

China Local Records

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The Current Status of Village and Township Records Research: Quantitative Analysis of the Literature since 1983 *Lin Jianchao* (4)

Taking literature on village and township records from CNKI as the research subject, we conducted a quantitative analysis of research on village and township records published since 1983. The results show: both the quantity and quality of the village and township records research papers are yet to be improved; the periodicals mainly center around the local records and historical records; researchers mostly come from institutions of local records and of higher learning, whose research achievements are mostly made by individuals, and cooperations between these research institutions are at a fairly low level; the spatial distribution of the literature is disproportionate, with relatively more literature published in the coastal regions, and few related literature published in some other regions; the previous research is mainly focused on four aspects, i. e. concentration on old village and township records, discussions of the compilation of village and township records, significance of newly compiled village and township records, and promotion and evaluation of newly published village and township records. Based on these findings, the article forecasts future research on village and township records from such angles as researchers, research contents and methods, quality of articles, and spatial distribution of research.

A Preliminary Study of the Application of Artificial Intelligence in Local Records Compilation: A Case Study of the Application of Baidu AI in the Compilation of Chronicle of Events of Zhejiang General Records *Zhao Hailiang* (15)

Chronicle of events is a major component of new local records. In the newly compiled *Zhejiang General Records*, there is a separate volume of *Chronicle of Events*. Artificial intelligence (AI) is a recently emerged subject of study in the area of computer science. AI has unique advantages in automatic data acquisition and word processing and can free a great amount of manpower from complicated elementary work. Taking as an example the application of Baidu AI in the compilation of *Chronicle of Events of Zhejiang General Records*, this article aims to provide inspiration for the potential of related technology in local records compilation.

An Examination of the Collection of Laixiang Notes *Li Yucheng* (24)

The one-volume *Laixiang Notes* by Cui Xuanshan was written probably during the late Northern Wei period. The upper limit of the book was the first year of Taichang (532) in Northern Wei Dynasty or the first year of Xuanzheng (578) in Northern Zhou Dynasty, and its lower limit was the first year of Daye in Sui Dynasty. It was scattered and lost in the middle or late period of Southern Song Dynasty. A total of 23 passages are known in existence, including about 20 passages of its text and three related passages of its contents. Most of these passages can be found in books such as *Extracts from the North Hall (Beitang Shuchao)*, *Categorized Extracts from Encyclopedic Works (Yiwen Leiju)*, *Notes for Beginners of Learning (Chuxue Ji)*, *Imperial Readings of the Taiping Era (Taiping Yulan)*, *A Biographical Summary of The*

Grand Supreme Elderly Lord (Taishang Laojun Nianpu Yaolue). Scholars' quotations from *Laixiang Notes* after Southern Song Dynasty can all be traced back to the above-mentioned books. "The Epitaph of Li's Mother" recorded in *Laixiang Notes* is useful for research of the history of Daoism during the Six Dynasties, yet it is less valuable to issues such as the relations between "The Epitaph on the Grave of Li's Mother" recorded in Li Daoyuan's *Notes on Book of Waterways (Shuijing Zhu)* and "Wang Fu's Epitaph of Laozi's Holy Mother" recorded in Volume 1 of *Imperial Readings of the Taiping Era*, and the history of Han Dynasty Daoism.

Writings about Lakes in Southern Song Dynasty Local Records Li Kun (35)

Writings about lakes in Southern Song Dynasty local records were mostly put under the traditional category of geography, with variations in names under some sub-categories. Their contents were largely research on the historical transformation and practical values of lakes, with more emphasis on the relation between men and place than on geographic elements. Although poems and articles were widely quoted, they brought problems like inconsistency and wordiness. This situation was related to the transformation of contemporary concepts on men, earth, time and space, reflecting the "history" (shi) vs. "records" (zhi) dispute in the compilation of local records. This was not a mutation overnight, but rather the result of the long evolution over generations. Such historical change can offer insights into the compilation of new local records that integrates both "history" and "records".

On the Ideological Connotations and Compilation Methods of *The Unified Records* in Yuan, Ming and Qing Dynasties Lv Wenli (43)

China's development has always been multifaceted, and thus how to achieve "integration" became a big issue of state governance. Ruling as an ethnic minority, the Yuan Dynasty realized the predicament, and decided to adopt the traditional Chinese thinking of "the Grand Unification". The Yuan rulers tried to acquire their legitimacy of governance over the regions newly adopted into the domain by means of compiling the symbolic *The Grand Unified Records of the Grand Yuan Dynasty (Dayuan Dayitong Zhi)*. *The Unified Records* along with other officially compiled history books, established the ideology that the legitimacy of the state power originated from "the Grand Unification" through official writings, representing a great leap in the Yuan Dynasty rulers' capability of state governance. Similarly, Ming and Qing Dynasties also consciously pursued "the Grand Unification" and compiled their own *The Unified Records* respectively. The greatest feature of compilation methods of these *The Unified Records* was their official nature, with venues, expenses and personnels guaranteed and authorization from the highest ruler, which ensured their quality to a certain extent.

Imperial Decrees, Personal Intentions, and the Compilation of Academy Records: A Survey Centered Around Two Qing Dynasty *White Deer Academy Records* Liu Yanwei (49)

Qing Dynasty saw two sets of *White Deer Academy Records* compiled, one by Liao Wenying in the 12th year of Kangxi (1673), and the other by Mao Deqi in the 54th year of Kanxi (1715). Mao's version was based on Liao's, with additions, deletions and adaptations, which greatly strengthened the influences of Chengs and Zhu's Neoconfucian teachings on the academy. The context of Kangxi's reign

featured by Chengs and Zhu's philosophy being held in high esteem, and Mao Deqi's personal intention of catering to the emperor's liking, were the main motivations for Mao's behaviour. This exploration into the compilation process of *White Deer Academy Records* reveals the elements that conditioned the formation of the text, such as government will and personal intentions, and provides new dimensions of thinking for understanding the writing of academy records and academy history, thus offering clues for reflections on the relation between historical materials and historical facts.

A Brief Analysis of the Inheritance and Innovation of “Star Fields” in Three Qing Dynasty General Records of the Capital Area Lv Shu'e (59)

The Three Qing Dynasty *General Records of the Capital Area* compiled respectively during the Reign of Kangxi, Yongzheng, and Guangxu witnessed the rise and flowering of general records of the areas around the capital, as well as the flourishing of Qing Dynasty local records studies. Having distinctive features, the three records serve as important references for both theoretical research of local records studies and contemporary practice of local records compilation. Among the three records, the “star fields” section, commonly found in old Chinese local records, features both innovation and inheritance in terms of order of arrangement, range of content and expressions of views. Reflections on this phenomenon can help deepen our understanding and evaluation of local records, and provide a vista of the evolution of traditional Chinese historical, geographical and philosophical concepts.

An Examination of the *Records of the Western Regions* of *Sichuan General Records* Compiled During the Reign of Jiaqing Liu Sen (68)

The *Records of the Western Regions* of *Sichuan General Records* compiled in the reign of Emperor Jiaqing carries the most information of Tibet among Qing Dynasty local records about Tibet. According to my research, the actual compiler of the *Records of the Western Regions* was Wang Zhongyang, who extensively consulted officially compiled general histories and records, and quoted a large number materials from other people's poems and articles about Tibet such as Song Jun's *An Illustrated Summary of the Management of Xizang (Xizhao Tulu)*, with innovations in the categorization of compiled materials. Despite such flaws as lag of information, mistakes and omissions in content, and inappropriate citations, *Records of the Western Regions* recorded rather comprehensively the historical development and the changing local situations from the ending years of Yongzheng to the early years of Jiaqing, and served as an important source of reference for the compilation of Tibetan local records in later times.

Re-examination of Liu Zongyuan's So-Called Lost Poem “The Patterned Rock” as Seen in Jiaqing Guangxi General Records Zhang Tingyin (77)

The so-called Liu Zongyuan's poem “The Patterned Rock” as recorded in *Jiaqing Guangxi General Records* but not found in any existing collections of Liu Zongyuan's poems and writings, was once believed a lost poem of his. But this theory was doubted and rejected. This research into local records, the spread of historical literature, and Liu Zongyuan's official experiences further demonstrates that this poem was counterfeited in his name rather than a lost poem of his. This again reminds us that we must cautiously examine any work assertedly authored by a well-known person from past generations but found only in some local records instead of blindly believing the claim.

Yang Xiong as Seen in the View of Local Culture: A Case Study of *Huayang Country*

Records *Shen Xianghui* (81)

The rise of county records was greatly influenced by the regional superiority or inferiority theory of Han and Wei dynasties. *Huayang Country Records* inherited this tradition of county records writing, and advertised the uniqueness of the Shu region through praising personages from the past. The *Biographies of Past Personages* volume of the book portrays Yang Xiong as a promoter of the Dao, who was “broad and profound and equal to the sage”, by editing historical materials from such sources as *Book of Han* (*Han Shu*) and *Legitimate Words* (*Fa Yan*). And the volume does not contain a single negative word of the man. This practice featured local records writing in the construction of local culture. As the epitome of local records of the Shu region, *Huayang Country Records* and its positioning of Yang Xiong largely reflected the mentality of the local intelligentsia. This suggests that Yang Xiong’s act of imitating the ancient sages by following their way of writing won approval at least to a certain extent in the Shu region.

An Investigation of Zhongdu City in Yuci District: With Considerations of the Application of Materials from Old Local Records *Duan Bin* (92)

The historical transformation of Zhongdu County involves many historical issues about Yuci District and Pingyao County of Shanxi Province. Examining historical materials from early periods, we learn that from the Pre-Qin period to early Northern Wei Dynasty, Zhongdu County was located in what is now Pingyao County. The Zhongdu County of Yuci District was relocated from Pingyao during Northern Wei. The two were successive stages of the same genealogy. After Northern Song Dynasty, geographical records such as *Imperial Geography of the Taiping Period* (*Taiping Huanyu Ji*), *The Unified Records of the Grand Ming Dynasty* (*Daming Yitong Zhi*), and *Important Reading Notes on the Geography Treatises in the Histories* (*Du Shi Fangyu Jiyao*) gradually mixed up historical events of the two Zhongdu Counties. And the views of these geographical records were then passed down and further deduced by later local records, giving rise to quite some controversies. Sorting out the genealogy of Zhongdu City in historical records, we got the inspiration that when compiling new local records, we should trace the origin of ancient and medieval historical recordings in Ming and Qing local records, and necessarily discriminate those historical materials.

The Year of the Establishment of Yingzhou and the Origin of Its Name

..... *Liu Shuying* (99)

Since the end of Tang Dynasty, Yingzhou has been a border fortress of the North Yan region, holding a critical strategic position. As to the time of the establishment of Yingzhou, there have been different theories: the Wude Period of Tang Dynasty, the Tianbao Period of Tang Dynasty, the end of Tang Dynasty, and Later Tang Dynasty. A comparison and analysis of these theories in combination with historical materials points to the probability that Yingzhou was established at the end of Tang Dynasty, after Li Keyong took over the Hedong area by force. The time of its establishment was between the middle of the 880s and 908, the year of Li Keyong’s death. The name of Yingzhou originated from the corresponding position of Yanmen and Longshou respectively in the south and north within its territory. The fact that Li Keyong established Yingzhou at that time was related to the long history of administrative

division setup in the area, the rise and decline of ethnic minority powers from the northern prairie, and the Shatuo people's activities in the Hedong area over the generations.

Hu Shi and the Controversy over *The Rivers and Canals in Zhili Province*

..... **Song Kaijin** (106)

The controversy over *The Rivers and Canals in Zhili Province* triggered during the reign of Emperor Jiaqing can be seen as another “battleground” for the controversy over the *Notes on Book of Waterways* (*Shuijing Zhu*), in which many scholars were involved. Hu Shi made great efforts on the controversy, clarifying the compilation process of *The Rivers and Canals in Zhili Province* and ascertaining the true authorship, and contributed much to the settlement of the copyright dispute. He conducted textual research and discovered that the *Notes on Book of Waterways* quoted in *Records of Flood Control in the Capital Area* was different from the emendations of Zhao Yiqing and Dai Zhen, providing a new insight into the settlement of the core issue of whether *Records of Flood Control in the Capital Area* had plagiarized *The Rivers and Canals in Zhili Province*. He sorted out and studied the manuscripts of *The Rivers and Canals in Zhili Province*, noted the details about all its volumes and corrected mistakes by former scholars, removing obstacles for future research. Hu Shi's research was definitely not free from deficiencies, which calls for further discussion.

A New Supplementary Note to the “Nanpi Country” Entry in *Records of the Barbarians*

..... **Xue Yanqiao** (115)

The “Nanpi Country” entry in *Records of the Barbarians* (*Zhufan Zhi*) recorded that a father Luo Ba and his son Zhi Li Gan lived in the southern part of Quanzhou city. A newly discovered epitaph of Guo Xizong, the General Supervisor of the Merchant Marine Department of Quanzhou in Southern Song Dynasty, recorded that Guo actively dealt with accumulated issues of the Merchant Marine Department during his term of office, winning approvals from foreign merchants at the time and facilitating the development of Quanzhou's foreign trade. Guo later died of disease in Quanzhou. The epitaph also recorded that Indian merchants at that time paid tribute to him at his tomb, which was a piece of historical material neglected in previous research.

Checking and Amending a Fragmented Article in *The Complete Collection of Prose from Yuan Dynasty* Using Old Local Records: With the Addition of a Poem by Zhao Shanjin of Song Dynasty

..... **Wang Jianyong** (120)

“The Story of a Pavilion over the Well” by Wang Chuanzong of early Yuan Dynasty preserved in *Xiangshan County Records* compiled in the Jiajing period can be used in checking and amending the fragmented article of the same title by Wang Chuanzong in *The Complete Collection of Prose from Yuan Dynasty* (*Quan Yuan Wen*). The latter was sorted out and punctuated according to the Republican Period *Xiangshan County Records*. This effort demonstrates the irreplaceable role of old local records in the sorting of historical materials. The lost poem *On Danshan Well* by Zhao Shanjin of Southern Song Dynasty quoted in “The Story of a Pavilion over the Well” was not included in *The Complete Collection of Poems from Song Dynasty* (*Quan Song Shi*). In addition, with the help of Song and Ming local records, I add a brief biography of Zhao Chonghe in *The Complete Collection of Prose from Song Dynasty* (*Quan Song Wen*).