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Settled in the Present, Committed to the Past:
Festschrift for Achim Mittag
on the Occasion of His 68th Birthday

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The essays assembled in this volume have been contributed by long-standing collaborators, colleagues and friends and also by some of Achim Mittag's former students. The contributors are from Germany, the Netherlands, North America, China, and Taiwan, who came to know Achim Mittag through conferences, research projects, and sustained scholarly conversations, as well as through the daily university work, and they all have enriched his life and academic career. If one reads the 29 articles contributed by altogether 30 contributors attentively, one will find that most of them discuss topics that Achim Mittag himself has already explored in one way or another and that the authors explicitly refer to these talks or publications. What holds the contributions together is a shared interest: a curiosity to know more than was hitherto known or thought, and to scrutinize a detail that turns out to be a piece of the puzzle that makes up the bigger picture.

The volume is divided into eight thematic sections, namely Part I: „Macrohistory Versus Microhistory", Part II: „Between Historical Geography and Travelogue", Part III: „Working on Texts", Part IV: „Society versus Individual", Part V: „Intellectual Debates in China's Past and Present", Part VI: „Memory Culture and Identity", Part VII: „Early Cultural Encounters with China and the Beginnings of Sinology", and Part VIII: „China Expertise and 'Greater China'".
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