

## Abstract

“Gu Jin Shuo Hai” was China’s first collection of novel, and it aimed at becoming the convergence of ancient and modern novels in general. Lu Ji appealed Jiang Nan, Gu Ding Fang, Tan Wan Yan, Huang Biao, Yao Zhao, Qu Xue Zhao, Tang Yun, Gu Ming Shi, Shen Xi Gao, Yu Cai, Dong Yi Yang, Zhang Zhi Xiang, Qu Cheng Wen to be in charge of providing collections, transcribing and proofreading, and they completed it jointly. In 1544, Lu’s Yanshan College in Yun Jian published their own book. There were 142 volumes in this book, and it included four sections of “Shuo xuan”, “Shuo yuan”, “Shuo lue” and “Shuo uanz”. Based on the method of classifying and getting together, it consisted of seven subsections of “Xiao lu”, “Pian ji”, “Bie zhiuan”, “Za ji”, “Yi shi”, “San lu” and “Za zuan”. It collected 135 kinds of classical short stories from Tang Dynasty to Ming Dynasty. It worths receiving attention in histories of both novels and collections.

The present study is divided into two parts and each part contains four chapters. Chapter nine is the conclusion. The first part is arranged according to chapters and sections and provides argument and research to the targeted subjects. The second part follows “Gu Jin Shuo Hai”’s principle of four sections and seven subsections and provides research on the author, edition and content of each subcategory. The key points of the present study are summarized as follows:

First, Lu Ji played the crucial role in facilitating “Gu Jin Shuo Hai”’s publication, therefore, we explore his family background and life stories in the first place. Then we briefly discuss the naming, publishing, version, and content of his book “Jian Jia Tang Gao”, and in turn probe into Lu Ji’s thinking in politics, economy, history, nationality and so on.

Second, the reason of “Gu Jin Shuo Hai”’s publication could be attributed to the prosperity of publishing, the prevalence of novels’ redaction, the promotion of scholar group in Yun Jian, and the abundant family collection of the Lu’s. In addition, the motivation of his compiling and collating was to seek profit, uphold refinement and practice charity. Most editors kept relationships such as generational friendship, marital relation or teachers and friends with Lu Shen and Lu Ji. This implies that the editing of “Gu Jin Shuo Hai” belongs to regional and group literature activity.

Third, “Gu Jin Shuo Hai” had illustrations in restoring the authors of “Tso Meng Lu” and “Ching Tsun Lu” as well as the sheet titles of “Yeh Hou Wai Chuan” and “Hsueh Chao Chuan”. It also extracted and redivided it to “Shuo yuan” section according to the unique characteristic of “San Shui Hsiao Tu--Wang Chih Ku”. However, it failed to inscribe the authors and frequently altered the sheet titles. Moreover, it occasionally overlapped in article title. This reflected Lu Ji’s neglect of copyright and carelessness in editing attitude.

Fourth, through the investigation of the versions of “Gu Jin Shuo Hai”’s subcategory, we understand that “Gu Jin Shuo Hai” mainly cited “Tai Ping Guang Ji” and “Shuo Fu”, and occasionally omitted or added the articles. “Gu Jin Shuo Hai” possessed the value of collecting data and preserving books and literature. It provided research and reference for the current version of “Tai Ping Guang Ji” and the valuable literature in publication, collection and encyclopedia of the later period. It also took in many masterpieces of Tang’s ghosts and legendary stories and Song’s literary sketches. This implies that it contains both the academic and practical values for scholars to investigate and for readers to appreciate.

Key Words : Lu Ji , Gu Jin Shuo Hai , Collection , Documentary Science , Classical Short Story , Ming novel

