

## **Doer of the Legal System Modernization Process——Wang Rong Bao (1878-1933)**

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### **Abstract**

Wang Rong-Bao contributed a lot during the legal system modernization process. Though there were no books written by him, he involved himself in the practice of making and perfection of law. Being viewed as a steady doer who gradually promoted law reform, he appealed for the transformation of modern law. As one of the starter for the first batch of legal documents in modern times, Wang Rong-Bao took part in the piling, revising and reworking of civil law, law of Civil Procedure, new criminal law of Qing Dynasty and so on. He tried to establish the modern Chinese law system. Also he took part in the establishment of modern judicial system, compiled law for formation of court and relevant legal system for judicial institutions at all levels and promoted judicial independence. He contributed a lot during the making of the constitution in late Qing Dynasty. He took part in the compiling of Constitution Outlines in 1908. He was appointed to be the coadjutant to cooperate Li Jiajv to compile the first complete modern written constitution, draft constitution compiled by the emperor. After the founding of the Republic of China, he drafted the constitution of Democratic republican and took part in the compiling of Temple of Heaven constitution. As an influential figure, he was viewed as the first man in terms of the making of constitution. During

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the legal system reform, Wang Rong-Bao punctiliously introduced equality, humanism and principle of legality into China, whose contribution should be memorized by later generations.

**Keywords:** Wang Rong-Bao, Constitution Outlines, Constitution compiled by the emperor, draft constitution of Republic of China, Temple of Heaven constitution, new criminal law of Qing Dynasty