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All contributions are in English. As far as possible, English and foreign terms, the Chinese, Japanese and Korean transcription as well as translations and bibliographical information have been standardized. In a few cases, however, due to authors’ individual preferences, some inconsistency may appear. This will especially be the case in contributions with Persian and Arabic expressions.

Except in the article by Liu Yingsheng, who preferred to use short characters, the original Chinese characters are always included in the text as long characters. For Japanese terms Kanji are provided respectively. Unless an original text is quoted with a transcription in a different system, the Chinese transcription follows the *pinyin*-system, the Japanese the Hepburn, and the Korean the McCune-Reischauer standard.

Each contribution has its own bibliography. As a rule, no distinction has been made between Western literature and sources and those in Asian languages. Titles of sources and secondary literature in the bibliography have, as a rule, not been translated. The reign periods of emperors are provided in small letters and in italics and are not capitalized.

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AS (蕭婷)

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