

2018年度 早稲田大学 文学部 転部試験問題
 【 文学部 アジア史 コース】 ※解答は別紙（縦・横書）
 【科目名： 英語 】

以下の文章を読み、内容を日本語で要約しなさい。

During the eleventh century, men at the court of Song Dynasty China came to imagine in a new way the political entity to which they belonged. They started to articulate with far greater precision its spatial extent – which they now saw as bounded by natural topographic features as well as by the historical Great Wall – while simultaneously de-emphasizing an older theory of sovereignty premised on the idea of universal empire. They began to speak of a homogeneous cultural and ecological zone whose boundaries did not necessarily coincide with the political boundaries of the state. And they came to expect the allegiance of the people of this cultural zone – the “Han people” – including those living in neighboring states. These beliefs fueled the sentiment that the Song had the moral right to seize “former” territory that lay beyond the limits of its political control. Setting the stage for these new ideas was an East Asian inter-state system that reached a new degree of maturity under the Northern Song (960–1127). During an unprecedented one hundred years of peaceful coexistence with its northeastern neighbor, this dynasty became the first Chinese regime to interact with a steppe-based state according to the principles of diplomatic parity. For the first time in its history, China also embarked on a massive project to systematically demarcate its borders along multiple frontiers. The present study seeks to explore, contextualize, and explain these remarkable developments.

In fact, at the turn of the second millennium, China was in the midst of great changes affecting nearly all aspects of its society. In the period spanned by the Tang (618–907) and Song (960–1279) dynasties, a “medieval economic revolution” spurred expansions of the monetary system and of trade networks, as well as rapid commercialization and

urbanization in several regions of the empire.¹ Simultaneously, the powerful aristocracy that had dominated society for much of the previous millennium vanished from the scene, replaced by a new elite defined on the basis of merit rather than blood.² In conjunction with these changes were innovations in Confucian thought – which now provided an ethical validation for this new elite – and in popular religion.³ The period also saw the emergence of commercial printing, a concomitant enlargement of the literate population, and the expansion of the civil service examination system.⁴ All of these transformations have been extensively studied by scholars. But whereas past scholarship has elucidated in substantial detail the economic, social, and cultural transition, little attention has been devoted to an equally remarkable change involving China’s evolving sense of identity, changes set in motion in the context of an evolving inter-state system that would dominate East Asia until the nineteenth century.

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 The Origins of the Chinese Nation Song China and the Forging
 of an East Asian World Order,
 Nicolas Tackett, Cambridge University Press
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