

# Bridging the gap between cultural heritage and research--a case study of the Chinese Genealogy Knowledge Service platform

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The Chinese Genealogy Knowledge Service Platform,<sup>1</sup> one of the Shanghai Library Knowledge Bases, aggregates genealogy data and links family names to resources in other libraries in China and beyond<sup>2</sup>. By extracting family names, social background, migration events from around 70,000 entries and developing an event ontology, more than 100,000 migration events spanning more than 3,000 years were identified. This project tells the story of the origins and development of families, using data which records significant migration and historical events in time and place. Using methodology from storytelling and Bakhtin (2001)'s theory of chronotope, our project places the narrative time-space continuum in the context of cultural heritage resources, using genealogy data to explore changes in family names using two main dimensions: chronological (temporal) and spatial.

Family names and related elements are rich data with narrative characteristics allowing analyses from diverse perspectives (Dunn & Schumacher, 2016). They help the designing of narrative experience for both users and researchers, allowing this data to tell the stories behind collections (Vrettakis et al., 2019).



<sup>1</sup> <https://jiapu.library.sh.cn/>

<sup>2</sup> These include university, local, municipal, provincial, and national libraries in China and other libraries around the world that provide access to genealogy collections, such as Family History Library, Columbia University East Asian Library, Toyo Bunko, Library of Congress, etc.

Figure 1 Two main dimensions (temporal & spatial)

中国家谱知识服务平台  
China Genealogy Knowledge Service Platform

首页 家谱中心 先祖名人 登录 注册

简单检索 高级检索 地图检索

所有筛选 > 收起筛选 ^

请输入人名 傅 请选择籍地 请输入堂号 请输入家谱责任人

请输入先祖|名人 请输入关键词 请输入籍地 谱修年代 请输入谱修时间,如1921~1941,左右需要

请输入家书号 请输入DOI  上全文外网访问

确定

列表 分栏 地图 找到419个结果 | 排序: 题名 v

显示搜索结果: 31

谱名	责任人	姓氏	撰修时间	堂号	家谱简介	全文
龙凤冲傅姓始祖源流一卷 (湖...)	傅儒依	傅	1948年		始祖允茂, 明代人。始迁祖大纪, 字景玉, 行...	
龙邱清河傅氏宗谱六卷 (浙江...)	傅岩芳, 傅昭辛	傅	清光绪二十...	崇谿堂	始祖道, 字国瑞, 号文通, 又作四府君, 先世...	
龙邱清河傅氏宗谱六卷(浙江龙...)	傅昭辛	傅	清光绪29年(...	崇谿堂		
鲁苏纯涌泉傅氏族谱 (山东省...)	不详	傅	不详		始迁祖彝, 原籍山西洪洞, 元末明初携子忠孝...	
鲁山张官曹傅氏家谱一卷 (河...)	傅七游	傅	1918年			
高密傅氏族谱四卷 (山东省潍...)	傅整	傅	清光绪四年...		始迁祖梁, 明代人。书名据书衣、卷标题, 四...	
高密傅氏族谱二卷 (山东省潍...)	傅列著	傅	清道光间		始迁祖梁, 明代人。书名据卷标题。	

Figure 2 Search and refine function

龙邱清河傅氏宗谱

第1册

第2册

第3册

之... 流自长地... 邑... 傅君名... 字... 号... 其... 打... 契... 年... 最... 为... 莫... 缘... 吕... 志... 辑... 修... 志... 乘... 持... 片... 族... 奉... 德... 谢... 德... 台... 前... 人... 已... 矣... 我...

00020 00019 00018 00017 00016 00015 00014 00013 00012 00011 00010 00009 00008 00007 00006 00005 00004 00003 00002 00001

Figure 3 View digital images with IIF

全 A B C D E F G H J K L M N O P Q R S T W X Y Z  
 爱新觉罗 艾 安 敖 阿

爱新觉罗

先祖名人1511 | 家谱文献 856

满族姓氏。清朝皇室姓氏，世居今辽宁阜新县一带，后改汉姓“金、赵、肇、罗、艾”等，满语“爱新”义为金，“觉罗”义为族。一说“觉罗”音译为赵，“爱新”义译为金者。金者，金人后裔也；赵者，自北宋二帝及其宗室没金，女真人便有人以“赵”为姓，俗称爱新觉罗为金赵，其他觉罗如阿颜觉罗等为民赵，亦有改姓单姓金或保留末字姓罗，或高译为肇、为艾。清末有宣统皇帝溥仪；近代有华裔艺人梅琳等，皆姓爱新觉罗。

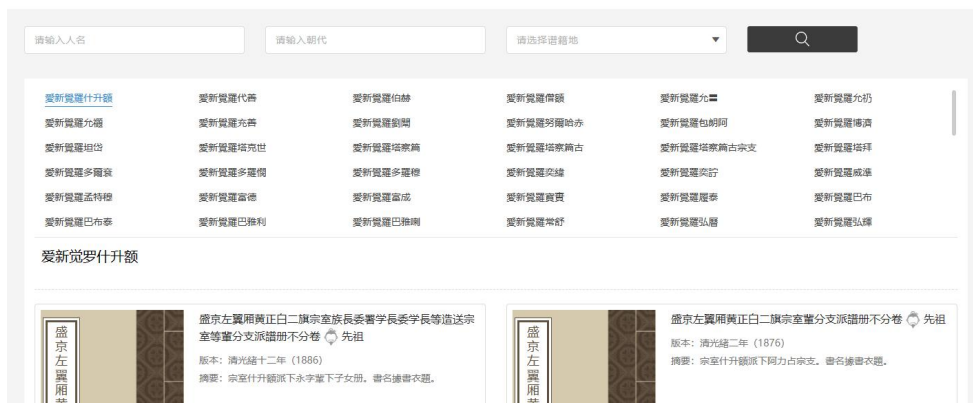


Figure 4 Explore celebrities by family name

These are crucial data to study different ethnic groups, their relationships, characteristics and lifestyles; explore the reasons behind population changes, growth and distribution; record family traditions that reflect the development of moral values; research socio-cultural theory (Rowe & Wertsch, 2002), how values and customs are passed through generations; geographical characteristics reflecting the migration of families; supplement research on family history with personal memories, and reflections from specific periods (Hershkovitz, 2016); combine with oral history to give personal reflections on family history.

Genealogy data are often passed down through many generations, not treated as official records nor professionally preserved; many are incomplete giving concerns about reliability in a research context. Our solution is for a framework evaluating reliability based on contributor, source, content, and social and historical background; assertions or factoids (“a source that says something about a person”) rather than verifiable evidence (Bradley, 2016, 2021). In some contexts, such as sociology and ethnology, where breadth of sources is crucial, genealogy data serves as an important reference with unique advantages, providing perspectives from diverse groups with different social identities.

With migration and war, these materials become scattered globally across different institutions. Using linked data, we provide access to the metadata from partner libraries but do not have access to their originals or digital surrogates. This raises significant issues for the GLAM open data movement and how to provide access under FAIR principles (Beretta, 2021), despite our collections being accessible in pdf and IIIF<sup>3</sup> for users to read, manage, and annotate freely. Our project has the interest of library users exploring family history, but the challenge is to facilitate collaborations with researchers, helping them use our data more effectively. The current phase develops systems to help researchers identify problems and solve

<sup>3</sup> IIIF: International Image Interoperability Framework

specific research questions, and for the library to work closely with them supporting their research journey.

(Word count: 499 without inline citation)

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