

## **Equivalence, Transliteration, and Translation: Buddhist Lexicography**

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The aim of this paper is to discuss the challenges faced in the English translation of Chinese Buddhist lexicography. Fo Guang Dictionary of Buddhism is a modern Chinese dictionary corpus of 10 volumes which provides a large set of historiographical, philosophical, and exegetical terms with a developed structure with indices that assist readers in quickly finding a term. The English edition involves a further compilation of lexicon on Buddhist studies and indices to assist non-Chinese readers in locating terms in both Chinese characters and Romanization of key Buddhist terms in Pali, Sanskrit, Tibetan, Chinese, Japanese, Korean and other Central Asian languages. Another challenge lies in the process of translating these Buddhist terms without distorting the original meaning rendered in its original language while ensuring that the translation is in vernacular and easy to understand English. The changes in language semantics before and after the English translation is another aspect to be focused on. In addition, in providing both a hardback and digital version poses yet another challenge in terms of indexing and searching functions, which shall also be addressed in the project.