

Acknowledgments

This book project started in 2009, as I finally decided to take the Chinese Youth Party as my PhD dissertation topic. If I count my earlier research on the Young China Association and the Chinese Democratic League, I could date the genesis of this book project back to my years as a master's and even an undergraduate student. Without the support of many mentors throughout this process, of course, I could not have proceeded well in my research on this topic. My first acknowledgment thus goes to my supervisors at the University of Pennsylvania: Arthur Waldron, Fred Dickinson, and Siyen Fei. Without their guidance, trust, and encouragement, I would not have completed the initial research portion of this book. Furthermore, I would like to thank Luo Zhitian *laoshi*. With his suggestions and guidance, I expanded my research significantly, beginning to explore the political activities of the Chinese Youth Party in northeast China, north China, and Sichuan. Additionally, I am grateful to my earlier mentors, Mōri Kazuko and Sucheta Mazumdar. It was through their teaching that I first understood the rigor of historical research and then was inspired to examine the histories of the third parties in Republican China.

Certainly, it goes without saying that support from friends also mattered in publishing this book. Ye Minlei offered me step-by-step guidance at different stages in this book's publication. For a first-time book author struggling to turn a dissertation into a publishable monograph, I found Minlei's guidance extremely valuable. Calvin Hui's inputs were also meaningful. As I had difficulties at different transitional stages, from MA to PhD, from PhD to job market, and from preparing a book proposal to finalizing the book manuscript respectively, Calvin has given me important advice. Furthermore, I appreciate my *tongxue*, Lu Xu, Leander Seah, and Mao Sheng for their help at different stages in my research. Without their intellectual inspirations, I am sure I would have faced way more hurdles in my research process. Other friends include Zhao Yanjie, Wang Guo, Chen Huaiyuan, and Jie Dalei, who helped me acquire materials at different stages of this book. I appreciate their willingness to help facilitate my research.

Acknowledgments

ix

As I worked in China, I have received support from various people. At the University of Nottingham Ningbo campus, several colleagues read parts of this book, including Greg Moore, Christian Mueller, Ian Nelson, Grant Dawson, Matteo Salonia, Ruairidh Brown, and others. Their constructive critiques were instrumental and monumental. My gratitude also goes to Guo Shiyou *laoshi* from Tongji University for his helpful insights on the historical course of the Chinese Youth Party. Further acknowledgment goes to Tzu-Hsuan Huang for his support in making the maps, Yelena Dzhanova for her proofreading of the final manuscript, and my student Li Xinming for her assistance in finalizing the glossary and references.

For the publication of this book, research funds are indispensable. I thank the School of International Studies at the University of Nottingham Ningbo China and the Institute of Chinese Studies at the Chinese University of Hong Kong, which offered me generous funds for facilitating the research and writing for this book project. In 2009, I also received financial and research support from the Center for Chinese Studies, National Central Library in Taiwan. This support was invaluable to me, as the research opportunities in Taiwan helped establish the basic framework of this book. At Cambridge University Press, my thanks go out to Michael Watson, Rachel Blaifeder, Lucy Rhymer, and Emily Plater, who were cordial and handled the review and editing process smoothly and efficiently. With their assistance, I am finally able to publish this book. Furthermore, I thank my two anonymous readers, whose critiques pushed me to improve the overall quality of the writing and avoided some important historical errors in this book.

Passages of this book have already appeared in previous publications: (1) “Staging China’s ‘Age of Extremes’: Divergent Radicalizations among Chinese Youth in Europe, 1922–1924,” *Twentieth-Century China*, 44:1 (January 2019), 33–52; (2) “‘Young China’ in Europe: The Lives and Politics of the May Fourth Youth in France, 1919–23,” *Historical Research*, 91:252 (May 2018), 353–374; and (3) “Partifying Sichuan: The Chinese Youth Party in Sichuan, 1926–1937,” *Frontiers of History in China*, 8:2 (June 2013), 223–258. With permission from Johns Hopkins University Press for the first, Oxford University Press for the second, and Higher Education Press for the third, I can reproduce them. I revised the first and second articles to fit into Chapter 3, and I also included the revised third article to Chapter 6. Because of this, I owe acknowledgment to these journals and copyright holders.

My final words go out to my family members, including my wife, He Ying, and my daughters, Jingtong (Seitō) and Wenxuan (Mika). Historical research is fun by itself, but with you, I have found the happiness of life. This book is dedicated to you.