

Toward A Diachronic Digital Gazetteer

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A place name is an indispensable keyword to record any activity concerned with the place. To reconstruct the route of an explorer of the past, we must find place names from the record. With the lapse of time, not a few place names have changed slightly in spelling or even to drastically different names. Phonetic spelling in non-Roman script region may be the reason that early explorers left many varieties of spelling for the same place.

In this session, we will discuss: a) information techniques to retrieve a place name from plain documents; b) a gazetteer dataset covering changes in name; c) a place name as a cultural, historical, or environmental feature of the place; and d) issues related to the integration of information on place names as an academic asset.