

The People of Xue Xuan 薛瑄 (1389-1464): The Social Network of an Early Ming Philosopher



https://zh.wikipedia.org/wiki/%E8%96%9B%E7%91%84#/media/File:Xue_Xuan.png

Research Questions:

- Who Made up the Social World of Xue Xuan?
- What Patterns can be found from the Prosopographical Data?
- What was the nature of Xue Xuan's Relationship to the people in this Prosopography?
 - What were the Shared Experiences Between Xue Xuan and his Peers?
 - What were Xue Xuan's Ideas of Friendship?
 - How is Xue Xuan Typical or Atypical?
 - How Does this Research Match up with Other Sources?

Sources:

- The Complete Works of Xue Xuan 薛瑄全集
 - Dushulu 读书录
 - Dushuxulu 读书续录
 - Wenji 薛文清公文集
- Difangzhi 地方志
- Mingshi 明史
- Mingshilu 明实录
- Writings by his Acquaintances

Contributions

- Biographical Material on Xue Xuan
- Translations of Xue Xuan's Writings
- Prosopographical Information for Early Ming Officials
- Information on Early Ming Government

Digital Methods:

- Online Databases
- Local Gazetteers Database
- Ctext and Kanripo Word Search
- Searchable Word Indices and Files
- Online Calendar Conversion
- CBDB Searches
- Access Poems Database
- Access Prosopographical Database
- Digital Maps

Why Study Xue Xuan?

- Understudied Figure, No Biography
- Influence on Early and Mid-Ming Thought, Founder of Hedong School of Thought
 - 1571 Placed in Confucian Temple
 - Political Importance