



Empress Dowager Cixi

Jung Chang

Download now

[Click here](#) if your download doesn't start automatically

Empress Dowager Cixi

Jung Chang

Empress Dowager Cixi Jung Chang

A *New York Times* Notable Book

Empress Dowager Cixi (1835–1908) is the most important woman in Chinese history. She ruled China for decades and brought a medieval empire into the modern age.

At the age of sixteen, in a nationwide selection for royal consorts, Cixi was chosen as one of the emperor's numerous concubines. When he died in 1861, their five-year-old son succeeded to the throne. Cixi at once launched a palace coup against the regents appointed by her husband and made herself the real ruler of China—behind the throne, literally, with a silk screen separating her from her officials who were all male.

In this groundbreaking biography, Jung Chang vividly describes how Cixi fought against monumental obstacles to change China. Under her the ancient country attained virtually all the attributes of a modern state: industries, railways, electricity, the telegraph and an army and navy with up-to-date weaponry. It was she who abolished gruesome punishments like “death by a thousand cuts” and put an end to foot-binding. She inaugurated women's liberation and embarked on the path to introduce parliamentary elections to China. Chang comprehensively overturns the conventional view of Cixi as a diehard conservative and cruel despot.

Cixi reigned during extraordinary times and had to deal with a host of major national crises: the Taiping and Boxer rebellions, wars with France and Japan—and an invasion by eight allied powers including Britain, Germany, Russia and the United States. Jung Chang not only records the Empress Dowager's conduct of domestic and foreign affairs, but also takes the reader into the depths of her splendid Summer Palace and the harem of Beijing's Forbidden City, where she lived surrounded by eunuchs—one of whom she fell in love, with tragic consequences. The world Chang describes here, in fascinating detail, seems almost unbelievable in its extraordinary mixture of the very old and the very new.

Based on newly available, mostly Chinese, historical documents such as court records, official and private correspondence, diaries and eyewitness accounts, this biography will revolutionize historical thinking about a crucial period in China's—and the world's—history. Packed with drama, fast paced and gripping, it is both a panoramic depiction of the birth of modern China and an intimate portrait of a woman: as the concubine to a monarch, as the absolute ruler of a third of the world's population, and as a unique stateswoman.

From the Hardcover edition.

 [Download Empress Dowager Cixi ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online Empress Dowager Cixi ...pdf](#)

Download and Read Free Online Empress Dowager Cixi Jung Chang

From reader reviews:

Thomas Carlson:

The book Empress Dowager Cixi can give more knowledge and information about everything you want. So just why must we leave a good thing like a book Empress Dowager Cixi? A few of you have a different opinion about guide. But one aim this book can give many facts for us. It is absolutely suitable. Right now, try to closer along with your book. Knowledge or info that you take for that, you could give for each other; it is possible to share all of these. Book Empress Dowager Cixi has simple shape but you know: it has great and big function for you. You can look the enormous world by start and read a reserve. So it is very wonderful.

Michael Stanford:

Nowadays reading books become more and more than want or need but also be a life style. This reading behavior give you lot of advantages. Advantages you got of course the knowledge the particular information inside the book this improve your knowledge and information. The information you get based on what kind of publication you read, if you want attract knowledge just go with training books but if you want sense happy read one using theme for entertaining like comic or novel. The Empress Dowager Cixi is kind of reserve which is giving the reader unstable experience.

Kevin Vargas:

Your reading sixth sense will not betray anyone, why because this Empress Dowager Cixi guide written by well-known writer who really knows well how to make book that can be understand by anyone who read the book. Written with good manner for you, dripping every ideas and producing skill only for eliminate your own hunger then you still skepticism Empress Dowager Cixi as good book not simply by the cover but also from the content. This is one publication that can break don't assess book by its protect, so do you still needing an additional sixth sense to pick this particular!?! Oh come on your studying sixth sense already said so why you have to listening to one more sixth sense.

Robert McKay:

In this era which is the greater person or who has ability in doing something more are more important than other. Do you want to become considered one of it? It is just simple solution to have that. What you have to do is just spending your time little but quite enough to get a look at some books. On the list of books in the top record in your reading list is Empress Dowager Cixi. This book which can be qualified as The Hungry Inclines can get you closer in turning out to be precious person. By looking upward and review this publication you can get many advantages.

**Download and Read Online Empress Dowager Cixi Jung Chang
#TXA5MP16SKF**

Read Empress Dowager Cixi by Jung Chang for online ebook

Empress Dowager Cixi by Jung Chang Free PDF d0wnl0ad, audio books, books to read, good books to read, cheap books, good books, online books, books online, book reviews epub, read books online, books to read online, online library, greatbooks to read, PDF best books to read, top books to read Empress Dowager Cixi by Jung Chang books to read online.

Online Empress Dowager Cixi by Jung Chang ebook PDF download

Empress Dowager Cixi by Jung Chang Doc

Empress Dowager Cixi by Jung Chang Mobipocket

Empress Dowager Cixi by Jung Chang EPub