

Two new AOS monographs to appear in 2021

Vol. 99

Richard VanNess Simmons, tr., *The Sōushén Hòujì 搜神後記 : Latter Notes On Collected Spirit Phenomena Attributed to Táo Yuānmíng (365-427)* (ISBN 9781948488990)

The *Sōushén hòujì* 搜神後記 (Latter Notes on Collected Spirit Phenomena), attributed to the celebrated poet Táo Qián 陶潛 (365–427), is a compilation of anecdotes and stories known as *zhiguài* 志怪 ('records of the anomalous') that document strange and unusual phenomena the author observed in his lifetime. Intended to serve as a sequel to Gān Bǎo's 干寶 (d. 336) *Sōushénjì* 搜神記 (Collected Spirit Phenomena), the original text was lost but was reconstructed in the late Míng dynasty. This volume presents an annotated translation of the entire Míng version of the *Sōushén hòujì* as well as of an additional set of surviving stories that were identified and restored to the text by the modern scholar Lǐ Jiànguó 李劍國. The book also includes a history of the *Sōushén hòujì* text, an examination of its linguistic style and characteristics, a discussion of the historical nature of its contents and how it fits into the *zhiguài* genre, providing a window onto medieval Chinese society and culture, and a brief overview of recent *zhiguài* scholarship to guide readers who hope to continue their exploration of the genre.

Vol. 100

Habib Borjian, *Essays on Three Iranian Language Groups: Taleqani, Biabanaki, Komisenian* (ISBN 9781948488983)

This volume studies three West Iranian language groups that are either undefined or have been scantily analyzed. The first chapter, "The Languages of Taleqan and Alamut," studies nineteen kindred language varieties spoken in the Šāhrud basin in central-western Alborz; the second, "Biābānaki Language Group," studies the vernaculars spoken in four villages in the historical district of Biābānak, located on the southern edge of the Great Desert in central Persia; while the third, "The Komisenian Sprachbund," treats seven languages spoken in and around Semnan, located halfway between Tehran and Khorasan. Each chapter addresses phonology, morphology, and lexis, following the areal typological approach developed for West Iranian by Donald Stilo. This approach is complemented for the Biabanaki and Komisenian groups by the longstanding historical-comparative method. Special attention is given to ethnolinguistics and the language contact phenomenon, as well as the historical geography of each region.

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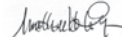
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