

DIGITAL SILK ROADS: SINO-AUSTRALIAN CONNECTIONS*

by Susan Prentice

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This paper describes the development of the Chinese Serials Database and CLIRNET projects which grew from the collaborative efforts of the Australian National University Library and the National Library of China. A fuller version of the paper entitled "Digital Silk Roads: Australian Asian Connections"* and covering Indonesian and Vietnamese projects as well, is held in the *1st Asian Information Meeting Proceedings*: pp. 172-184.

As the millennium draws to its close, driven largely by economic and strategic imperatives, Australia is coming to terms with the reality of its location and assuming a more active role in the affairs of the Asia-Pacific region. Acknowledgment of Australia's increasing engagement with the Asian region manifests itself in a variety of ways, through strategic alliances with countries of Asia, through trade relationships, through immigration debates and the composition of the population, and through the spread of Asian Studies through all levels of the education system.

The Australian National University (ANU) is a major teaching and research institution which enjoys an international reputation in the field of Asian Studies. With the approach of the twenty first century, given Australia's location in the Asia-Pacific region, an understanding of Asian societies and cultures is imperative for the nation's economic and strategic well-being. Crucial to such understanding is access to Asian information, particularly in an era in which access to information is universally acknowledged as being of paramount importance. Although increased news and current affairs coverage throughout the country in both the electronic and print media has undoubtedly contributed to heightened public awareness of the ancient continent's Asian neighbours, a much greater understanding of the societies and cultures of the region is essential to the success of Australia's integration in the region.

The ANU Library is Australia's largest tertiary education library for the provision of information on Asia. Significant collections of traditional library materials both in the languages of Asia and in other languages have been developed over a period of more than thirty years to support the University's interest in the field of Asian Studies. In the 1990s, however, although the Library has continued to develop the collection of traditional materials, considerable emphasis has also been placed on improving the range of information resources available to the academic community in all fields by

* The original title and abstract for this paper were provided by Colin Steele, University Librarian of the Australian National University.

providing electronic access to information not physically held by the Library through Internet access to electronic information sources, as well as specific databases such as the Carl UnCover database and OCLC FirstSearch. The ANU Library provides a gateway service and is at the leading edge of development on the Internet via its Centre for Networked Access to Scholarly Information, as well as more recently the Centre for Networked Information Publishing.

In 1992, the ANU Library conducted a pilot project over a three month period to assess the feasibility of creating a database of Chinese and Indonesian serial information accessible via the Internet, called ADD-ON (Asian Document Delivery Online); the project involved a representative sample of forty Chinese serials and twenty Indonesian serials from the ANU's own collection. The content of the Chinese database differed from that of the Indonesian database because of limitations posed by the nature of the Chinese vernacular script. Whereas in the case of a Roman script language such as Indonesian it was possible to include author and title information in the original script as well as English translations, the same was not true for author and title information in Chinese characters. It was recognised at the time that although it was technically difficult to provide tables of contents in the Chinese script, in order to offer a service of equal value to those available for Roman script material the ultimate aim must be to provide access to the table of contents in the original script. It was thought that this might be realised by means of a scanned image.

Although the question of Internet access to electronic information sources in the Chinese vernacular script poses a considerable challenge, it is nevertheless an issue which the ANU Library has been addressing. Two projects, both being conducted in cooperation with the National Library of China (NLC), are currently in progress to improve access to Chinese information using the facilities of the Internet.

The **Chinese Serials Database Project** involves the creation of a searchable database of tables of contents of selected Chinese serials accessible over the Internet. The database provides access to serial titles, article titles and authors in the Chinese vernacular script via Pinyin romanisation, English translation and keywords. The project targets the wealth of information in Chinese language serials in the major social sciences fields which are not covered by existing databases. A bilingual approach provides access to information from and about the Chinese world to a wide international business and scholarly community. Document delivery on request is an integral feature of the project. As part of the agreement concluded between the Australian National University and the NLC in December 1994, the project includes a period of three months' training at the ANU in information technology related to the project for two trainees from the NLC. This was conducted from July to October 1995.

The ANU Library has a long history of cooperation with the National Library of China which dates back to the early 1970s, involving the exchange of material and secondment of personnel from the NLC for a programme of training and work experience in Australia. In March 1994, when a small delegation from the ANU headed by the University Librarian, Colin Steele,

visited China at the invitation of the NLC and the Library Bureau of the Ministry of Culture, a proposal was put to the NLC that the ANU Library and the NLC cooperate to build a database similar to that of the earlier pilot project.

The proposal involved collaboration between the ANU Library and the NLC in a trial project utilising the ANU Library's technological expertise and the NLC's rich collections. A Letter of Intent was signed during the visit to the effect that the two libraries would cooperate in the development of an electronic database of Chinese current awareness material, including access to the Chinese vernacular script. Selection of titles for inclusion in the database would be made by consultation between the two libraries. The database would be supported by a full-text document delivery service on request.

Essential requirements of the project as proposed were Roman script indexing, via either translation or romanisation or both, and linkage of the Roman script indexes to scanned images of the tables of contents in the Chinese script. In the collaborative project, the NLC would be responsible for romanisation and/or translation of the tables of contents, as well as delivery of both the tables of contents in Chinese and the translated/romanised indexes to the ANU Library. It was not clear at the time whether this would be by electronic mail (e-mail), floppy disk or some other way. E-mail was the preferred option but at that time Internet connectivity in China was practically non-existent. The NLC would also be responsible for document delivery of the actual text of articles on request.

The ANU Library would be responsible for transmission of the tables of contents and Roman script information supplied by the NLC to the user-community worldwide via the network, as well as monitoring and gathering of requests for articles and transmission to the NLC. The possibility of training in information technology at the ANU for an appropriate exchange librarian from the NLC was also raised.

Negotiations regarding a formal agreement between the two institutions, the selection of titles and investigations concerning the possibility of establishing an email connection at the NLC continued over several months after the initial visit. A follow-up visit was made to the NLC in October 1994 by the Senior Librarian for the East-Asian Collection, Susan Prentice, and the head of the Information Technology Support Unit of the joint Research Schools of Social Sciences and Pacific and Asian Studies, Rob Hurle, to finalise the text of the International Agreement in English and Chinese, and to expedite the connection of the NLC to the Internet.

During the intervening period between the two visits, the only visible Chinese site on the Internet appeared to be the Institute of High Energy Physics (IHEP - Gao neng wu li suo) and it was through this Institute, after discussing other options, that an Internet connection with email and gopher capability was established for the NLC during the second visit. (At the time the IHEP had a single 64-Kbps leased digital dataline to Japan which offered restricted traffic only. Subsequently, a second 64 Kbps line has been opened; however, capacity remains saturated.) While in Beijing we were also able to transmit a test e-mail

of the Roman script details of the tables of contents of a sample serial issue, and to fax a copy of the matching table of contents in the Chinese script to the ANU.

The next stage on return to the ANU involved experimentation with scanning of the characters and finalisation of the list of titles for inclusion in the project. It had been decided in Beijing that because of the corruption of data in, and cost of, facsimile transmission, photocopies of the tables of contents in the original Chinese script would be sent to the ANU by airmail. Experiments were conducted which involved scanning photocopies of tables of contents of serials from the ANU's own collection. After trials which included testing a range of different magnifications and resolutions as well as different scanners, it was possible to produce a high quality image, and a demonstration of the proposed service was conducted for a meeting of the Board of the Australia-China Council in December 1994.

The database coverage for the trial project includes 100 titles selected from the major social science fields, targeting particularly economics and politics and related subjects such as law, the environment and population issues (see Appendix 1). The selection was made to avoid unnecessary duplication of materials in other databases such as the Australian National Bibliographic Database and UnCover, as well as the catalogues of both major Chinese collections in Australia, the National Library of Australia and the ANU Library, and to increase the coverage of Chinese current awareness information available to the international business and scholarly communities.

The Chinese text is romanised and translated into English by the NLC in Beijing and forwarded to the ANU via email. Photocopies of the original tables of contents are forwarded simultaneously by air mail to the ANU. On receipt, the ANU Library checks the text for accuracy, then mounts it on the World Wide Web (WWW) in the form of FTP text and graphics files. The FTP format was chosen to guarantee the widest possible access to the data. The FTP text and graphics files are linked to form a composite database on the WWW. The text files are fully indexed using Wide Area Information Service (WAIS) technology, and the resultant product is searchable by full-text keyword searching.

The database is housed on a Unix machine in the Research School of Pacific and Asian Studies at the ANU. Input is completed by the ANU Library on a remote Power Macintosh. Files are either created on the Macintosh desktop using the ASCII text editor McSink and transferred to the remote Unix machine by the 'drag and drop' method, or are cloned within the Unix system from the Macintosh desktop and edited as necessary. All the files are written in Hypertext Mark-up Language (HTML) format although the base-level text files (those which are indexed by the WAIS system) use a minimum HTML form to maintain maximum integrity of the index.

The Chinese tables of contents are scanned in using Adobe Photoshop software on a Umax UC1260 scanner. Currently, the scanned images are in black and white at 75 dpi and are saved in the CompuServe GIF format. Although JPEG was and still is the preferred format (because of its compression facility and

superior imaging), at present the CompuServe GIF format is being used pending the ability of all major WWW browsers to support in-line JPEG images.

The database therefore offers the user access by means of a WWW browser, gopher or File Transfer Protocol (FTP) technology to romanised (Pinyin) and English language translations (plus keywords) of the tables of contents of the selected journals. The Roman/English/keyword database is searchable using the facilities of the WAIS database software. Appendix 2 below shows part of a "Roman script page" as it appears on the screen. Subject to the availability of improved versions of the WAIS software, it is envisaged that the database - which will initially be searchable only through a single-word full-text search facility - will eventually be searchable by author, full-text keywords or specific search strings. Users with a WWW browser client such as Netscape or NCSA Mosaic are also able to view the table of contents in Chinese characters. Appendix 3 shows a sample of the equivalent "page in Chinese characters" as it appears on the screen. Additional information regarding database content and the conventions followed in its creation is included in Appendices 4 and 5.

At the time of writing the various means of effecting document delivery are still being addressed. Although it is the intention that document delivery should remain the responsibility of the NLC, how this can best be accomplished is currently under consideration. Currently, the preferred option is for the ANU Library to act as a clearing house for document requests with the possibility of direct payment online to the ANU by means of a credit card in a manner similar to that employed by the UnCover Service. The database can be accessed at the Universal Resource Locator (URL):

<http://coombs.anu.edu.au/AsiaSerialsTOC.html>

The **Chinese Libraries Information and Research network (CLIRNET)** project, which developed from the Chinese Serials Database project and is related to it, builds on the already extensive personal and technical links between the ANU Library, the NLC and other major libraries in China. Funded by a substantial grant from the Australia-China Council, the project involves upgrading the already established Internet link between the ANU and the NLC and at the same time establishing an Australian Electronic Information Centre (AEIC) in the NLC. This Centre will act as a platform for the dissemination of information about Australia whilst also serving as a gateway for Australian access to the rich resources of the NLC and ultimately, through it, to other sites in China. The Centre will be accessible to users throughout China over computer networks, or directly through the Centre's facilities in the NLC. Australian and international users will eventually be able to access the catalogues of the NLC and other major Chinese libraries via the Internet link.

The Australian Electronic Information Centre will comprise:

- its own local area network;
- an information server with CD-ROM and database facilities;
- connections to the world-wide Internet;
- connection to the NLC catalogue;

- terminals which for use by NLC clients to access the information services

The information server will be on the local network in the Centre and will be accessible from personal computers. It will have CD-ROM capabilities and sufficient disc capacity to enable Australia-related databases to be installed for use by NLC clients in China. This arrangement is expected to afford greater ease of access to users in China of information from or concerning Australian affairs, avoiding the unnecessary utilisation of an already overloaded connection between China and Australia. It is thus expected to free up the Australia-China link to perform other bilateral exchange and search tasks. It is intended to update the databases regularly by tapes sent from Australia. The databases will be in the well-established Internet formats, accessible using software which is widely and cheaply available — gopher, Mosaic, FTP, etc. A bank of modems will provide access from anywhere within China. Delivery of documents requested by readers in China as a result of the proposed service is subject to negotiation between the NLC and the ANU Library. Such delivery will be achieved through direct electronic transfer via the proposed link, by tape or other means as deemed appropriate.

The local network at the AEIC will be connected to the NLC's own network, and hence the NLC's catalogue will also be accessible from the AEIC and to the rest of the world. It will also have access to the China Education and Research Network (CERNet) and, through this, to other sites in China and to the worldwide Internet. Electronic mail and software tools such as FTP will be available to enable searches to be made of other information sources in China and in the world. Australian information will be available from the server database and will thus be more readily accessible than other Internet information. The network connection to the NLC catalogue will enable Internet users in Australia and elsewhere to access the National Library's catalogue, subject to the availability of specific software to facilitate searches for information from the Chinese catalogue.

Ultimately, it is hoped that two other libraries in China, the Zhongshan Library in Guangzhou and the Shanghai Municipal Library, will have auxiliary networks and will be able to access the material at the Australian Electronic Information Centre at the NLC. The connections will either be direct or through CERNet. IBM and Telstra both expressed interest in supporting this initiative as possible commercial sponsors.

In summary, as Australia engages itself with its northern neighbours, recent developments such as those at the ANU described in this paper indicate that Australia is playing a significant role in the field of Asian information access. Through collaborative arrangements with other institutions from the region, the ANU has demonstrated the potential to provide the basis for global digital libraries by bringing together across national boundaries both information sources and human resource skills, thus providing increased access from and about the Asia-Pacific region and contributing to improved mutual understanding amongst its countries and people.

Appendix 1: Titles indexed in the Chinese Serials Database

Bei jing fang di chan 北京房地产 (Beijing Real Estate)
Cheng shi gai ge yu fa zhan 城市改革与发展 [Urban Reform and Development]
Cheng shi huan jing yu cheng shi sheng tai 城市环境与城市生态
Dang dai qi ye 当代企业 (Contemporary Enterprise)
Dang dai si chao 当代思潮 [Contemporary Trend of Thought]
Dian zi zhi shi chan quan 电子知识产权 (Electronics Intellectual Property)
Fa ming yu ge xin 发明与革新 (Invention and Innovation)
Fa xian 发现
Fa xue jia 法学家 [Jurists' Review]
Fa xue ping lun 法学评论 (Wuhan University Law Review)
Fa zhi yu xin wen 法制与新闻 (Law and News)
Gang Ao jing ji 港澳经济 (Hong Kong & Macao Economic Digest)
Gao xiao li lun zhan xian 高校理论战线 [Theoretical Front of Higher Education]
Guang Dong dui wai jing mao 广东对外经贸 (Guangdong Foreign Economic and Trade Relations)
Guang Dong zheng bao 广东政报 (Guangdong Governmental Bulletin)
Guang Xi zheng bao 广西政报 [Guang Xi Governmental Bulletin]
Guo ji jing mao 国际经贸 [International Economics and Trade]
Guo tu jing ji 国土经济 (Territorial Economy)
Guo you zi chan yan jiu 国有资产研究 [Study on State Property]
Hong guan jing ji guan li 宏观经济管理 [Macro-Economic Management]
Hong qi 红旗 [Red flag] [1958-1963:5; Chinese text only]
Hu Gang jing ji 沪港经济 (Shanghai Hong Kong Economy)
Huan jing gong zuo tong xun 环境工作通讯 [Environmental Work News]
Huan jing wu ran yu fang zhi 环境污染防止 [Environmental Pollution and its Prevention]
Jia ge yu shi chang 价格与市场 [Price and the Market]
Jian zhu jing ji 建筑经济 (Construction Economy)
Jin ri Gang Ao 今日港澳 [Hong Kong and Macao today]
Jin rong li lun yu shi jian 金融理论与实践 (Financial Theory and Practice)
Jing ji fa zhi 经济法 [Economic Law]
Jing ji ping lun 经济评论 (Economic Review)
Jing ji shi kan 经济时刊 [formerly Cheng xiang jing ji]
Kai fa qu dao kan 开发区导刊 (Developing Zone Herald)
Kai Fang Shi Dai 开放时代 [Open Times]
Ke ji jin bu yu dui ce 科技进步与对策 (Science & Technology Progress and Policy)
Nan fang jing ji 南方经济 (South China Economy)
Nong cun jin rong yan jiu 农村金融研究 [Rural Finance Research]
Quan guo xin chan pin 全国新产品 [New Products of China]
Ren kou yu ji hua sheng yu 人口与计划生育 [Population and Family Planning]
Ren min lun tan 人民论坛 [People's Forum]
Ren min si fa 人民司法 [The People's Judiciary]
Shaan Xi zheng bao 陕西政报 [Shaan Xi Governmental Bulletin]
She hui 社会
Shi dian 视点
Shui wu yan jiu 税务研究 (Tax Research)
Tai wan yan jiu 台湾研究
Te qu jing ji yu fa zhi 特区经济与法制 [The Economy and Legal System of the Special Economic Zone]
Te qu li lun yu shi jian 特区理论与实践 [Special Zones Theory and Practice]
Tie dao jing ji yan jiu 铁道经济研究 [Railway Economics Research]
Tou zi dao kan 投资导刊 (Investment Herald)
Tou zi jing ji 投资经济 (Investment Economy)
Tou zi yu he zuo 投资与合作 [Investment and Co-operation]
Wai hui shi chang 外汇市场 (Foreign Exchange Market)
Wai mao shi jie 外贸世界 (Business world)

Wai mao yu shang jian 外贸与商检 [Foreign Trade and Commodity Inspection]
 Xian dai gong shang 现代工商 [Contemporary Industry and Commerce]
 Xin shi ji 新世纪 (New Century Newsweek)
 Xin xi jing ji yu ji shu 新息经济与技术 (Information Economy & Technology)
 Xin xi shi jie 新息世界 (China Information World)
 Xing zheng lun tan 行政论坛 [Administrative Tribune]
 Xue xi 学习
 Xue xi yu tan suo 学习与探索 (Study & Exploration)
 Yin hang yu qi ye 银行与企业 [Enterprises and Banking]
 Yu ce 预测
 Zhan lue yu guan li 战略与管理 [Strategy and Management]
 Zheng ce 政策
 Zheng quan shi chang dao bao 证券市场导报 (Securities Market Reporter)
 Zhi shi chan quan 知识产权
 Zhong deng cheng shi jing ji 中等城市经济 (Med-Sized Urban Economics)
 Zhong guo cheng shi jin rong 中国城市金融 [Chinese Urban Finance]
 Zhong guo dui wai fu wu 中国对外服务 (China['s] Foreign Service)
 Zhong guo fa xue 中国法学
 Zhong Guo fang di xin xi 中国房地新息 [Chinese Real Estate Information]
 Zhong Guo fu yun 中国妇运 (Chinese Women's Movement)
 Zhong Guo gong shang guan li yan jiu 中国工商管理研究 [Research on China's Industrial and Commercial Management]
 Zhong guo gong ye jing ji yan jiu 中国工业经济研究
 Zhong Guo gong yun 中国工运 [China's Labour Movement]
 Zhong Guo guo qing guo li 中国国情国力 [China National Condition and Strength]
 Zhong Guo hai guan 中国海关 [China Customs]
 Zhong Guo huan jing jian ce 中国环境监测 (Environmental Monitoring in China)
 Zhong Guo huan jing ke xue 中国环境科学 (China Environmental Science)
 Zhong Guo huang jin jing ji 中国黄金经济 (China Gold Economy)
 Zhong guo jin rong 中国金融
 Zhong Guo jing ji xin xi 中国经济新息 (China Economic Information)
 Zhong Guo kou an 中国口岸 (China International Ports)
 Zhong Guo lu shi 中国律师 (China Lawyer)
 Zhong Guo ming pai 中国名牌 (China Top Brands)
 Zhong Guo nong min 中国农民 (Chinese Peasantry)
 Zhong Guo qi ye jia 中国企业 (China Entrepreneur)
 Zhong Guo ren kou ke xue 中国人口科学 [China Demography]
 Zhong guo shang lun 中国商论
 Zhong Guo shui wu 中国税务 [China Taxation Affairs]
 Zhong Guo tou zi guan li 中国投资管理 [Chinese Investment Management]
 Zhong Guo wei sheng fa zhi 中国卫生法制 [China Health Law]
 Zhong Guo wu zi 中国物资 [Chinese Commodities]
 Zhong Guo xiang zhen qi ye 中国乡镇企业 (China's Township Enterprises)
 Zhong Guo xiang zhen qi ye xin xi 中国乡镇企业新息 [Chinese Rural Enterprises Information]
 Zhong Guo yu ye jing ji yan jiu 中国渔业经济研究 (Chinese Fisheries Economy Research)
 Zhong Guo zhao biao 中国招标 (China Tendering)
 Zhong Hua Ren Min Gong He Guo Guo Wu Yuan gong bao 中华人民共和国国务院公报 [Gazette of State Council of the People's Republic of China]
 Zhong Hua Ren Min Gong He Guo Quan Guo Ren Min Dai Biao Da Hui Chang Wu Wei Yuan Hui gong bao 中华人民共和国全国人民代表大会常务委员会公报 [Bulletin of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress of the People's Republic of China]
 Zhong wai di san chan ye 中外第三产业 (Sino-World Third Industry)
 Zhu zuo quan 著作权 (Copyright)

Appendix 2: Roman script prototype

[This document can be acquired from a sub-directory coombspapers/asian-jrnls-contents via anonymous FTP or gopher at the Australian National University, Canberra on the host COOMBS.ANU.EDU.AU or via WWW at <http://coombs.anu.edu.au/CoombswebPages/Coombspapers.html>]

[Document archived: 20 Jul 1995]

SERIAL: Xue xi yu tan suo (Study & Exploratic...)
ISSUE: 1994 No. 4 (cum. 93)
PUBLISHED: Jul. 1994
LANGUAGE: Chinese (simplified script)
HOLDINGS: NLC

IDENTIFIER: 9400025
AUTHOR: DING Jianzhong
TITLE
PINYIN-mono: Suo you zhi xin lun.
PINYIN-poly: Suoyouzhi xinlun.
ENGLISH: A new treatise on the system of ownership.
PAGE: pp. 4-12.
KEYWORDS:

IDENTIFIER: 9400026
AUTHOR: GONG Weiping
TITLE
PINYIN-mono: Suo you zhi fan chou de ji ben ming ti.
PINYIN-poly: Suoyouzhi fanchou de jiben mingti.
ENGLISH: The basic question of categories of ownership systems.
PAGE: pp. 13-20.
KEYWORDS:

IDENTIFIER: 9400027
AUTHOR: WANG Qisheng
TITLE
PINYIN-mono: Guan yu chan quan zhi du gai ge wen ti.
PINYIN-poly: Guanyu chanquan zhidu gaige wenti.
ENGLISH: On the question of reform of the system of property rights.
PAGE: pp. 21-29.
KEYWORDS:

IDENTIFIER: 9400028
AUTHOR: XU Jingyong
TITLE
PINYIN-mono: Wo guo nong chan pin shi chang de xing cheng yu fa zhan.
PINYIN-poly: Woguo nong chanpin shichang de xingcheng yu fazhan.
ENGLISH: On the formation and development of China's agricultural products market.
PAGE: pp. 30-38.
KEYWORDS:

IDENTIFIER: 9400029
AUTHOR: DU Liangsheng
TITLE

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etc

Go to [Chinese](#) script; go to [next](#) issue; go to [previous](#) issue; go to [Zhong guo huang jin jing ji](#) Home Page; go to the ANU's [Chinese Serials Database](#) Home Page.

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Appendix 3: Chinese script prototype

Australian National University Library, Collection Management Division, Canberra,
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Chinese Serials Database

Xue xi yu tan suo (Study & Exploration)

ISSUE: 1994 No. 4 (cum. 93)

PUBLISHED: Jul. 1994

HOLDINGS: NLC

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所有制范畴的基本命题	樊唯平(13)
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【文化与入】	
试析中国近代人格观的演变	吴乃华(68)
试论自主意识的创造力	车洪波(74)

.....etc.....

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Appendix 4: Presentation format

Each Home page for a given serial provides the following information:

SERIAL TITLE:	romanised in Pinyin
OTHER TITLES:	on publication where different from above
TRANSLATED TITLE:	in English supplied by the database editors where none on publication
PUBLICATION DETAILS: (including frequency)	
ISSN	
LANGUAGE:	(simplified or traditional script)

Each Table of Contents of a given issue of a serial provides the following information:

SERIAL TITLE:	(in Pinyin and English)
ISSUE NUMBER:	(including cumulative number where provided)
PUBLICATION DATE:	(where provided)
LANGUAGE:	(simplified or traditional script)
HOLDING LIBRARY IDENTIFIER:	a unique identifying number for each individual article in a given table.
AUTHOR(S):	Surname is capitalised. Where surname is bisyllabic (e.g. Ouyang or an ethnic minority name,) then the first two characters are capitalised and combined to form one word, e.g. OUYANG Shan or MENGGU Tuoli. Given names are combined to make one polysyllabic word, e.g. MAO Zedong. Where more than one author is involved, the first two only are listed and are separated by a slash "/".
ARTICLE TITLE:	in the following forms: a. Pinyin-mono (Pinyin romanisation in monosyllabic form) b. Pinyin-poly (Pinyin romanisation in polysyllabic form) c. English translation.
PAGINATION:	
KEYWORDS:	(where appropriate)

Each page also gives the reader the option to:

- view the Chinese character version of the table of contents
- return to the Home Page of the serial
- return to the Chinese Serials Database Home Page.

Appendix 5: Other information

- ROMANISATION:** Standard Pinyin romanisation is used throughout the database with the following exceptions:
- lǜ (as in green, and distinct from lù as in road) is spelt luu
 - nǚ (as in female, and distinct from nù as in angry) is spelt nuu
 - Shanxi (Province of China where "shan" is pronounced in the third tone) is spelt Shaanxi.
- NUMBERS:** Where they occur in Chinese form in the text they are romanised. Where they occur as arabic numerals, they are transcribed as given.
- PERSONAL NAMES:** Chinese given names are presented throughout the database as polysyllabic single words, eg. MAO Zedong, not MAO Ze dong. Where a non-Pinyin version of a person's surname is commonly used (e.g. SUN Yat-sen or CHIANG Kai-shek), then this version is included in square brackets after the standard Pinyin version in the English translated title field, eg., ENGLISH: The life of Sun Zhongshan [Sun Yat-sen]
- GEOGRAPHIC NAMES:** Common place names, where they occur in the serial's bibliographic detail or English translation, conform to the convention adopted by the Macquarie Dictionary. Where they occur elsewhere in the text of this database they conform to standard pinyin romanisation and are presented in both monosyllabic and polysyllabic forms.
- EDITORIAL ADDITIONS:** Any text (apart from the KEYWORD field) added by the database maintainers which is not part of the original Chinese text is presented in square brackets, thus: "[]".