

**A Preliminary Korean Linguistic Perspective on Hyeych'o's
Memoir of a Pilgrimage to the Five Indian Kingdoms 往五天竺國
傳**

XU Ye (Zhejiang University)
charlottexuye@gmail.com

ABSTRACT

The manuscript fragments (P.3532; 227 lines, 5893 sinographs) of the Silla monk Hyeych'o (慧超 or 惠超, ca. 704~783) titled *Wang O Ch'ōnchukguk Chōn* 往五天竺國傳 [*Memoir of a Pilgrimage to the Five Indian Kingdoms*] (hereafter 'Hyeych'o's Memoir') were discovered at Dunhuang in China by the prominent French archaeologist and sinologist Paul Pelliot (伯希和, 1878~1945) around 1908. The aim of this article is to initially discuss Hyeych'o's Memoir as a draft of his book from a Korean linguistic perspective, rather than as a remnant of a finalized version of three volumes, while, from these three volumes, 85 selected words have been annotated in Huilin's (慧琳, 737~820) *Yiqie jing yinyi* 一切經音義 [Sounds and Meaning of (all the words in) the Buddhist Canon].

Hyeych'o's Memoir as a draft contains (1) some Chinese vernacular sinographs which have existed on the Korean peninsula, discussed in section 2, such as a. *fo* (佛-仏) b. *deng* (等-寸), *si* (寺-等) c. *bo* (波-彼) etc., (2) some misused homophone sinographs representing Sino-Sillaic pronunciations discussed in section 3, such as a. *wenli* (文里-纹理) b. *lanbo* (覽波-嵐波) etc., (3) some Sino-Sanskrit phonograms representing the Sino-Sillaic coda [-r/l] discussed in section 4, such as a. *mi* (蜜) b. *lū* (律) etc., (4) some Koreanized Literary Sinitic (or *Sillasik hanmun* 新羅式漢文) expressions which had the admixture of Silla language discussed in section 5, such as a. *zai* (有), *you* (在) VS *itta* (있다) b. *jianzai* (見在) VS *poyō itta* (보여 있다), *poida* (보이다) and etc.

In conclusion, this article wants to point out that Hyeych'o's Memoir was recorded as a draft while his knowledge of sinographs and Literary Sinitic were based on the education he had received in Silla. In other words, as one of the most significant and precious primary sources in the history of the Korean language, Hyeych'o's Memoir represents the Koreanized Literary Sinitic writing style of contemporary Silla.

[Keywords]: Hyeych'o 慧超; *Memoir of a Pilgrimage to the Five Indian Kingdoms* 往五天竺國傳; drafts; Chinese vernacular sinographs used in Silla; Koreanized Literary Sinitic

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