

# China Local Records

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## **Thoughts on the Legislation of *History and Local Records Law of the People's Republic of China* ..... *Ji Xiangde, Song Liya* (4)**

As is demonstrated by such sayings as “One must study history if one wants to know the Great Way” and that “To destroy a country, one must dismiss its history”, history and local records are both important components of the outstanding Chinese cultural heritage and means of civilization inheritance with distinctive Chinese characteristics among the world’s diverse histories and cultures. Against the background of comprehensively pushing forward the rule of law in the country, the necessity of legislation on history and local records grows more urgent. A history and local records law protecting the interests of the state and the nation will facilitate the realization of the Chinese dream of national rejuvenation, the preservation of national security, and the development of a great socialist culture in China. With socialism with Chinese characteristics having entered a new era, new requirements for the development of China’s history and local records have emerged. The past practice of “sticking to one book” must be cast aside, and the work on history and local records must be updated to a grand cause. The legislation on history and local records is a pressing issue. The achievement of rule of law in this grand cause has firm roots in the nation’s political, theoretical and practical foundations.

## **Experiences and Reflections on the Compilation of the New Categories of Education, Science, Culture and Health in Local Records: A Case Study of *Fuzhou City Records (1995 – 2005)* ..... *Zhang Ling* (12)**

*Fuzhou City Records (1995 – 2005)* was officially published in 2018, following a long tradition of keep local records in Fuzhou that started with *Three Mountains Records* and *Fuzhou Prefecture Records*. The process of its compilation has also become a noteworthy history, which not only showcases effective and convenient writing methods to be passed down in certain ways, but also bears unintended defects to be detected and reduced. It is responsible to constantly explore and investigate the methods of compiling history and local records. With this in view, the article discusses some experiences of and reflections on the compilation of the new categories of education, science, culture and health in *Fuzhou City Records (1995 – 2005)*.

## **Writings about Resettlement of Migrants from Three Gorges Project Reservoir Area in Local Records ..... *Chen Zhuo* (19)**

Resettlement of migrants from the Three Gorges Project reservoir area is an immense social project. It involves a huge number of people and a tremendous period of time, faced with the most complicated

conditions. Migrants from the reservoir area can be roughly classified into two groups: the urban group and the rural group, the latter being the vast majority. Resettlement of the rural group, particularly the emigrants, is of top priority. Policies and fund utilization for resettling rural emigrants are uniformly planned by the Three Gorges Project Construction Commission of the State Council, and implemented by the provinces, cities and counties concerned. Therefore, more or less differences necessarily occur in their implementation. The newly compiled local records contain a large amount of information concerning the resettlement of migrants, which not only serve as significant data sources for further research into the resettlement of rural emigrants from the Three Gorges Project reservoir area, but also provide rich material for future studies of the resettlement of rural emigrants from the perspective of regional history.

### **Disputes between Jiang Xueyong and Qian Daxin over Local Records Compilation**

..... *Qian Maowei* (29)

From the fiftieth year (1785) to the fifty-second year of Emperor Qianlong, Yin County of Ningbo compiled its local records. Jiang Xueyong took part in the compilation work first, and soon Qian Daxin became the chief compiler. Jiang was a native of the county and provincial graduate with a *juren* degree, while Qian was an outsider and graduate of the palace examination with a *jinshi* degree. The two had opposite ideas of records writing. Neither yielding, they broke up and compiled their own records of Yin County individually. Jiang Xueyong produced *Manuscripts of Yin County Records*, including the categorized biographies and the surveys of the local irrigation system, both of which he considered of great significance. Evidently, allowing the coexistence of multiple versions of local records is the best solution to such ideational disputes.

### **Challenging the Notion of *Hezhou Records* Being Written by Liu Yuxi**

..... *Sun Lizheng* (37)

The contemporary notion that Liu Yuxi of Tang Dynasty wrote the eight-volume *Hezhou Records* and *An Illustrated History of Hezhou* may have its origins in *Book Catalogues in the National History* and *Records of Hezhou Prefecture Directly under the Provincial Government*. However, this article puts forward a view that the eight-volume *Hezhou Records* was actually the work of Qi Ke and others in the third year of Emperor Wanli (1575). The misunderstanding resulted from the omission of “*Hezhou Records* by Qi Ke” from Liu Yuxi’s *Notes on the Wall of Hezhou Governor’s Hall*, or briefly *Hezhou Notes*, in the course of transcription and inscription. The notion that Liu Yuxi wrote *An Illustrated History of Hezhou* is a further misconception derived from the misreading of the words “referring to books and the events I have experienced” in his “Preface to Poems Recording Events at Liyang”.

### **A Review of the Compilation of *Hezhou Records* in Qing Dynasty** ..... *Gao Hong* (42)

Qing Dynasty marks the climax of local records compilation in Chinese history. Hezhou region

witnessed six compilations of *Hezhou Records* during that period, three of which got published. Sponsored by the local government officials, these *Hezhou Records* have superb quality, rich contents, fine style and normative formula. They are important historical materials for research into the local politics, economy and culture, and can provide multifaceted references for contemporary compilation of local records.

**Emendation Notes of *Collation and Supplement to Records of Xiangyang Venerated Elderlies (with Southern Yongzhou Records Attached)*: Taking Volume 1 Personages as Example** ..... *Huang Qiaoping, Zhang Yinxiao* (53)

*Records of Xiangyang Venerated Elderlies* is a set of local historical records of Xiangyang’s customs and practices from the Warring States Period to East Jin Dynasty written by Xi Zaochi of East Jin Dynasty. The book manuscripts underwent scattering and losses, but later scholars managed to compile and edit them. In 1987, Zhongzhou Classics Publishing House published an emendated and annotated version titled *Collation and Supplement to Records of Xiangyang Venerated Elderlies*. On its basis, Zhonghua Book Company published *Collation and Supplement to Records of Xiangyang Venerated Elderlies (with Southern Yongzhou Records Attached)* in 2018, making further revision and improvement. The latter serves as an important reference for studying and researching Xi Zaochi’s book, but contains some questionable places. This article cites its first volume Personages as an example to display such problematic places.

**Local Records and Error Detection: Factual Evidence of “Notes of Reconstructing Fan’ai Temple” Not Having Been Authored by Yan Zhenqing** ..... *Wang Jianyong* (59)

A survey of *Shunde Prefecture Records*, *Shahe County Records*, both of which were compiled during the reign of Emperor Wanli, and *A Collection of Fang Hao’s Works*, combined with related historical facts, evidences that “Notes of Reconstructing Fan’ai Temple” included in Volume 337 of *Complete Works of Writers in Tang Dynasty* was not written by Yan Zhenqing, but by Fang Hao in Ming Dynasty. Compilers of *Complete Works of Writers in Tang Dynasty* wrongly included it because it was in the incomplete *Shunde Prefecture Records*. This case reveals the value of local records to literature error detection.

**On Reformation of Local Records Criticisms in Newspapers and Periodicals of Modern Era** ..... *Chen Zhengyun* (66)

Among the many factors that facilitated local records transformation in the modern era, local records criticisms in forms such as special articles, book reviews, and books adverts published in newspapers and periodicals played important role. Special articles were mostly written by elites of local records studies,

who led the direction of local records transformation in the modern era, and who realized the transformation from traditional local records criticisms that put emphasis on impressions and understandings to modern local records criticisms more systematic and richer in intellectual reflections. Local records book reviews published in special columns aimed at academic criticisms built a relatively independent and free public opinion space for local records criticisms. Local records book adverts were special forms of local records criticisms in the context of promotions and marketing that made it possible for local records common sense and local records theories to spread in the general intelligentsia.

**An Analysis of the Imperial Examinations in Qiongzhou Prefecture during the Kangxi-Qianlong Period of Qing Dynasty ..... *Fu Yongjie* (73)**

Guangdong native pupils pretended to be from Qiongzhou Prefecture, to take the preliminary imperial examination in Qiongzhou and enhance their probability of admission to official schools. This practice caused a sharp drop in the acceptance rate of Qiongzhou pupils. Qiongzhou native students also had to suffer a disadvantage in provincial and metropolitan examinations, competing against students from educationally advantageous Jiangzhe Province and Guangzhou and Chaozhou districts within Guangdong Province. Moreover, Qiongzhou students would have no access to imperial examinations if they did not command mandarin. Fraudulent practices of Guangdong native pupils caused serious inequality problems for Qiongzhou pupils. In the twenty-first year of Emperor Qianlong (1756), strict tonal pattern and rhyme scheme for poetry became compulsory contents of imperial examinations, constituting the watershed in the examinations of Guangdong Province. When a dismal state occurred in Guangdong's imperial examinations, the entanglement of various uncertainties and fortuities gave rise to the revival of Qiongzhou's imperial examinations from the beginning of the twentieth year to the beginning of the fiftieth year of Emperor Qianlong.

**Historical Writings and Transformation of Rural Place Names Seen in Local Literature: An Investigation Centered on “Miao Nei” and “Miao Guang” ..... *Li Pengfei* (85)**

Restricted by historical materials, we often lack detailed discussions on the historical evolution of the names of small places. Our discussions mostly touched upon oral traditions. In recent years, the excavation and utilization of private documents such as the written contracts and tablet inscriptions found in Qingshui River valley facilitate more possible detailed studies. Findings from such research can testify local records, filling the gaps in existing records. Therefore, private documents are of value and significance. The investigation of the change of two typical rural place names “Miao Nei” and “Miao Guang” explicitly showcase the major difference or entire contradiction between private documents and local records. It is meaningful to tell the right from the wrong. Complex causes are hidden behind the transformation of rural place names in ethnic minority regions, with “shift of sound and change of letter” and national fusion probably among them.

**From “ Ferocious Tigers Wreaking Havoc ” to “ Tiger Traces Being Reduced ” :  
Changes of Tiger Activities in Gansu Region-Research Based on Ming and Qing  
Local Records ..... Wu Xiaofei (97)**

Historically, tigers were one of the major wild animals in Gansu region. During Ming and Qing dynasties, the range of activities of local tigers was fairly extensive, with larger frequency geographically in the east and south, and smaller frequency in the west and north. The Qianlong era of Qing Dynasty saw the peak of tiger numbers and living conditions in Gansu region, whose range of distribution covered the whole province. Then, traces of tigers gradually reduced, and they almost became extinct in some counties. Lowering forest coverage rate, large-scale land or wasteland reclamation caused by sharp increase of population, the utilization and trade values of tigers, and the influences of frequent warfare were the major reasons behind the sharp decline in the number of tigers and the constant shrinkage of their range of activities after the Qianlong period of Qing Dynasty. Changes in the distribution of tigers in Gansu region during Ming and Qing dynasties formed a trajectory from “ferocious tigers wreaking havoc” to “tiger traces being reduced”. It indeed resulted from the synergy of environmental changes and social transformation.

**An Investigation into the Location of Changege Town in *Commentary of Zuo*  
..... Song Mengmeng (108)**

Changege recorded in *Commentary of Zuo* was a city of Zheng State. The relation between Ruge and Changege were not quite clear. Due to various reasons such as the passing of time and the confusion over “Changege” and “Changshe”, the location of Changege was not specified in historical records. This article examines existing historical records and archaeological materials, and finds that Changshe and Changege were two different places. The historic site of Changshe was in what are now Luluwan and Dashengzhao villages of Guanting Town, Changege City, whereas Changege Town of Zheng State in the East Zhou Dyansty was in what is now Mengzhai Village of Guanting Town.

**Correcting Two Errors in *Astronomical Records of History of Jin Dynasty*  
..... Zeng Qinghuan (117)**

**An Error in *Biographies of Queens and Concubines of History of Song Dynasty* :  
Interpreting the Recently Discovered *Epitaph of Governor Quan of Jizhou  
Prefecture, Zuowu Daifu of Song Dynasty* ..... Qian Ruping (119)**

**Correcting Two Errors in “Guangnan Xilu” of *Geographic Records in History of Song  
Dynasty* ..... Qin Wang (122)**