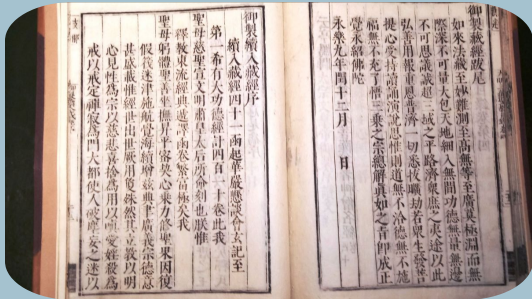




COLLEGE OF HUMANITIES

Center for Buddhist Studies



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Zhongyue Guan, Youteng Bi, Meiqiao Zhang

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We are pleased to release the third issue of a monthly Chinese Buddhist Canon Research Newsletter in March 2021. The purpose of this newsletter is to present academic information about the research, collation, collection, and digitalization of Chinese Buddhist canons and scriptures. The opinions expressed in this newsletter are those of the original authors and publishers, and do not necessarily reflect those of the Center for Buddhist Studies, the editors, the editorial board, or the organization to which the authors are affiliated. If you have questions concerning these opinions, please contact the original authors and their publishers.

This newsletter will be a professional information exchange platform for the study of Chinese Buddhist canons. Its content will include the following:

- Publication information, including books, essays, reviews, dissertations, etc.
- Conference information
- Scholar information introducing scholars' achievements, exchange of ideas, suggestions, and proposals
- Research projects, such as project proposals, project introductions, etc.
- Current canon collections in World Libraries and Museums
- New findings of the scholarship on the Chinese Buddhist canon and related literature in public and private collections and auctions

As we prepare this newsletter, our community is facing unprecedented challenges. We are grateful that you have continued to support our research Center during the pandemic. If you are willing to support the Chinese Buddhist canon research or sponsor the publication of this newsletter, please consider [**DONATING NOW**](#).

To our friends near and far, we hope that you stay safe and healthy in 2021 and that the Buddhist teachings and resources we share can bring some measure of comfort. If you have any suggestions or would like to contribute information, please email us at [**buddhist-studies@email.arizona.edu**](mailto:buddhist-studies@email.arizona.edu).

If you would like to receive monthly emails on this topic, please sign up for our email list at [**http://eepurl.com/gb2yaD**](http://eepurl.com/gb2yaD) and select the group "Chinese Buddhist Canon Research Newsletter." For those who have already signed up for our email list, please [**update your preferences**](#) to include "Chinese Buddhist Canon Research Newsletter."

Jiang Wu and Zhouyuan Li

I Books and Research Papers

REINVENTING THE TRIPITAKA

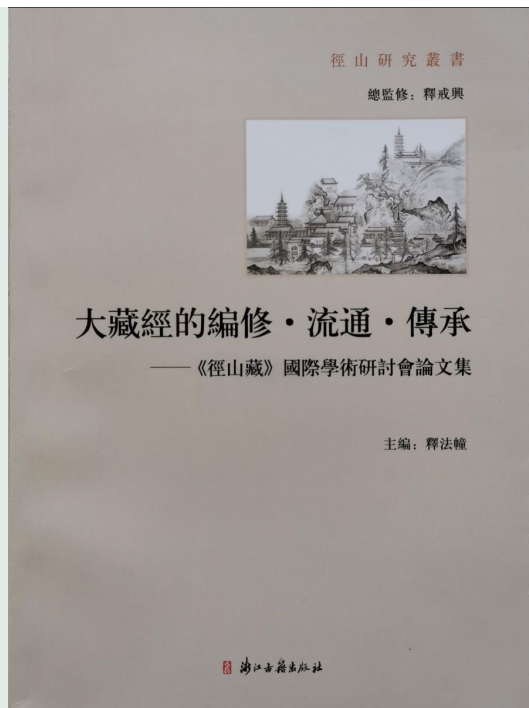


TRANSFORMATION OF THE BUDDHIST CANON IN MODERN EAST ASIA

EDITED BY JIANG WU AND GREG WILKINSON

1. Reinventing the Tripitaka: transformation of the Buddhist canon in modern East Asia. (《法寶重光：近代東亞佛教大藏經的演變》) . Ed. by Jiang Wu 吳疆 and Greg Wilkinson. Lanham: Lexington Books, 2017.

The Chinese Buddhist canon is a systematic collection of all translated Buddhist scriptures and related literatures created in East Asia and has been regarded as one of the “three treasures” in Buddhist communities. Despite its undisputed importance in the history of Buddhism, research on this huge collection has remained largely the province of Buddhologists focusing on textual and bibliographical studies. We thus aim to initiate methodological innovations to study the transformation of the canon by situating it in its modern context, characterized by intricate interactions between East and West as well as among countries in East Asia. [More](#)



2. Shi Fachuang 釋法幢 Ed., *Dazangjing de bianxiu liutong chuanchengjingshanzang guoji xueshu yantao huiyi lunwenji* 大藏經的編修·流通·傳承：徑山藏國際學術研討會論文集 (The compilation, circulation and inheritance of the Tripitaka: Collected papers of the International conference on the Jingshan Canon). Hangzhou: Zhejiang guji chubanshe, 2017.

This book is a collection of essays on the compilation and circulation of the Jingshan Canon. It contains 20 papers by more than ten scholars from China, Japan, the United States, and so on. Among them, there are 14 papers collected from the International Symposium on "Review and Prospects of the Research on printed Buddhist canons: Focusing on the Jingshan Canon" (held on May 9th and 10th, 2015), and the rest of the papers were selected by the editor-in-chief from elsewhere. The authors of these papers mainly conduct bibliographic research by focusing on the origin of the publication of the Jingshan Canon, its relationship with Buddhism in the Ming and Qing Dynasties, its overseas circulation, historical influence, and the state of collection. Therefore, this collection of essays has high academic value.

[More](#)

3. Uesugi, Tomofusa 上杉智英. "Taishōzōhon < Go Shikei roku > no sohon to sono mondaiten" 大正藏本<後思溪錄>の祖本とその問題点 (The problem of the Taishō

version of the Later Sixi Catalogue), *Journal of Indian and Buddhist Studies (Indogaku Bukkyōgaku kenkyū 印度學佛教學研究)*, LXVI, 2 (2018), pp. 576-581.

[More](#)

4. Jiang Yong 姜勇, "Jinsushan zangjingzhi liushikao" 金粟山藏經紙流失考 (Research on the loss of the printing paper for the Jinsu Mountain Tripitaka), *Chinese Calligraphy (Zhongguo shufa 中國書法)*, 2018 (20), pp. 4-23. [More](#)

5. Fujii, Yukiko 藤井由紀子 and Nakagawa Tsuyoshi 中川剛, "Saigonji-zō Ogawa Kan'ichi shiryōchōsa hōkoku" 西巖寺藏「小川貫式資料」調査報告 (Survey Report of the Ogawa Kan'ichi's documents in the possession of Saigonji-temple), *Bulletin of Doho University Institute of Buddhist Culture (Dōhō Daigaku Bukkyō Bunka Kenkyūjo kiyō 同朋大学佛教文化研究所紀要)* 36, 87-135, 2017 March 31. [More](#)

6. Tejima, Isshin 手島一真, "Guanyu Jinxian gongzhu songna jingdian de shiye: 'Xinjiu yijing siqian yuquan' yu Kaiyuan shijiaolu" 关于金仙公主送納經典的事業——“新旧訳經四千余卷”與《開元釈教録》 (About giving away scriptures by Princess Jinxian: the-4,000 Volumes of Old And New Translated Scriptures and the Catalogue of Buddhist Scriptures of the Kaiyuan Period, *Studies of Stone Scriptures (Shijing Yanjiu 石經研究)*, compiled by Fangshan Shijing Museum, Beijing: Beijing Yanshan Publishing House, 2017, pp. 174-177. [More](#)

7. Uesugi, Tomofusa 上杉智英, "Shikei ban daizōkyō kenkyū no kaiko to kadai" 思溪版大藏經研究の回顧と課題 (Review of the research on the Sixi edition of the Tripitaka), *Journal of Indian and Buddhist Studies (Indogaku Bukkyōgaku kenkyū 印度學佛教學研究)*, Vol. 65 (1), 2016, pp. 170-175. [More](#)

8. Zhang, Dewei 張德偉, "Where the Two Worlds Met: Spreading a Buddhist Canon in Wanli (1573-1620) China." *Journal of the Royal Asiatic Society*, 26 (3), 2016, pp. 487-508. [More](#)

9. Wang Fang 王芳, "Kakōzō to Edo Bukkyō: Hōtan Fusōzōgai Genson Mokuroku o chūshin ni <嘉興藏>と江戸仏教: 鳳潭<扶桑藏外現存目録>を中心に Jiaxing Tripitaka and the Buddhism of the Edo Period: a Focus on the Fusōzōgai Genson Mokuroku", *Studies of Indian Philosophy and Buddhism (Indo tetsugaku Bukkyōgaku kenkyū イント哲学仏教学研究)*, 2016 (24), pp. 63-80. [More](#)

10. Nishiwaki, Tsuneki 西脇常記, "Kinzō daihōbenbutsu hōongyō wa Kittanzō ka" 金藏<大方便佛報恩經>は契丹藏か? (Is the Jin Canon edition of *Great Skillful Means Sutra on the Buddha's Repayment of Kindness* from the Qidan Canon?), *Cultural History Studies (Bunka shigaku 文化史学)*, no. 71, 2015, pp. 27-44. [More](#)

(Editor: Zhang Xu 張旭)

II Current Buddhist Canon Collections in Museums, Libraries and Monasteries



Shandong Provincial Library Publishes of Canon Collections Database

On September 28, 2018, 14 institutions including the National Library of China and Shandong Provincial Library jointly released digital resources of ancient books to provide to the public free access for reading and academic research. Among them, Shandong Provincial Library published more than 1,600 Buddhist scriptures, 204,592 photos and 587,764 pages of *Yongle Southern Canon* on the Internet. The Shandong Provincial Library's collection of *Yongle Southern Canon* is a relatively complete printed edition from the Ming Dynasty, which includes both the main canon and the supplementary canon. It was printed around the end of the Ming Dynasty and has been selected to be included in *the First Batch of the List Album of National Rare Ancient Books*. The whole collection is slightly incomplete with the extant 6528 fascicles (originally about 6,724 fascicles).

Buddhist scriptures are one type of the featured collections of the Shandong Provincial Library. At present, there are more than 20,000 Buddhist scriptures from past dynasties, including *Qisha Canon* 磧砂藏 (one fascicle) from the Yuan Dynasty, *Yongle Southern Canon* (five fascicles), *Yongle Northern Canon* (three fascicles) from the Ming Dynasty, *Dragon Canon* (one fascicle) from the Qing Dynasty, and single printed Buddhist scriptures from the Ming and Qing Dynasties. Among these collections, *Yongle Southern Canon* is the largest in

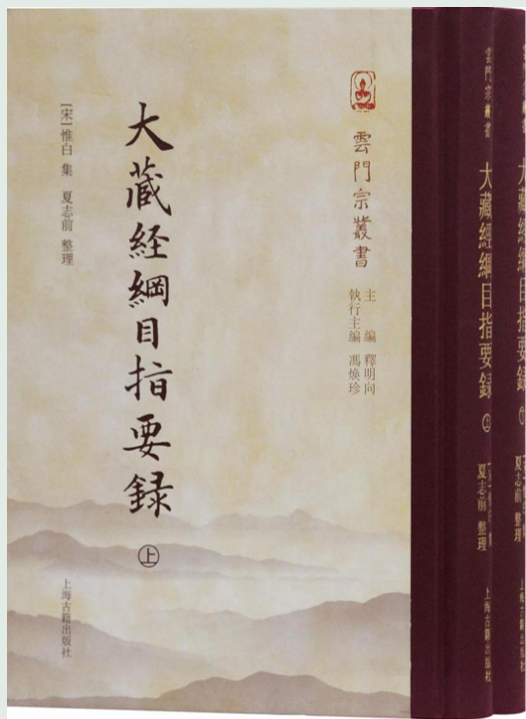
scale. After the publication of *Yongle Southern Canon*, many temples requested the printing of the canon. Therefore, this edition was spread widely and had a considerable influence. However, *Yongle Southern Canon* has never been photocopied, and no electronic version has been published on the Internet. The publication of this resource provides important materials for the study of Buddhist canons from the Ming Dynasty.

The full text can be seen in "the publication of the Shandong Provincial Library Canon Collection Database", September 30, 2018. [More](#)

(Editor: Yang Zhifei 楊志飛)

(Please note that users outside mainland China may experience difficulties in accessing this database.)

III Compilation of Buddhist Canonical Texts



[Wei Bai 惟白 \(Song Dynasty\). Compiled, Xia Zhiqian 夏志前 collated, *Dazangjing Gangmu Zhiyaolu* 大藏經綱目指要錄 \(Guide to the essentials of the outline of the Tripitaka\). Shanghai: Shanghai Ancient Books Publishing House, 2020.](#)

The Guide to the Essentials of the Outline of the Tripitaka 大藏經綱目指要錄, abbreviated as *Outline of the Tripitaka* 大藏綱目 or *Guide to the Essentials* 指要錄, was composed by Weibai 惟白, the third abbot of Fayun Temple 法雲寺 of the East Capital 東京 (nowadays Kaifeng, Henan province). This work is the earliest extant annotated bibliographic work to explain the scriptures in the Buddhist Canon. *The Guide* was incorporated in the second volume of

Shōwa General Catalog of Buddhist Treasury (昭和法寶總目錄) published in Japan. This book contains eight fascicles, among which fascicle two, four, five, six, and seven each has two fascicles. Therefore, the book actually contains thirteen fascicles. This book provides detailed explanations of all the titles (except for those with overlapping content), regardless of the size of the content.

The book has a prominent place in the history of the bibliographical study of Buddhist scriptures. This is the first edition that systematically collates and edits Weibai's catalog. The collated version is based on the Song edition of *The Guide to the Essentials of the Outline of the Tripitaka* collected by the National Library of China, and refers to relevant contents of the Japanese *Taishō Canon* as well as *Tripitaka Sinica* 中華大藏經. It explains the background of its publication, the main contents, and the compilation format of the book.

[More](#)



General Catalogue of "the Restored Hongwu Southern Canon (Chongxiu fuyuan Hongwu Nazang zong mulu 重修復原《洪武南藏》總目錄), Beijing: Cultural Relics Publishing House, 2019.

Hongwu Southern Canon 洪武南藏 is one of the most important official block-printed Tripitaka from the Ming Dynasty and one of the most significant relics of national historical and cultural heritages. After more than eight years of hard work, this precious ancient book has finally been restored to its original form. This Tripitaka has more than 1,600 scriptures and more than 7,000 volumes, divided into 678 cases. Now the catalogue of this edition has been published, and the catalogue is divided into two parts: "Short List" and "Detailed List." The short list arranges scriptures based on classics; records the title of each sutra, the fascicle number, the composer, and translator; and adds the serial number to each sutra. The detailed list follows the order of the Tripitaka, and records the titles case by case and fascicle by fascicle. In each case, the list first marks the call number according to the *Essay of Thousand Characters*, the number of fascicles in the case, and then records the name of the sutra, fascicle number, the translator and his title, as well as the preface, the author of the preface, the title of each fascicle, and the *Essay of*

Thousand Characters number and the sequential number, the title of each chapter, section, sub-section, and episode in the scriptures. The short list at the beginning of the entire canon enables the reader to search the scriptures at a glance and saves space. The detailed list allows readers to search for scriptures without leaving their homes, that is, to know which case and fascicle the sutra is in, which is convenient for the user. Therefore, the catalogue of the restored *Hongwu Southern Canon* is not only faithful to the original canon but also adds necessary bibliographic information to each entry to make it more in line with the criteria of bibliography. This catalog is a breakthrough in the compilation of the Tripitaka catalogue and has extremely high academic value. Thus, it can provide reference and information to the academic world. [More](#)

(Editor: Guan Zhongyue 管仲樂)

IV Digitization and Translation Projects of Buddhist Canons



Welcome to the Reading Room

1. 84000- Translation of Tibetan Scriptures into English

84000 is a global non-profit initiative founded in 2010 to translate the Buddha's words from the Tibetan Buddhist Canon into English. The main tasks of 84000 are: (1) to support and coordinate the translation work of Buddhist scriptures translation teams around the world; (2) to publish the new translated scriptures online, and (3) to provide practitioners, scholars and all readers with a variety of digital reading functions and an excellent reading experience with the latest technology.

Latest translation progress (2020): the Kangyur collection contains by far 1081 texts. Including 115 published translations, 286 texts in the process of being translated, and 680 texts yet to be translated. Among the Tengyur collection (3475 texts), 11 volumes are being translated. The latest translations are *The Questions of Brahmadatta* (ch. 梵施所問經), *The Questions of Pratibhānamati* (辯意所問經), *The Absorption of the Miraculous Ascertainment of Peace* (ch. 寂靜決定神變三昧經), *The Exposition on the Universal Gateway* (ch. 普門品經); *Praise to Tārā with Twenty-one Verses of Homage* (ch. 度母二十一禮讚); *The Teaching of Aksayamati* (ch. 無盡意所說經); The Dwelling Place of Mañjuśrī (ch. 文殊師利住經); *The Questions of Sāgaramati* (ch. 海意菩薩所問淨印法門經); *the Aspiration Prayer from "Destroyer of the Great Trichiliocosm"* (ch. 大千摧破經所說誓願文). All the finished translations can be found in The Reading Room

1. [84000 home page](#)

2. [Translated works of 84000](#)

(Editors: Bi Youteng 畢幽騰; Li Zhouyuan 李周淵)

The Kangyur

བཀའ་འབྲུག་

The collected scriptures: the Tibetan translations of the Indian texts that are considered to be the words of the Buddha.

Texts: 1,081 Published: 115 In Progress: 286 Not Begun: 680

Sections About

Discipline

འདུལ་བ།

'dul ba/

Vinaya

Works focusing primarily on the monastic rules and their origins, but also containing a wealth of historical, biographical, and cultural material (Toh 1-7).

Texts	24
Translated	1
In Progress	9
Not begun	14

Discourses

མདོ།

māo/

Sūtra

The main body of the Buddha's discourses, ranging from lengthy and detailed presentations of doctrine to brief summaries of particular points (Toh 8-359).

Texts	399
Translated	83
In Progress	189
Not begun	127

Tantra

རྩེད།

rgyud/

Tantra

The scriptures of the Vajrayāna intended for experienced practitioners, often cryptic and hard to understand without commentary (Toh 360-845).

! Tantra Text Warning

Texts	388
Translated	19
In Progress	60
Not begun	309

Incantations

གནུང་མ།

gzungs/

Dhāraṇī

Short sūtra or tantra texts used mainly for ritual purposes, mostly structured around an incantation in Sanskrit, its uses and the story of its origin (Toh 846-1108).

Texts	265
Translated	12
In Progress	27
Not begun	226

Chapters on Monastic Discipline

Vinayavastu

Toh 1-1

The Chapter on Going Forth

རབ་ཏུ་འབྱུང་བའི་གཞི། *rab tu 'byung ba'i gzhi*

Pravrajyavastu

► Summary & variant titles

259 pages of the *Dogé Kangyur*

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V Scholar news



The Passing of Dr. Stefano Zacchetti (Zuo Guanming 左冠明)

Stefano Zacchetti, a famous Buddhist philologist and a professor at the University of Oxford, passed away on the afternoon of April 29th, 2020. Dr. Zacchetti was born in Italy in 1968 and received a doctoral degree at Ca'Foscari University of Venice in 1999. He had a two-year study abroad experience at Sichuan University. In 2012, he was appointed Yehan Numata Professor of Buddhist Studies at the University of Oxford, a post he held until his death. Dr.

Zacchetti devoted himself to the study of Buddhist scriptures in Sanskrit and the early Chinese translations, especially to the study of *Prajñā Sutra* and An Shigao 安世高. He wrote throughout his entire life and made great contributions to the study of Buddhism. He also made great efforts to promote academic exchanges between Western Buddhist academic circles and Chinese scholars.

For more details, please see the following links:

1. The University of Oxford:
<https://www.orinst.ox.ac.uk/article/professor-stefano-zacchetti-1968-2020>
2. Glorisunglobalnetwork- the Memorial Page:
<https://glorisunglobalnetwork.org/in-memoriam-stefano-zacchetti/>
3. Wechat "Foyan Youth" 100 day Special Memorial Page

(Editor: Li Zhouyuan 李周淵)

VI Correction of Errors

In the second issue of the International Chinese Buddhist Canon Research Newsletter, the editor of *The Compilation of the Records of Preface and Postscript in Jingshan Tripitaka* 《徑山藏》所載序跋文獻彙編, which was mistakenly printed as "Shi Chengxing 釋成興," should be corrected as "Shi Jiexing 釋戒興."



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