

## **Characteristics and Cultural Values of Overseas Chinese Family Letters**

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Overseas Chinese family letters are a vital part of Chinese culture as they contain unique and precious information on the development of Chinese society. Through the view of an overseas Chinese, these family letters lead us to discover the neglected or unknown fields of China's history, society and foreign affairs. As of artistic and informative worth, these letters help us in exploring, studying and preserving China's history, especially the history concerning overseas Chinese. With an international perspective, these letters faithfully reflected the 20th centuries and forecasted the trend of the time. These letters, to a great extent, have unparalleled academic values for research in areas of Chinese tradition, history, foreign relation, Chinese literature, as well as in arts and collections.