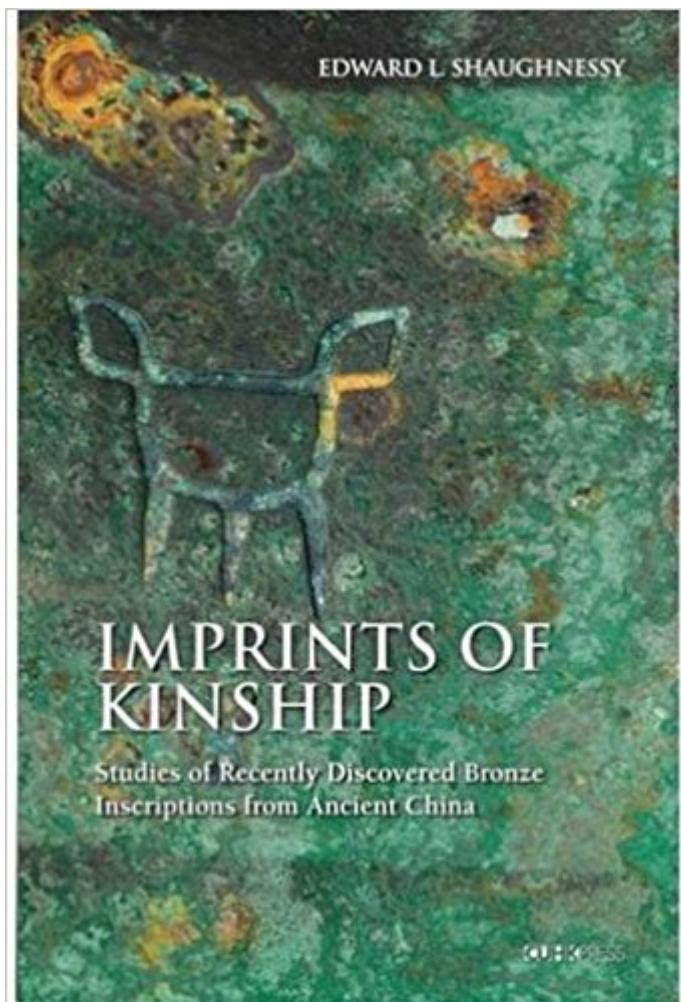


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Synopsis

Recent excavations of bronze artifacts from the Western Zhou dynasty (1046–771 B.C.) provide the focus for this collection of essays, which analyze the nature and patterns of lineages emerging from the tombs of ancient lords of states and historically significant individuals located throughout China, including Beijing, Shandong, Shanxi, and Gansu. The editor and his nine contributors provide detailed textual analyses of the inscriptions found on excavated bronze vessels. Their essays offer careful reconstructions of the genealogies, kinship structures, political identities, and relationship networks of leading court figures from Bronze-Age China. This rich scholarship makes important contributions to ancient Chinese archaeology by bringing to light archaeological evidence in support of new discoveries related to the chronology, warfare, and legal structure of the different realms that existed during the Western Zhou period.

Book Information

Series: Institute of Chinese Studies the Chinese University of Hong Kong Monographs

Hardcover: 250 pages

Publisher: The Chinese University Press (March 1, 2017)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 9629966395

ISBN-13: 978-9629966393

Product Dimensions: 1 x 6.2 x 9 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.5 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

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