

Trinity Saint David

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Module Code: SICH3010	Student number: 2405614
Module title: An Outline of Chinese Studies	
For completion by marker: Comments:	
Marker's signature:	Date:
Provisional mark: NB. All marks are provisional until confirmed by the final examination board.	

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☒ I have not used AI in my assignment

I confirm that I have not used any AI tools in the research and creation of this assignment. I confirm that I have not presented any AI agenerated materials as my own work. I confirm I have copies of my drafts, notes, and other resources I used, which I may be asked to provide in evidence.

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Explaining the Annotation Gap

Between Li Bai and Du Fu

— A Song Dynasty Perspective

Module code :SICH3010

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Date:7 May 2025

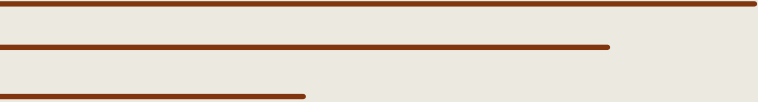
Introduction

In the Song dynasty, Li Bai's poetry was annotated far less frequently than Du Fu's. This contrast reflects the way each poet was received by the literary elite of the time. The difference was not only due to stylistic preferences, but also to larger historical and ideological factors. To understand this phenomenon, we must consider the cultural and intellectual background of the Song period.

Outline

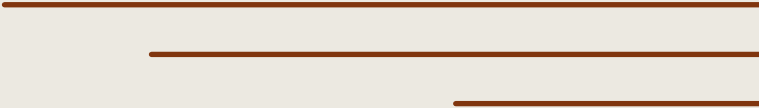
- Comparing the Number of Annotated Editions
- Political Context and Its Influence
- Ideological and Educational Factors





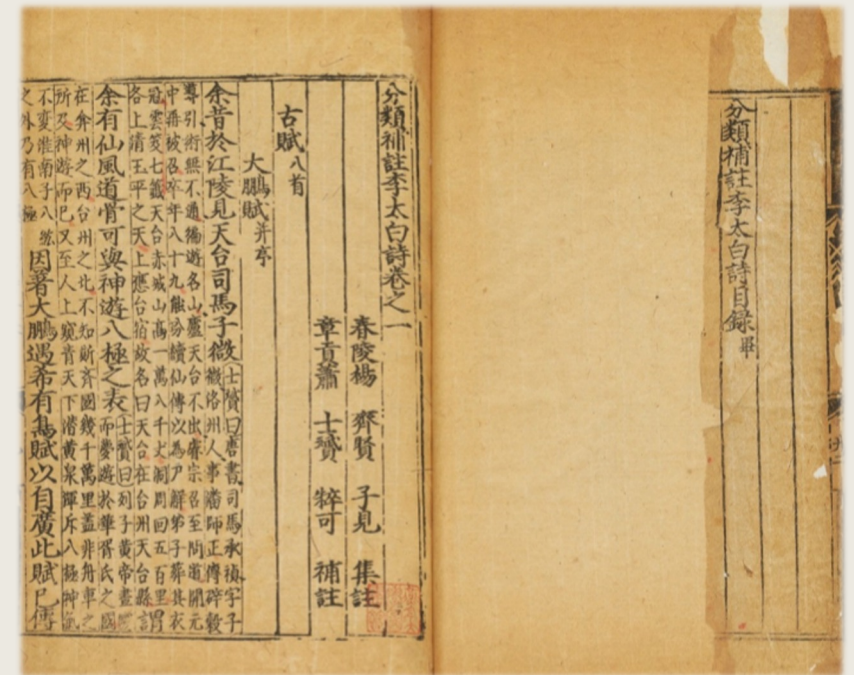
Part 1:

Comparing the Number of Annotated Editions



Part 1 :

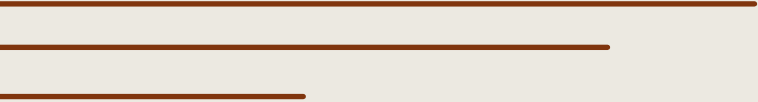
Since the Tang dynasty and up to the Qing dynasty, only **three** annotated editions of Li Bai's poetry were produced.....



Li Bai 李白, *Fenlei buzhu Li Taibai shi*
分類補註李太白詩.

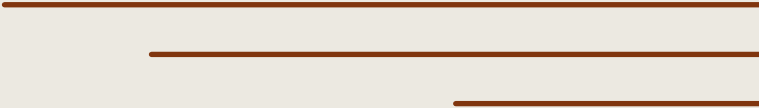
Part 1 :

As recorded in Zhou Caiquan's Bibliography of Du Fu's Works, nearly **one hundred** compilations of Du Fu's poetry emerged during the Song dynasty alone. A detailed list is omitted here for brevity.



Part 2:

Political Context and Its Influence



Part 2 :

- Song Dynasty political pressure
- ↓
- Liao, Jin, and Mongol invasions
 - Jingkang Incident (1127)



Part 2 :

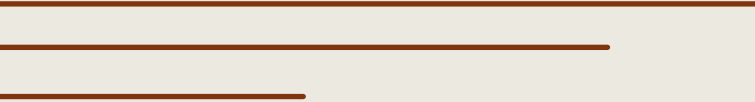
- Loyalty, patriotism, moral responsibility
- **Du Fu** as moral exemplar
- “The nation shattered, mountains and rivers remain”



Part 2 :

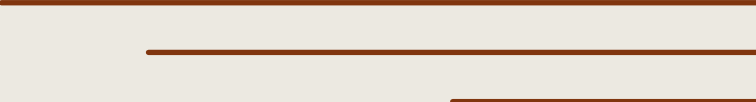
- Li Bai:
romantic, apolitical,
less annotated
- Cultural
production tied to
political utility





Part 3:

Ideological and Educational Factors



Part 3 :

- Confucian school of idealist philosophy of the Song dynasties
- "Writing should convey the Way"



Zhu Xi's Portrait

Part 3 :

- Loyalty, compassion, reverence for history
- **Yang Wanli**: “Ultimate expression of benevolence”



Part 3 :

- “Romantic recklessness
(Huang Che)
- Daoist individualism
& escapism
- *Only 29 poems In
Wenyuan Yinghua
(文苑英華)*



— Conclusion —

- Moral scrutiny shaped annotation
- Institutional endorsement favored Du Fu
- Ideological alignment determined literary legacy

Thank you for your
patient listening.



— Bibliography —

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Li Bai 李白, *Fenlei buzhu Li Taibai shi* 分類補註李太白詩
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notes by Xiao Shiyun 蕭士贊 [Yuan dynasty 元])

Zhang Yuanji 張元濟, ed., *Sibu congkan* 四部叢刊 (Qing dynasty 清)

Du Fu 杜甫, *Du Gongbu shiji* 杜工部詩集 (Beijing: Zhonghua shuju 中華書局, 1937)

Yang Lun 楊倫, *Du shi jing quan* 杜詩鏡銓
(Qing dynasty 清, annotated edition; held at Nanjing Library 南京圖書館)