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Treatises of the Supervisor and Guardian of the Cinnamon Sea: The Natural World and Material Culture of Twelfth-century China (Paperback)

By Chengda Fan

University of Washington Press, United States, 2011. Paperback. Condition: New. Critical ed.. Language: English . Brand New Book. Fan Chengda (1126-1193) was a high-ranking Chinese government official in Guangxi, an experienced traveller, a keen observer, and a gifted writer. His observations on subjects ranging from minerals and caves, to flora and fauna, to wines, aromatics, and ingredients used in Chinese medicine, to weapons, indigenous customs, and other topics that caught his attention are always interesting and revealing and constitute an important contribution to the literature on Song dynasty China's frontier peoples. *Treatises of the Supervisor and Guardian of the Cinnamon Sea* (*Guihai yuheng zhi*) is at once a gazetteer, an ethnography, and a natural history of south China--mainly Guangxi and Hainan--and its indigenous people during the twelfth century. The *Treatises* were written in direct, unadorned, and allusion-free classical Chinese prose. Now, for the first time in English, a complete and annotated translation of this major work captures its charm and significance for new generations of scholars. James M. Hargett's meticulous and readable translation brings Fan Chengda's voice to life. Extensive annotations supplement the translation with historical background, as well as modern scientific terminology relating to the topics...



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