PREFACE

The Revolution of 1911 in China was an important event in Chinese history. It marked the end of an era. It demolished once for all the centuries old imperial, dynastic cycle of rule and in its place came the republican form of government. It formed part of China's response to the impact of the West. This study uses a variety of Chinese language materials hitherto either not consulted or not adequately drawn upon to describe and examine the origins and development of the revolutionary movement as well as the course of the Revolution up to the time of its consummation in March 1912. The attempt has been to study particularly developments inside the revolutionary camp during this period, making use of a large number of accounts of the revolutionaries themselves or of contemporary observers as well as of the available Ch'ing archival material now published by Peking. The author does not claim to have exhausted all the source materials available on the subject in any part of the world, but it is his hope that he has been able to undertake at least a meaningful reconstruction of the story of the Revolution.

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( Vidya Prakash Dutt )