Zi Jing Bian 《 自警編 》

The oldest rare book in the collection of the University of Hong Kong Libraries

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Printed in the year 1234, Zi Jing Bian is the oldest book in the University of Hong Kong Libraries collection. Compiled by Zhao Shanliao, a member of the Zhao family ruling the Northern Song Dynasty, it is a collection of sayings or deeds from scholars and statesmen from the Northern Song Dynasty, from 960 A.D. until its downfall in 1127 A.D. These sayings or deeds served not only as rules of conduct and behaviour for those who lived more than 800 years ago, but may also be relevant for people today.



《 自警編 》是北宋太宗(939-997)七世孫趙善璙(1208年進士)用三年時間輯錄的著作,本館所藏是南宋端平元年(公元1234年)九江郡齋刊本,也是目前香港大學圖書館所藏最舊的書籍。

本書共分五卷,釘裝成2函12冊。內容分作 :學問、操修、齊家、接物、出處、事君、政事、拾遺等八類,類下細分子目則共有五十五項。書中摘錄宋朝開國至靖康(960-1127)以前各名臣大儒的嘉言懿行,如范質手不釋卷積學以備大用、趙普說:「半部論語可以治天下」、范仲淹啗粥三年、冦準的一言而盡、司馬光的未嘗有不可對人言,至蘇轍被貶雷州,居於民間,被章子厚誣作強奪民居。後來章氏被貶雷州遭人民棄於門外的快速報應。當中往往有不少值得後人深思或引作楷模的地方。每則文字幅度不一,但長不過一或二頁,短僅是二至三句,所錄人事或言語,現今看來,實可作爲我們的生活座右銘。

本書現今傳世同類版本極少。在北京圖書館所藏五卷本均爲明代刻本或修本,臺灣國家圖書館目錄則顯示收有宋本4種,其中2種已移存故宮博物院只得4冊或5冊,而另外2種作12冊(鈔配有乙、丙下、丁、戉編)或8冊(缺戉編),均不及本館所藏完美,故本館的可稱傳世孤本。

版式:

框高34公分,寬22.5公分。每半頁十行,行二十字,小字雙行,每字約 12 x 1.5公分,大字本。有墨圈斷句。白口,對雙魚尾,左右雙邊。板心題:「自警編甲…戊」,下則記刻工姓名。背頁欄外少部份刻有篇目作書耳。 🗗

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