

China Local Records

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I Have a Dream-2018 New Year's Message *Ji Xiangde* (1)

Striving for the Realization of the “Two Centenary” Targets for Local Records under the Guidance of Xi Jinping's Thoughts on Socialism with Chinese Characteristics for a New Era *Li Peilin* (6)

On the Nature and Functions of Local Records Museum *Liu Yuhong* (16)

Local records museums are public cultural service institutions that collect, research, develop, and utilize local records resources and publicize and showcase national and local information. In recent years, the local records museum cause rapidly developed along with the constant prosperity of the local records cause and following the situation of national economic and cultural construction. The functional positioning of local records museums must be based on socialist cultural construction, national and local information research, and the inheritance and development of local records culture. Local records museums, unlike general records halls and graphic records halls in the traditional sense, and modern libraries, museums, archives, and planning exhibition halls, undertake multiple functions such as national and local information research, collection and protection, exhibition and demonstration, compilation and research, professional consulting, information services, development and utilization, publicizing and education, professional training, and cultural exchanges related to local records culture.

On the Modern Transformation from Family Genealogy Compilation to Community and Administrative Village Records Compilation *Yi Jienan, Ren Guorui* (23)

Genealogies and local records are both roots of excellent Chinese traditional culture, and important literature support for the construction of the grand building of Chinese history and culture. In the old days, due to the existence of national history, county records, and family genealogies, there were comprehensive coverage of traditional culture. During the early period of the founding of the People's Republic of China, genealogies were burned and banned from compilation. To realize the target of reviving the nation in culture, the most fundamental issue is to make the people at grassroot level nurtured by traditional culture and be in the edification of socialist core values. The crucial measure to solve this problem is to fully initiate the compilation of village records and community records, and replace family genealogy compilation in the old days. To realize this target, we need to solve problems in working

concept and ways of thinking. Firstly, we must fully understand the tradition of family genealogy compilation and functional significance of genealogies; secondly, we must explore ways of innovative transformation and development from family genealogies to village records and community records; and finally, we must have basic directions for the compilation of village and community records.

New Trends of Development of the Local Records Cause under the Perspectives of Oral History Zhang Yingpin (30)

This article, through descriptions of the rise and development of modern oral history theories, elaborates the influences of oral history on local records. The interdisciplinary application and development of oral history, deepened the interaction and interdisciplinary integration of various academic subjects, and the development of local records. During second-round new local records compilation, oral history theories and methods were applied to reference materials gathering to adapt to constant developments and changes of the economy and society, and led to diversity and openness in the sources of local records reference materials. In terms of narrative methods, the appearance of oral history changed the traditional way of history writing, presented features of comprehensiveness and inclusion of historical memories, and in turn pushed forward changes and innovations in local records work concepts.

Narrative Comments on *Huailai New Records* Wang Zhangqiang (36)

In the 1950s and 1960s, a vigorous campaign for socialist new local records compilation was launched nationwide. Huailai County of Hebei Province, with help from transferred cadres from various associations under China Federation of Literary and Art Circles, compiled and published *Huailai New Records* in 4 months. *Huailai New Records* stuck to guiding thoughts of serving for socialist construction, and the compilation principle of putting the emphasis on the present rather than the past, used the prose style in the whole work, and provided references for some of the cities and counties in their efforts of local records compilation. *Huailai New Records* have certain values in terms of compilation methods and literature references. But due to reasons related to the age, it also has the deficiencies of departing from the traditional style of local records compilation and exaggerations and misrepresentations with some of the recordings.

The Development of Buddhism in the Siming Region at the Conjuncture of Song and Yuan Dynasty-A Survey Centered around *Yanyou Siming Records* Niu Runzhen, Song Yu (48)

Yanyou Siming Records is a famous set of local records of the Siming region at the conjuncture of Song and Yuan Dynasty. Its recordings about Buddhism are very rich and accurate, including many

historical materials about the burgeoning development of local temples and the life of eminent monks. It demonstrates the cultural prosperity of the Siming region at the conjuncture of Song and Yuan Dynasty, the worship of Buddhism by officials and ordinary people, the development of Buddhism, and that of the Tiantai Sect and the Zen Sect in particular. Examination and research on these historical materials will be helpful for the full and deep understanding of the development of Buddhism in the Siming and Jiangsu-Zhejiang region at the conjuncture of Song and Yuan Dynasty.

Research on the Only Existing Copy of Guangxu *Xinshi Township Re-continued Records* in Japanese Collection Ba Zhaoxiang (62)

There are a lot of explorations in the academic circle about unique fu and county records collected in Japan, yet little research was done on the only existing copy of *Guangxu Xinshi Township Re-continued Records* collected by Oriental Culture Research Insititue of Tokyo University. Fei Wu, the compiler of *Guangxu Xinshi Township Re-continued Records*, in the background of local records compilation resurgence during the“Xianfeng and Tongzhi Revival”, began working on the re-continued records in his seventies. There are 4 volumes as a continuation of the *Jiaqing Xinshi Township Continued Records*. Its reference materials have three sources: *Xiantan Historical Literature*, *Detailed Honor Lists of Chasity and Filial Peity*, and personal accounts. It comprehensively discribed the living space of Xinshi Township in detail, collected rich reference materials about local influential families, pointedly recorded major industries in Xinshi Township, preserved important historical references of local information about earthquakes and water conservancy, and reflected the compiler’s perceptions of changes of the time.

Conception and Construction of Old Local Records Catalogue Database Han Chao (70)

Old local records are not only local records, but also irreplaceable ancient literature. In modern society with advanced computer technologies, the inclusion of these old local records in a fixed number in specialized database will play important role in old local records research. Through sorting local records catalogues and databases, this article proposes a database system of old local records catalogue that integrates multiple functions such as searching of original old local records as well as information in collection, and accessing to photocopies.

From“Military/Civilian Ratio of 7/3”to“Military/Civilian Ratio of 3/7”and to “Government/Civilian Ratio of 3/7”: The City Walling Movement in Ming Dynasty Guangdong Xu Hong (75)

Before the Ming Dynasty, Guangdong like any other provinces in southern China, mostly had no city

walls, with a walling rate of only 38.6%. With the efforts of the military and civilians during the early Ming Dynasty, the city walling rate was raised to 66%. During the middle of Ming Dynasty, the policy that “all counties without city walls are ordered to build walls” was launched, and the walling rate reached 95.7%. By the end of Ming Dynasty, it even reached 100%. During the early Ming Dynasty, soldiers from defence posts, led by defence posts commanders and qianhu, were mostly responsible for the construction of city walls in Guangdong. In many cases when the fu, zhou, or county seats were located in the same city as the defence posts in particular, the defence posts would play a dominant position in the construction of city walls and moats. Soon after, the construction of city walls and moats gradually became a joint military-civilian effort, especially in places where the fu, zhou, or county seats were located in the same city as the defence posts. In the beginning, soldiers from defence posts had a higher burden, with a military/civilian ratio of “7/3”; by the middle of Ming Dynasty and after, along with development of local economies, local societies gradually had a larger share in public affairs, particularly in public projects such as the construction of city walls and moats, and the sharing of expenses, building materials, and costs of labor. Hence appeared the customary rule of “military/civilian ratio of 3/7”, and even the “government/civilian ratio of 3/7” costs-splitting government and civilian cooperation mode, in which the local gentry played a leading role.

Changes of Local Education Officers During the Zhengde and Jiajing Period of Ming Dynasty as Seen from Local Records *Qian Lulu* (93)

During the Ming Dynasty, culture and education became prosperous. Great attention was attached to local education, yet in practice there were regional differences in specific cases of enforcement. Local education officers, as the lowest echelon of government officials, had marked differences in terms of office and subsequent transfer as they served in different regions, which can be seen to a certain extent in local records of the Jiajing period of Ming Dynasty. In those cities closer to political and economic centers, local education officers were well treated, with not only shorter terms of office and greater chances of promotion, but also more promising positions in following transfer opportunities; whereas local education officers in remote and more backward regions needed to stay longer in their positions, and very probably would stay as education officers even if transferred to other places.

The Walling Movement and Urban Social Culture in the Weinan Region During the Turn of Ming and Qing Dynasty as Seen from Tablets Inscriptions *Zhang Pengfei* (101)

Shaanxi is a province with the highest number of treasured tablets inscriptions. The contents of Shaanxi tablets inscriptions include compilation messages, accounts of events, accounts of moral

behaviors, literature and arts. For example, city wall construction tablets belong to the category of accounts of events. These valuable city wall construction tablets cover many aspects of history of various places in Shaanxi, from which we can see that city defence structures of Weinan during the turn of Ming and Qing Dynasty were greatly affected by the mayhem caused by roving rebel bands and natural disasters. The construction of city defence system changed the exterior structure and interior function of cities and towns, and subsequently changed the shapes and features of cities and towns. Along with analysis of city defence of the Weinan region, we also attempts to analyze good behaviors in social culture and the thoughts related to city defence capabilities and cultural connotations of urban spaces in the Weinan region.

Research about Matrimonial Wealth Barginning in Northern China During the Republican Period *Jian Yuxiang* (107)

Matrimonial wealth barginning is an important protocol in the process of marriage. Since we enter the modern period, along with intensified poverty in society, aggrandizement of men outnumbering women, and impacts of elements such as social turmoil, matrimonial wealth barginning gradually exceeded the range of tolerance of rural society, and subsequently induced a series of social problems. Against this phenomenon, local elites and farmers took different countermeasures. Local elites mostly stood on the ground of criticism and passive acceptance, and advocated the solution dealing with the matter on its own merits, but this approach had no social foundation and social soil to be realized. Farmers, through alternative ways of marriage such as adoption of child bride, solved the dilemma of rural marriage to a large extent, and the babies’ right to live to a certain extent. The custom of child bride is not worthy of praise, and it was indeed a woeful historical existence under the circumstances of rural marriage hardship.

A Survey of Three Handwritten Letters from Long Qirui to Zhou Bichao *Luo Tian* (118)

There are a number of handwritten letters from Long Qirui to Zhou Bichao in the collection of Guangxi Guilin Library. Two of these letters are related to discussions about poetry, and seen as important references for research on Long Qirui’s poetic thoughts. The other letter is helpful for determining information about the book *Examples of Philology* like who is its author. This article introduces and examines the time of writing and backgrounds of these three letters, and briefly discusses its value as reference literature.