

On the characteristics and value of the literature of remittance and letters from overseas  
Chinese in Jiangmen Wuyi and the problem of its collection and protection

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The most collection of Jiangmen Wuyi Overseas Chinese Museum is the paper-based literature of remittance and letters from overseas Chinese. “银信” is the term of hometown people and overseas Chinese in Jiangmen Wuyi for remittances (“银”) and letters (“信”) before 1949.

the main features of the literature of remittance and letters of Jiangmen Wuyi are: 1. America is the principal region where remittance and letters stem from. 2. The delivery organizations for remittance and letters of Jiangmen Wuyi mainly contained of traditional nongovernmental financial institutions (“银号”), shop that had commercial business and delivery for remittance and letters, modern financial institutions such as bank. 3. There are much in correspondence between the delivery agency and mode of delivery of remittance and letters. Delivery of remittance and letters was complex and diverse, but a variety of delivery agencies often relied on each other.

The literature of remittance and letters of Jiangmen Wuyi is believed to be an important part of the literature of remittance and letters of Guangdong province. Its main value is: 1. Historical value. The remittance and letters were main pillar of the economy of the relatives nationals living abroad and the hometown of overseas Chinese, and furthermore, they were the driving force of modernization of the hometown of overseas Chinese; 2. The value of research. remittance and letters of Jiangmen Wuyi with the integrity and uniqueness, also has a world-wide. The source mainly stem from the United States of America, Canada, Cuba, Mexico, Venezuela, as well as from Australia and South-East Asia, South Asia, the European, as a result, the literature contains rich social and cultural information for academic research; 3. Spiritual values.

At present, the civil society of Jiangmen Wuyi area and the society of overseas Chinese yet preserve the documents and cultural relics ,including a large number of The literature of remittance and letters.Those literature need to collect and rescue.Meanwhile, because of lack of funds ,awareness and technology of protection, a large number of already collected the literature of remittance and letters need to strengthen protection measures.