On the Hitoriographical Character of Kuodizhi Quoted in 
Hanyuan Baekje-zhuan

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The aim of this article is to examine 1) the backdrop against which Hanyuan Baekje-zhuan 翰苑百濟傳 (hereafter HB) was compiled and its character as an historical record, 2) the relationship between the Kuodizhi 括地志 (hereafter HBK) that was quoted in HB and other relevant materials, and 3) the uniqueness and chronology of HBK.

Hanyuan is the reference book for writing in the alternating 4-, 6-character line prose style called siliu pianliwen 四六骈俪文 compiled by Zhang Chujin 張楚金 during the Tang Period. A comparison of the parts of Chinese Zhengshi 中国正史 quoted in HB with the extant versions of the Chinese Zhengshi shows that the HB extractions are not precise; however, rather than errors in transcription being the cause, the author observes that the compiler may have attempted to correct mistakes in the original text through the comparison of different versions available at the time. It is also clear that in some of the quotations, the compiler decided to rewrite the text.

The author then proceeds to classify into 17 categories the HB’s content regarding the kingdom of Baekje based on eighteen Chinese sources, in order to show that in terms of the connections between the items, the information in HB and HBK is almost identical to that provided in Suishu 隋書 and similar to that contained in Zhoushu 周書 and Beishi 北史. However, in terms of the order of the content, both HB and HBK are far different from the above three works.

Given this intention on the part of the compiler, the author argues that it would not be proper to “correct” the HBK text based on relevant Chinese
HBK is thought to have been compiled based on the information provided to the Court for Dependencies (Honglusi 鴻臚寺) by envoys from Baekje. It describes the history of Baekje during the transition period between the Sui and Tang Dynasties; that is, between 624 and the early 630s. Since HBK contains unique text and articles not found in any other source, it could be a very valuable piece of historiography in such areas as institutional change during the 6th and 7th centuries, after the correction of errors and omissions in transcription and a textual critique in comparison with contemporary and semi-contemporary sources.

The Shandong Food Situation in Relation to Economic Structural Changes in Local Rural Society during the Second Sino-Japanese War

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During the Second Sino-Japanese War, the amount of wheat produced in Shandong Province, being second only to that of He’nan Province, drew a great deal of attention in Japan. In addition, since wheat was not the staple food of Shandong’s agrarian population, due to its high price, it was milled at Jinan and Qingdao, the two terminals of the Jiaoji Railway. Consequently, wartime surveys conducted by Japanese exploration teams tended to intensify around the Jiaoji Railway and that hinterland. The present article discusses socioeconomic changes that occurred in Shandong Province at that time through an analysis of the Province’s wartime food situation, in terms of production, distribution and consumption.

In the western part of Shandong Province, which is particularly well-adapted to wheat cultivation, many farm families were accustomed to cultivating wheat to sell in exchange for cash to buy cheaper cereals for self-consumption. However, with the Japanese invasion of the Province, together with changes in and shrinkage of the wheat collecting sphere, the amounts of other grains in distribution also decreased, resulting in food shortages and rising food prices throughout the region around the Jiaoji Railway. In response to this situation, many farm families stopped selling wheat to appropriate for self-