

# **The Design of Spatial-temporal Information System in Biographies of Chinese Buddhist Eminent Monks**

\*Aming TU, Chung-Hwa Institute of Buddhist Studies, Taiwan

Huimin BHIKKHU, Taipei National University of the Arts and Dharma Drum Buddhist College, Taiwan

Fayuan SHI, Chung-Hwa Institute of Buddhist Studies, Taiwan

ktang@chibs.edu.tw

This presentation tries to utilize the *TimeMap* geography information technology and develop new research method in biographies of Chinese Buddhism. *TimeMap* can integrate temporal and spatial information coexistent. It can transform four important literatures of Chinese Buddhism biography into the spatial geography digital resources. With that, the two axes research platform can be constructed in further step.

The information processing in this study involves indexing, integration, statistics analysis and Data-mining. In Indexing, it includes the indexes of time, place, monks, person, temple, text, event, language, etc. About integration, the temporal and spatial information are collected and presented together. The statistics display the quantitative data and several charts. Furthermore, there are some kinds of retrieval function to supply the Data-mining research. Regarding the biography's text processing, this report will extract and locate the place of birth, where to expand the teaching, and the site permanently stationed. As for the temporal material processing, will collect the chronicles of all individual monks and assemble the cross-dynasty chronicle of Chinese Buddhism eminent monks.

This study expects to design a research platform for the spatial and temporal information in Buddhism monk's biography. Therefore, apart from the literatures and geography images presentation, it is very important to offer the function of cross-retrieval for Data-mining. Using those materials may develop new research directions. This system is still in the stage of design and prototyping. We hope to take one step ahead to implement the complete application. In the further, this system can also operate in coordination with other digital Buddhist text Database. The integration and establishment of temporal, spatial and literature research environment in Buddhist studies, will turn into the resources of Digital Culture Atlas of Chinese Buddhism.