

## **A Norm Perspective on the Studies of Qing Legal History**

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### **Abstract**

This paper consists of three main parts reflecting upon the research of Qing legal history from a Norm Perspective. In the first part, the author will share how she contemplates over the contemporary significance of the study on Qing legal history through reviewing existing literature. In the second part, this paper aims to discover possible dimensions of Qing legal norms with a comparative study referring to the Western jurisprudence. The third part of this paper provides several possible ways of analyzing Qing legal norms. Since the author is a legal scholar, more emphasis in this paper will be placed on how the norm system operates in practical situations. Employing the basic theory of legal norms, this paper analyzes different legal norms in Qing dynasty as well as how these norms are related to each other. Thus, the author presents how the operation of Qing legal system influences and attaches significance to its operators. Under such a research methodology, the author hopes to reduce possible lopsided judgments confined within certain historical segments in researching Qing legal history.

**Keywords:** Qing law, research methods, provincial regulation, jurisprudence, the rule of law