

Unrest in China offers a rare opportunity to consider how popular contention unfolds in places where speech and assembly are tightly controlled. In this volume, prominent scholars of Chinese politics and society argue that ideas inspired by social movements elsewhere can help explain popular protest in China. Drawing on fieldwork in China, they consider topics as varied as student movements, worker protests, cyberprotests, and anti-dam campaigns. Their work relies on familiar concepts—such as political opportunity, framing, and mobilizing structures—while interrogating the usefulness of these concepts in a country with a vastly different history of class and state formation than the capitalist West. The volume also shows that well-known concepts must at times be modified to square with the reality of an authoritarian, non-western state.