

Note



I use the *pinyin* romanization herein, in sympathy with its aspirations to international scholarship. However, I take the liberty of making two adjustments. I refer to the Chinese dynasty of Soong (rather than Song), to distinguish it from the English noun “song”; and I refer to the surname of one of my subjects as Hê (rather than He), to distinguish him from the English pronoun “he.”

Because of my occasional double references to Chinese and Japanese pronunciations of Chinese-character words, I distinguish the two with the following notation: (C: Liuqiu / J: Ryūkyū).

In citing works published prior to the adoption of the Gregorian calendar in China and Japan, I follow the convention of bracketing Gregorian calendar years transposed from Chinese or Japanese reign years. I have eliminated *juan* (“volume”) from my citations, with the exception of some sets or large series, where multiple “volume” notations require *juan* or related terms for clarity.

My citations of the Chinese Classics are parenthetical and, after the manner of the Bible, direct the reader to book and chapter of the text in question.

Unless otherwise noted, translations from the Chinese and Japanese are my own.