

The main topic of this thesis is law and punishment in the Warring States period and early Imperial China. First I provide a short introduction to basic sources, then I focus on the theoretical aspect of law and punishment in this period, mainly in context of its depiction in the normative legalist texts Shangjunshu and Hanfeizi. Afterwards I put it in contrast with the real state of law of that period on basis of archeological findings of legal texts written on bamboo slips.