



Conflicts of Interest:

The Opium Problem in Guangdong, 1858-1917

利益之爭：1858-1917 年間廣東鴉片問題探析

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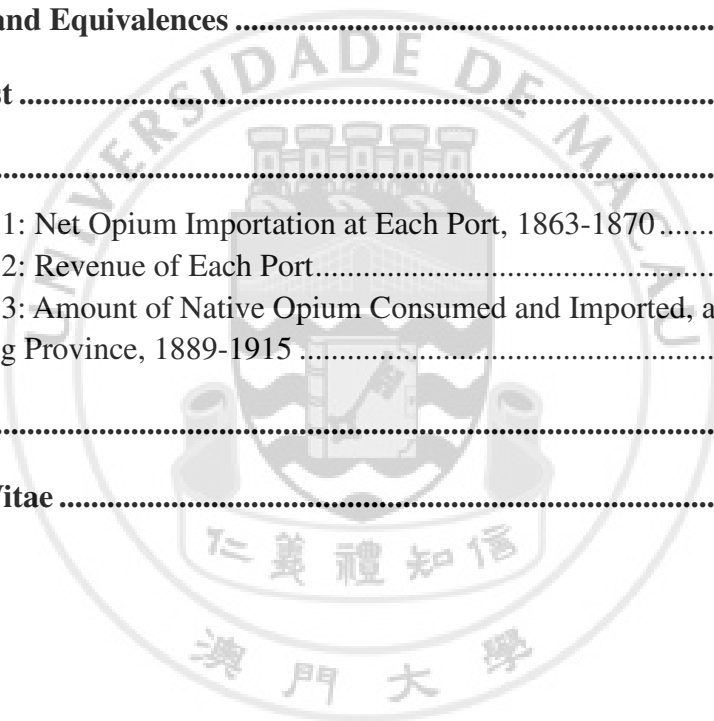
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List of Abbreviations

GBSL: Gongbei Haiguanzhi Bianji Weiyuanhui 拱北海關志編輯委員會, ed. *Gongbeiguan Shiliaoji* 拱北關史料集(*Historical Materials of the Lappa Customs*). Unpublished, 1998.

HMCMC: Mao Jiaqi 茅家琦, Huang Shengqiang 黃勝強 and Ma Zhendu 馬振犢, eds. *Zhongguo Jiuhaiguan Shiliao (1859-1948)* 中國舊海關史料(1859-1948) (*Historical Materials of Chinese Maritime Customs: 1859-1948*). Beijing: Jinghua Chubanshe, 2001.

GBBG: Mo Shixiang 莫世祥, Yu Heping 虞和平 and Chen Yiping 陳奕平, eds. *Jindai Gongbei Haiguan Baogao Huibian, 1887-1946* 近代拱北海關報告匯編(1887-1946) (*The Collection of the Modern Gongbei Customs Reports, 1887-1946*). Aomen: Aomen Jijinhui, 1998.

YHBG: Pan Qihou 潘啟後, ed. *Jindai Guangzhou Kouan Jingji Shehui Gaikuang: Yuehaiguan Baogao Huiji* 近代廣州口岸經濟社會概況——粵海關報告匯集(*The Collection of the Canton Foreign Customs Reports*). Guangzhou: Ji'nan Daxue Chubanshe, 1995.

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Abstract

The aim of this thesis is to study the opium problem in Guangdong Province between 1858 and 1917. The period of 1858-1917 is a very special stage of opium trade in China, because from 1858 the opium trade became legal in China, and after 1917 all the records of opium import disappeared in the reports of the Chinese maritime customs. During this special period there were large amounts of foreign and Chinese native opium legally or illegally coming into Guangdong, which had a profound influence on the society in Guangdong at the time. This thesis will focus on the opium problem in Guangdong during this special period, including the opium import and significance of opium taxation to maritime customs, and several conflicts relating to the opium problem between different interest groups: foreign customs and native customs, the Chinese central government and local government, Chinese opium and foreign opium, and opium smugglers and preventive officers.

It is my contention that the study of these conflicts of interest over opium is a key to understanding the social, economic, and political history of modern China.