

Notes on Transcription and Transliteration of Terms in Asian Languages

In order to make this volume accessible to readers not familiar with the variety of languages used as sources, phonetic transcriptions have been used to render Tibetan, Chinese, Japanese, Mongol, Nepali and Manchu names and terms. These phonetic transcriptions are based on the pronunciation and spelling found in each of these languages, and thus can vary, depending on the sources used, even when in some cases they refer to the same people or places. Rather than impose a single hegemonic system for all articles, authors have used phoneticisations which reflect their sources. For Tibetan, phoneticisations are based on the THL Simplified Phonemic Transcription system, intended only as a guide (indeed in certain cases we have deviated from it to reflect an accepted usage in English language scholarship or to better reflect regional pronunciations in Tibetan). For Chinese, the *pinyin* system is used.

In addition to phonetic renderings, all foreign terms are also given in full scientific transliteration in brackets after first use. In the case of Tibetan, these are according to the Wylie system of transliteration, in the case of other languages, these are explained at the beginning of the relevant articles. These transliterations are referred to using the following abbreviations:

Tib.	Tibetan
Ch.	Chinese
Mo.	Mongolian
Ma.	Manchu
Jap.	Japanese
Skt.	Sanskrit
Nep.	Nepali

