

## **The Two-Volume *Guoshi Rulin Zhuan* Textual Research: The change of its scripts during the process of *Draft Biographies of Rulin* before 1844**

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### **Abstract**

In the Qing Dynasty, under the government's instruction, a number of historiography institutes were set up to compile numerous historical records. Many official and individual scholars recognized the value of the *Draft Biographies of Rulin* (儒林傳稿), in spite of the fact that it is only a very small fraction of the records. Since the Daoguang era (1821-1850), the Two-Volume *Guoshi Rulin Zhuan* (兩卷本國史儒林傳) has been disseminated, and made a great impact since then. However, the origin of the *Draft Biographies of Rulin* was rarely known to the scholars, which caused many misunderstandings. Therefore, based on the previous research by other scholars, this article aims at sorting out and examining how the scripts of the Two-Volume *Guoshi Rulin Zhuan* developed, and comparing different editions of the Two-Volume *Guoshi Rulin Zhuan* in various collections in Beijing, Shanghai, Nanjing and Taiwan. The article will discuss two main issues: the compiling process of the *Draft Biographies of Rulin*, and the change of its text during the process.

**Keywords:** Ruan Yuan, Miu Quansun, State Historiography Institute, *Draft Biographies of Rulin*, *Guoshi Rulin Zhuan*