

China Local Records

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Brief Analysis of Academic Subject Construction of Local Records Studies and the Development Path of Local Records Studies in Higher Educational Institutions

..... *Shen Songping* (4)

Local records compilation has a long history in our country, yet academic subject construction of local records studies and academic degree education was kept behind by the traditional prejudice that claims “local records bear no relation with academic subject”. Positioning local records studies as a secondary discipline of history (Chinese history) is no longer relevant nowadays. It could be considered as a primary discipline of management studies, or merges with library information and archives management as “library information and local records and archives management”. No matter whether there is an official name, coordination between higher educational institutions and local government is an effective way to break the current development predicament of local records studies subject in higher educational institutions.

My Opinions on Several Issues of Second-round Local Records Compilation

..... *Wang Fuxing* (12)

The “bureaucracy-oriented” thoughts in second-round local records are mainly manifested in that officials of high and low ranks are recorded in the organizational structure chapter, and only living officials are introduced in the profile section. This kind of “bureaucracy-oriented” thoughts are detrimental to the quality of local records and their negative influences on local records compilation must be eliminated. Some second-round local records have deficiencies in certain minor and subtle aspects, or even critical mistakes. The causes are that the local records are published in a hurry without serious revision after the manuscripts evaluation meeting. The solutions are to pay great attention to quality control in the final stage and to make sure there is adequate time to have careful revisions on the manuscripts. Special Records, as a form of recording for newspapers and periodicals, are suitable for yearbooks as annual publication, but are not suitable for local records as works to be passed down to future generations. “Arts and literature” is a traditional chapter in local records to record bibliographical information of creative writings, rather not a collection of texts of poetry, literary works, and inscriptions on metal and stone tablets.

Explorations on Chapters and Sections Design and Content Recordings in Local Records’ Finance Volume Xu Dezhong, Chu Yunfeng (17)

This article stresses that important chapters must be highlighted in chapters and sections design, and content recordings must include important contents. One must discard the dross and keep the essential, and turn complexity into simplicity. We must start from the essential attributes of the finance sector and local reality when making overall chapters and sections design for the finance volume. In terms of content recordings, we must clarify the important points of recordings in each chapter, perfect the recording contents of certain chapters, highlight the core position of the banking sector and the deposit and loan business in content recordings, and deepen the content recordings of chapters on securities and insurance. In combination with features of the finance sector, one must adopt the deep excavation method and the phase by phase recording method to highlight the local characteristics and time features of the finance sector.

History in Cross Section: Liu Xianxin on *Huayang Nations Records* Xiong Rui (22)

Liu Xianxin was a renowned historian of Sichuan during the modern period, whose academic achievements were gradually discovered in recent years. *Huayang Nations Records* was a work with comprehensive records of contents such as history and geography of the southwestern region compiled by Chang Qu of Eastern Jin. Liu Xianxin put great emphasis on “folk customs”, and made many great comments on *Huayang Nations Records*. In terms of time and space in combination, *Huayang Nations Records* is a “history in cross section”. The conditions of compilation include the burgeoning of local writings, Chang Qu’s own experiences and academic inheritance. The last paragraph of The Preface Records of *Huayang Nations Records* hinted the author’s name. Liu Xianxin’s comments on *Huayang Nations Records* are useful in further explorations in Liu Xianxin’s historical thoughts and enrich our knowledge about *Huayang Nations Records*.

Re-evaluation of the Historical Literature Value of *Huayang Nations Records*—A Case Study in History Research on Shuhan of The Three Kingdoms Zhang Yinxiao (30)

Huayang Nations Records compiled by Chang Qu of Eastern Jin was the earliest and relatively complete set of local records of our country now in existence. It recorded the historical developments of the southwestern region and parts of Shaanxi, Gansu, and Hubei before the middle of the 4th century. In terms of history research on Shuhan of Three Kingdoms, *Huayang Nations Records* provided much richer

and detailed historical materials than The Book of Shu of *The Three Kingdoms Records* in recordings of events such as Li Yan’s dismissal and Zhuge Liang’s southern expeditions. Moreover, through related materials in *Huayang Nations Records*, we can explain some of the allusions in The Book of Shu of *The Three Kingdoms Records* which are difficult to understand, and learn about the folk customs of the southwestern regions, all of which are conducive to further research. *Huayang Nations Records* has extremely high value as historical literature in Shuhan’s political history, military history, and cultural history.

Historical Writings and Role Changes of the 13 Ming Tombs in Local Records

Literature Since the Ming Dynasty Liu Shaohua (39)

The 13 Ming Tombs are important historical relics in Changping, Beijing. The writing methods and contents about the 13 Ming Tombs in Changping local records since Ming Dynasty are markedly different, and the historical role of them built upon this also kept changing constantly. Local records of Ming Dynasty saw the Ming Tombs area as a place of fundamental importance for the imperial court, and expected the imperial fortune could be sustained forever. The adherents of Ming Dynasty in early Qing Dynasty saw the 13 Ming Tombs as emblems of the Ming Dynasty that harbored their remembrance for the native country. Official local records in early Qing Dynasty saw the 13 Ming Tombs as relics from the previous imperial court, emphasized the Qing Court’s protection over the Ming Tombs, and used them to propagate Qing Dynasty’s benevolence and righteousness so as to strengthen Qing Dynasty’s rule, but these thoughts gradually weakened in local records of the late Qing Dynasty. New local records see the 13 Ming Tombs as cultural relics, writings of which highlight their value as cultural relics, with the aim of better protecting these cultural relics and inheriting the Chinese civilization. The role changes of the 13 Ming Tombs were caused by historical environment, personal standpoints, and different ways of thinking on the parts of the writers.

Intertextuality Research of Local Records and Diaries—A Case Study of Daoguang

Shiquan County Records and Gengfu Diary Gu Yifan (48)

Daoguang *Shiquan County Records* was compiled by Shu Jun, the County Magistrate, and published in the 29th year of the Reign of Daoguang (1849). It has detailed contents and fresh styles. *Gengfu Diary*, the hand-copied edition in the 15th year of the Reign of Qianlong (1750), was the day-by-day diary of Hu Juqing from the 5th year to the 14th year of the Reign of Qianlong, with detailed accounts of Hu Juqing’s experiences as Shiquan County Magistrate. Borrowing the concept of “intertextuality” from Western literary review, we can discover the connections between accounts of Shiquan County’s mountains

and rivers, government establishments, produces and taxation, administrations of officials and education of the public, folk customs and sacrifices ceremonies in the two historical literature, restore the full picture of Shiquan County during mid Qing Dynasty, understand the development of Shiquan County from the Reign of Qianlong to the Reign of Daoguang, and hopefully provide a fresh way of thinking for local records research.

Brief Review of Hand-copied Local Records in the Collection of National Library of Peiping Zhang Yi (61)

During the Republican Period, local records compilation, collection, theoretical research and utilization presented new picture different from the past. The National Library of Peiping did many fruitful work in the collection of local records and literature revelation. In the current local records collection in the Ancient Books Department of National Library of China, there are a number of special literature—hand-copied local records collected by the National Library of Peiping. There are nearly 70 of them in kind, with relatively speaking fixed time of copying and very refined handwriting. Most of the master copies are local records of Qing Dynasty and many of them are the only existing copy. Since many of them are rarely seen local records, they are of great value as ancient literature. They reflected the National Library of Peiping’s efforts in searching and collecting local records at that time, and its contributions on local records literature communication and utilization.

Geographical Distribution of Jinshi (Presented Scholars) of Hubei in the Ming Dynasty and the Causes Zhang Xiaoji (65)

Jinshi (presented scholars) in the age of Imperial Examinations are excellent examples to observe and study human resources. *Hubei General Records* of the Republican Period include 1132 jinshi from Hubei, presenting imbalanced feature in terms of regional distribution. They came from all the other 8 fu of Hubei except Shizhouwei. More than 71% of them concentrated in the Eastern Hubei area represented by Huangzhoufu, Hanyangfu, and Wuchangfu, an area of high yield of jinshi. The central and southern Hubei area represented by Jinzhoufu and Chengtianfu had 22% , with a moderate yield. The southwestern and northern Hubei areas are poor yield areas. Apart from counties such as Changyang, Xingshan, Yunxi, and Baokang, the other 49 counties all have their own jinshi, with an average of 23 for every county. The imbalanced regional distribution of Jinshi embodies the different levels of cultural development and evolution of various places in the province and the losses and gains of their economic development. The growth and development of human resources are definitely affected by regional environment, and the crucial factor surely must be the cultural environment. For Hubei in the Ming

Dynasty specifically, the regional distribution feature of jinshi is the result collectively driven by migration, economic development, and cultural factors including official school education, private academy education, book engraving industry, private tuition, and human resources exchanges.

The Life Routine of Shaanxi People in Mid-Qing Dynasty as Seen from Local Records
..... *Feng Lei* (85)

This article, through investigations of various facets such as crop planting and diet constitution, clothing materials and textile trade, living status and economic situation, living utensils and trade sources, people’s beliefs and regional features, and resources exploration and human-earth contradiction in Shaanxi local records of mid-Qing Dynasty, taking the perspective of daily life, and focusing parts of life contents, presents the daily“routine” and different facets of people’s life in various regions of Shaanxi in mid-Qing Dynasty, discusses the historical literature value of local records in life routine history research, and reflects on the features and trends of daily life research.

On the Development Patterns of Clan Ancestral Temples in Yixing and Jingxi Region of Qing Dynasty *Bai Bingyang* (94)

In Yixing and Jingxi region of Qing Dynasty, the development of clan ancestral temples mostly showed a development pattern of emergence, sustained development, upsurge to climax, plunge into pitfall, and reemerged high tide. This development pattern was affected by both imperial court policies and local demands. And active donations and supports from clan members are the key driving forces of the existence and development of ancestral temples.

Sun Yanzhao and Wenzhou Local History Research *Liao Zhangrong* (103)

Since late 1920s, Sun Yanzhao started to go over writings by his grandfather and father ,worked on the sorting of his hometown literature, and dedicated himself to Wenzhou local history research. Commending local men of virtue was an important part of Sun Yanzhao’s local history research. He honored these local men of virtue mostly by writing chronologies and biographies for them. Moreover, his research on the Yongjia School scholars is also meant to honor local men of virtue. During the War of Resistance Against Japan , Sun Yanzhao worked hard to honor the resistance acts against aggression of Wenzhou people in his research of Wenzhou local history. This revealed his true feelings towards political situation at that time and his intention to inspire the national consciousness among fellow countrymen.

**Brief Accounts of Catalogues in Local Literature of Northwestern Region During
Republican Period *Zhou Rirong* (109)**

Local literature catalogue is a kind of catalogue compiled to cover literatures related to a certain area that reflects the political economy, cultural history, geographical resources, education, and military affairs of the certain place. During the Republican Period (1912 – 1949), the northwestern frontier was plagued by hidden crises, while research on the northwest became the focus of academic studies amid rising voices to develop the northwestern region. Pushed by this situation, the compilation of northwestern local literature catalogues made great achievements. These catalogues, no matter in literature collection, compilation methods and styles, or in aspects such as the writings of contents abstracts, embodied the principles of pragmatism and contained the academic thoughts of contributing the world with academic research and the patriotism of Chinese scholars.

**Brief Comments on Local Literature Collection and Utilization—A Case Study of
Libraries of Fujian Province Higher Education Institutions
..... *Yin Hongjuan* (119)**

Local higher education institutions are important venues for the nurturing and transmission of human resources to local construction, and important forces providing intellectual support to local economic and social development. The quantity and levels of local literatures collected, sorted, and developed by libraries of local higher education institutions have direct impacts on the education quality and social service standards of local higher education institutions. Noticing the impacts of literatures and reference materials collection on education, local higher education institutions in Fujian deployed resources on literatures and reference materials collection and encourage research on the basis of different regional features. But there are still problems such as paying too much attention on professional literatures while neglecting local literatures, paying too much attention on historical literatures while neglecting modern and contemporary literatures, and paying too much attention on textual references while neglecting other forms of references. This article, taking the libraries of higher education institutions in Fujian Province as examples, briefly covers the importance and current status of local literatures collection, expounds on the basic principles that must be followed in local literatures collection, and makes some suggestions about how to improve the work of local literatures collection.