Contents

Foreword vii

Introduction: Fei Xiaotong and the Beginnings of a Chinese Sociology, by Gary G. Hamilton and Wang Zheng 1

1. Special Characteristics of Rural Society 37
2. Bringing Literacy to the Countryside 45
3. More Thoughts on Bringing Literacy to the Countryside 53
4. Chaxugeju: The Differential Mode of Association 60
5. The Morality of Personal Relationships 71
6. Patrilineages 80
7. "Between Men and Women, There Are Only Differences" 87
8. A Rule of Ritual 94
9. A Society without Litigation 101
10. An Inactive Government 108
11. Rule by Elders 114
12. Consanguinity and Regionalism 120
13. Separating Names from Reality 128
14. From Desire to Necessity 134

Epilogue: Sociology and the Reconstruction of Rural China, by Gary G. Hamilton and Wang Zheng 141

Glossary 153

Index 157