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DISSERTATION NEWS

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The following list of dissertations completed and in progress has been compiled from Dissertation Abstracts International and notices submitted to the editors. UMI order numbers are supplied where available. We expect to present a more complete listing in the next issue, and invite current dissertation authors to send their titles to Dissertations Editor, Bulletin of Sung and Yuan Studies, Department of History, SUNY-Binghamton, Binghamton, NY 13901.

DISSERTATIONS COMPLETED SINCE FALL, 1983

- CHANG, Jiunn Yih: "A Study of the Relationship Between the Mongol Yuan Dynasty and the Tibetan Sa-Skya Sect." 1984. Indiana University, 207 pp. DA8506092.
- CHANG, Shung-in: "The Liu-i Shih-hua of Ou-yang Hsiu." 1984. University of Arizona, 174 pp. DA8424903
- DUNNELL, Ruth Wilton: "Tanguts and the Tangut State of Ta Hsia." 1983. Princeton University, 409 pp. DA8318717.
- FIELD, Stephen Lee: "Taking Up the Plow: Real and Ideal Version of the Farmer in Chinese Literature." 1985. University of Texas, 207 pp.
- FONG, Grace Sieugit: "Wu Wenying and the Art of Southern Song Ci Poetry." 1984. University of British Columbia.
- FOSQUE, Meredith George: "Xixiang Ji: A Study of Yuan Drama." 1983. Georgetown University, 285 pp. DA8428444.
- FULLER, Michael Anthony: "The Poetry of Su Shi (1037-1101)." 1983. Yale University, 563 pp. DA8329215.
- HAMMOND, Charles E.: "Tang Stories in the Tai-ping Guang-ji." 1986. Columbia University, 282 pp.
- HANSEN, Valerie: "Popular Deities and Social Change in the Southern Song Period (1127-1276)." 1987. University of Pennsylvania.
- HARRIST, Robert: "A Scholar's Landscape: Li Kung-lin and His Shan-chuang t'u." 1987. Princeton University.
- HUANG, Chi-chiang: "Experiment in Syncretism: Ch'i-Sung(1007- 1072) and Eleventh-Century Chinese Buddhism." 1986. University of Arizona, 367pp. DA8615824.
- KIM, Wondong: "Chinese Ceramics from the Wreck of a Yuan Ship in Sinan, Korea— With Particular Reference to Celadon Wares." (Vol. I & II) 1986. University of Kansas, 485 pp. DA711235.
- LAU, Nap-yin: "The Absolutist Reign of Sung Hsiao-tsung (R. 1163-1189)." 1986. Princeton University, 254 pp. DA8621712.
- MAHONY, Robert Joseph: "Lu Hsiang-shan and the Importance of Oral Communication in Confucian China." 1986. Columbia University, 389 pp. DA8710202.
- MCCRAW, David Randolph: "The Poetry of Chen Yunyi (1090-1139)." 1986. Stanford University, 373 pp. DA8619787.
- PEASE, Jonathan Otis: "From the Sellsweep to the Shallow Skiff: Life and Poetry of Wang Anshi (1021-1086)." 1986. University of Washington, 699 pp. DA8706646.
- SHIH, Heng-ching: "The Ch'an-Pure Land Syncretism in China: with Special Reference to Yung-Ming Yen Shou." 1984. University of Madison. 404 pp.
- SMITH, Paul J.: "Taxing Heaven's Storehouse: The Szechwan Tea Monopoly and the

- Tsinghai Horse Trade, 1074-1224." 1983. University of Pennsylvania, 740 pp. DA8406720.
- TSUCHIDA, Tomoaki: "Mind and Reality: A Study of the Shouling yanjing." 1986. Harvard University, 299 pp. DA8704485.
- VON GLAHN, Richard: "The Country of Streams and Grottoes: Geography, Settlement, and the Civilizing of China's Southwestern Frontier, 1000-1250." 1983. Yale University.
- XU, Long: "Su Shi: Major Creative and Critical Insight and Theories." 1986. University of Nebraska, Lincoln, 165 pp. DA8624621.

## DISSERTATION IN PROGRESS

- CHU, Ron-Guey: "Chen Te-hsiu and the Classic on Governance (Cheng-ching): the Coming of Age of Neo-Confucian State-craft." Columbia University.
- PALUMBO-LIU, David: "Huang Tingjian and the Poetic of Appropriation." University of California, Berkeley.
- SHENG, Angela: "From Silk Gauzes to Cotton Tabbies: Transition in Textile and Labor Development on China's Southeastern Coast from 1127 to 1367." University of Pennsylvania.

## DISSERTATION ABSTRACTS

- Gong Wei-Ai, "Consolidation of Southern Sung China under Hsiao-tsung's Reign, 1162-1189," Ph.D. dissertation, School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London, 1986, 301 pp.

This is a study on the reign of Hsiao-tsung, the second emperor of the Southern Sung dynasty (1127-1279). His rule from 1162 to 1189 represents a crucial phase in Southern Sung history for it was during this period that the regime was greatly strengthened and the empire solidly built. By effectively consolidating the Southern Sung regime further, Hsiao tsung not only succeeded in establishing an age of peace and order under his administration but also constructed a dynasty of long duration which successfully resisted foreign penetration for almost another century after his reign.

The thesis consists of six chapters. Chapter One, the Introduction, gives the historical setting and places the reign of Hsiao-tsung in a clearer perspective by highlighting the major political, socio-economic and military developments of the time. Chapter Two provides an account on the founding of Southern Sung. The political upheavals during the reign of the first emperor, Kayo-tsung, represent a sharp contrast to the overall peaceful administration of his successor. Chapter Three deals with the early years of uncertainty during Hsiao-tsung's reign and gives us a better understanding of the tasks initially confronting the emperor.

In Chapters Four and Five, the significant role played by Hsiao-tsung in consolidating the Southern Sung empire is analyzed through a detailed study of court politics during the Ch'ien-*tao* (1165-1173) and Ch'un-hsi (1174-1189) eras. It can be deduced that the emperor achieved consolidation by concentrating political, military and financial powers not only in the central government but also in his own hands. As a result, absolutism attained a new height, but this was not

necessarily harmful as it had the positive effect of bringing about general order to the regime.

Finally, in the Conclusion in Chapter Six, we examine the far-reaching impact of Hsiao-tsung's contributions to Southern Sung China. His labors resulted in a lasting stability that held the empire together through the years of political decline and economic deterioration. The remarkable resilience demonstrated by the late Southern Sung dynasty undoubtedly attests the strength of Hsiao-tsung's consolidation.