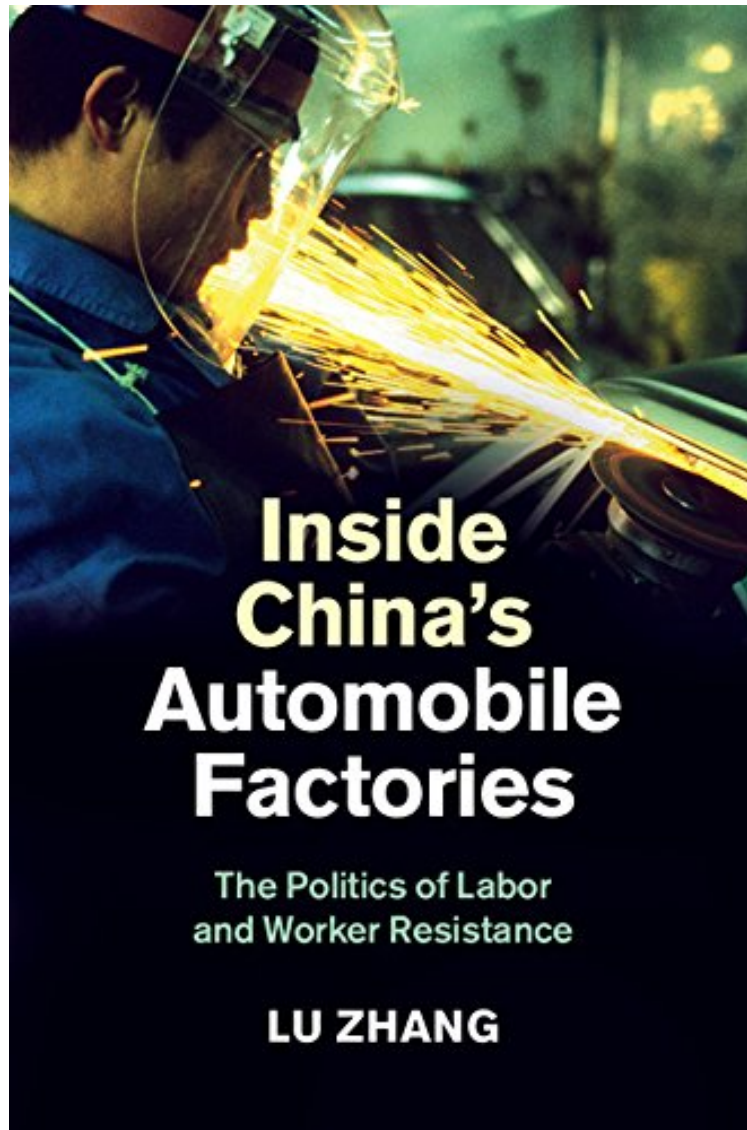


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Inside China's Automobile Factories: The Politics of Labor and Worker Resistance

Lu Zhang

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Lu Zhang : Inside China's Automobile Factories: The Politics of Labor and Worker Resistance before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Inside China's Automobile Factories: The Politics of Labor and Worker Resistance:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. This is powerful and relevant scholarship based on years of ...By Arthur Prescott, Ph.D. This is powerful and relevant scholarship based on years of superb fieldwork. Essential reading for anyone interested in an historically informed vantage of Chinese labor, factory life, resistance, and its present day

dilemmas. What is most enjoyable about this book, in my view, is the care the author gives to Chinese workers' voices and actions today, and the way Zhang seamlessly takes us from the shop floor to the global industrial dynamics of the economic powerhouse of the 21st century. It offers us a fresh view into factory life, labor unrest, and Chinese contemporary capitalism, and a keen understanding of the ideological legacy of state socialism.

In *Inside China's Automobile Factories*, Lu Zhang explores the current conditions, subjectivity, and collective actions of autoworkers in the world's largest and fastest-growing automobile manufacturing nation. Based on years of fieldwork and extensive interviews conducted at seven large auto factories in various regions of China, Zhang provides an inside look at the daily factory life of autoworkers and a deeper understanding of the roots of rising labor unrest in the auto industry. Combining original empirical data and sophisticated analysis that moves from the shop floor to national political economy and global industry dynamics, the book develops a multilayered framework for understanding how labor relations in the auto industry and broader social economy can be expected to develop in China in the coming decades.

"... this book is a must-read for anyone who has an interest in labour issues - not only in China and not only in the automobile sector." [Ivan Franceschini, The China Quarterly](#) "This book provides a much needed examination of labor relations in an industry that is historically central to the rise of labor movements. The carefully collected ethnographic data and nuanced analysis provide important insights into how China's entry into the global economy is reshaping labor relations and has led to an increasingly fragmented working class and rising labor strife." [Sarah Swider, American Journal of Sociology](#) [About the Author](#) Lu Zhang is an Assistant Professor of Sociology at Temple University. Her work has been published in *International Labor and Working Class History* and the *International Journal of Automotive Technology and Management*. She has contributed to five books: *Workers in Hard Times: A Long View of Economic Crises* (2014), *China and Global Governance: The Dragon's Learning Curve* (2014), *From Iron Rice Bowl to Informalization: Markets, Workers, and the State in a Changing China* (2011), *Globalization and Beyond: New Examinations of Global Power and its Alternatives* (2011), and *China and the Transformation of Global Capitalism* (2009). She received the Thomas A. Kochan and Stephen R. Sleigh Best Dissertation Award from the Labor and Employment Relations Association and the Best Dissertation Prize from the journal *Labor History*. She is currently researching capital relocation strategy and labor politics in China and Vietnam and teaching globalization, labor, development, and political economy in China and East Asia.