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Glossary

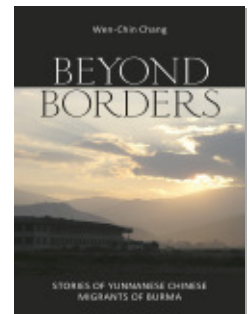
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GLOSSARY

Selected people's names and place names, as well as verse passages, proverbs, and other sayings are included below.

Chinese Words

ai 愛 love

baba 粑粑 rice cakes, made especially for the Moon Festival in the eighth month of the lunar calendar and Chinese New Year

babasi 粑粑絲 Yunnanese cooked noodles

baitiandi 拜天地 to worship Heaven and Earth

baiyi shi zhui zhe hanren shi cheng zhe 百夷是跣著漢人是撐著 Baiyi women, they would have abandoned their children; but we Han women have to endure the condition.

baozi 包子 steamed stuffed bun

beibei 伯伯 senior uncle

bianjiaoshi 邊角石 small sliced pieces of jade stones, “leftovers” from larger pieces that have been used for making bangles or other larger ornaments

biaohui 標會 loan-bidding association

- bie nian le** 別念了 Stop reciting.
- bielai zheli nao** 別來這裡鬧 Do not create disturbances here.
- buke paotouloumian** 不可拋頭露面 confined to domestic life and restricted from the public sphere
- buyecheng** 不夜城 bustling town where the lights are never turned off even during the night
- changkoushui** 場口稅 tax at (jade) mines
- Changqingshan** 長青山 (place name)
- changzi** 腸子 sausage
- Chiang Ching-kuo** 蔣經國 (personal name)
- Chiang Kai-shek** 蔣介石 (personal name)
- chuang** 闖 to explore the world
- chunlian** 春聯 New Year's couplets
- dachi dahe** 大吃大喝 spending much money on food and drink
- dadie** 大爹 senior uncle
- dage** 大哥 senior brother
- daguotou or maguotou** 大鍋頭/馬鍋頭 big-pot head / pot head of a mule caravan
- dajie** 大姊 elder sister
- Dajie huijia lei wangwang / Choumei kulian su dieniang / Younyu mojia heshunxiang / Shinian shougua banyueshuang** 大姐回家淚汪汪，愁眉苦臉訴爹娘。有女莫嫁和順鄉，十年守寡半月雙 Eldest sister came home, tears in her eyes. / Sullenly she related her stories to her parents. / Do not marry your daughter to a man of Heshun. / During a period of ten years, the couple is together for half a month.
- dalugongzuochu** 大陸工作處 the Intelligence Mainland Operation Bureau
- dama** 大媽 senior aunt
- dan** 擔 The act of carrying water by placing a carrying pole on the shoulders with one bucket hung on each end is called *danshui* (擔水), and one *dan* of water refers to two buckets of water.
- danguande** 當官的 officials
- dao waimian quchuang** 到外面去闖 to explore the world
- dapiao bian** 大票變 demonetization of the Burmese kyat
- daqingshu** 大青樹 banyan tree
- dashen** 大嬸 junior aunt
- Dashuitang** 大水塘 (place name)
- datianxia** 打天下 to explore the world
- ding tian li di** 頂天立地 with feet planted on the ground and head supporting the sky
- Dongmiu guanyinsi** 洞謬觀音寺 a Chinese temple in Amarapura, eight miles south of Mandalay
- douchi** 豆豉 fermented soybeans

- doufu** 豆腐 soybean curd
- Du Wenxiu** 杜文秀 (personal name)
- Duan Xiwen** 段希文 (personal name)
- duizhan** 堆棧 places for storage
- duli diertuan tuanzhang** 獨立第二團團長 the commanding officer of the Second Independent Regiment
- erfang** 耳房 the side room
- erjiangdao** 二漿刀 the second incision
- erjie** 二姊 the second elder sister
- erxiaojie** 二小姐 the second young lady
- fangsheng ma** 放生馬 released horse/mule
- feicui** 翡翠 high-quality jadeite
- fengshui** 風水 geomancy
- Fuguo xuechi shouchuang zhongzhen jiaoyu / xingbang tuqiang peiyang aiguo wenhua**
復國恥首創忠貞教育，興邦圖強培養愛國文化 Recover the motherland and wipe out national shame through the teaching and transmission of loyalty; regain and develop the nation with the cultivation of patriotic culture.
- fujun rumian** 夫君如面 a formal address to one's husband at the beginning of a letter
- fuqin daren** 父親大人 a formal address to one's father at the beginning of a letter
- fushifei** 副食費 fees for non-staple food
- gai/jie** 街 marketplace
- gaoxiao** 高校 middle school
- Gengma** 耿馬 (place name)
- gonglu** 公路 public roads
- gongpan** 公盤 public auction
- gou weidao** 夠味道 exciting (used figuratively)
- guang dongzi** 逛洞子 to roam the jade mines for purchase of jade stones
- guanxi** 關係 connections
- gugu** 姑姑 aunt; sister of one's father
- guiqiao** 歸僑 returned overseas Chinese
- guiren** 貴人 important person
- Gui Wang** 桂王 Prince Gui
- guo** 鍋 pot
- guogan minzu wenhuahui** 果敢民族文化會 Ethnic Kokang Cultural Association
- guoganren** 果敢人 Kokangs
- hanchao huizi** 漢朝回子 Muslims of the Han Empire
- hanjiao** 漢教 Han religion; believers of Han religion
- hanzu huijiao** 漢族回教 Muslims of Han nationality
- he** 和 peace

Heshun 和順 (place name)

hongqi baiqi 紅旗白旗 red flags versus white flags

hua yanbao 劃煙包 to incise poppy pods

huama 滑馬 horse with no harness

hui 會 rotating credit

huijiao 回教 Islam; believers of Islam

huiqian 會錢 money for participating in a loan-bidding association

huiou 會頭 organizer of a loan-bidding association

hunsang huzhuhui 婚喪互助會 Association of Mutual Help for Weddings and Funerals

huotou 伙頭 headman

huotui 火腿 ham

ji wang kai lai 繼往開來 to carry on the heritage so as to pave the way for future generations

Jiao yisheng wodeer / Xiting genyou / Feirongyi / Fuyangni / Shi qi ba jiu / Zong qu-yuan / yizhike / Sinian sanqiu 叫一聲我的兒，細聽根由；非容易，扶養你，十七八九；縱去遠，亦只可，四年三秋 I call my son once again, / Listen to my words carefully. / It is hard to raise you; / Aged only seventeen, eighteen, or nineteen, / You are setting off on a long journey. / See you again perhaps in three or four years

jiachua 教化 to civilize the barbarous people

jiatou ma 架頭馬 a mule with no proper saddle

Jieyang 揭陽 (place name)

Jin Yong 金庸 a popular Chinese martial-arts fiction writer based in Hong Kong

Jinduoyan tudici 金多堰土地祠 a Chinese temple in Mandalay

jinjina 金雞納 cinchona

juntun 軍屯 military settlement

kai sao 開燒 to cook outdoors

kaibazi 開壩子 to open the valley

Kanchai mokaan putaoteng / Yangnyu moja ganmaren / Sanshi wanshang zuoxifu / Chuyi zaoshang tichumen 砍柴莫砍葡萄藤，養女莫嫁趕馬人；三十晚上做媳婦，初一早上提出門 Do not cut grape vines for firewood. / Do not marry off your daughter to a muleteer. / Bride [of a muleteer] on the 30th eve, / her husband leaves at dawn of the first [the next day].

kaojiu 烤酒 distillery

keyi duo bukeyi shao 可以多不可以少 It has to be more and not less.

kongduo/kongtuo 空馱 mules that carried kitchenware and food

kuajing minjian 跨境民間 transnational popular realm

Kuomintang or KMT 國民黨 the Chinese Nationalist Party

lantouche 藍頭車 bull-nosed Hino trucks from Japan

- laoda** 老大 big brother
- laodun** 老盾 old silver coins
- laomian** 老緬 old Burmans
- laoshi** 老師 teacher
- laoxiang** 老鄉 countrymen, preferably from one's home village
- laoye** 老爺 an old-fashioned way of addressing one's father
- laoyinyuan** 老銀元 old silver Chinese coins
- leine zashilei** 累呢紮實累 very tired
- Li Wenhuan** 李文煥 (personal name)
- lianzhang** 連長 company commander
- Luo Xinghan** 羅星漢 (personal name)
- Ma Linyu** 馬麟玉 (personal name)
- mabang wenhua** 馬幫文化 mule caravan culture
- maliao dai** 馬料袋 feedbag
- malibaren** 麻栗巴人 people of Maliba (Kokangs)
- Meng Gen** 孟艮 (place name)
- miandian tongbao** 緬甸同胞 compatriots from Burma
- minggong buhe** 命宮不合 incompatible destinies
- minghuo** 明貨 jade stones that have been cut through
- minjian** 民間 popular realm
- mintun** 民屯 civilian settlement
- Mu Bang** 木邦 (place name)
- nande kuadekuai nyude zhangbudehao** 男的垮的快女的漲不得好 Men may go bankrupt quickly, but women are only able to obtain petty profits.
- Nanjing Yingtianfu** 南京應天府 (place name)
- neibing** 內病 internal illness; sexual urge (used figuratively)
- nianqing zhiqigao** 年輕志氣高 young and ambitious
- nibuzuo yao efan** 你不做要餓飯 If you don't take risks, you starve.
- nyuer bi erzi gujia** 女兒比兒子顧家 Daughters look after the household better than sons.
- Panlong** 搬攏 (place name)
- Panglong** 邦隆 (place name)
- Pannong** 班弄 (place name)
- panxiong** 攀胸 horse collar
- pao mabang** 跑馬幫 to engage in the mule caravan trade
- pao shengyi** 跑生意 to conduct (transnational) trade (by vehicle)
- ping** 平 harmony
- pu er cha** 普洱茶 Pu-er tea

Qiao Da 僑大 a college that offers preparatory courses to Chinese overseas students before they are assigned to universities in Taiwan

qingzhen 清真 Islamic concept, literally “purity and truth”

Qiong Yao 瓊瑤 a popular romance novelist based in Taiwan

qiong zou yifang ji zou chang (窮走夷方急走廠) When one was in need of money, one joined the caravan trade and traveled to places inhabited by “barbarians” (other ethnic groups), or hoped to get lucky in the jade and other mineral mines (in Burma).

qiujian 求籤 to seek divine guidance by drawing lots

quzhang 區長 division chief

rang ta daowaimian chuang yi chuang 讓他到外面闖一闖 Let him go and explore the outside world.

ren 仁 benevolence

Rensheng wugendi / Piaoru moshangchen / Fensan zhufengzhuan / Ciyi feichangshen / Luodi weixiongdi / Hebi qingrou / Dehuan dangzuole / Doujiu jubilin / Shengnian buzailai / Yiri nanzachen / Jishi dangmianli / Suiyue budairen 人生無根蒂 / 飄如陌上塵 / 分散逐風轉 / 此已非常身 / 落地為兄弟 / 何必親骨肉 / 得歡當作樂 / 斗酒聚比鄰 / 盛年不再來 / 一日難再晨 / 及時當勉勵 / 歲月不待人 Life has no roots / Like dust floating on a footpath / Scattered by the wind without a destination / The physical body is not eternal / Having been born to this world / We are all brothers / There is no need for bloodshed / Enjoy life whenever possible / Drink with neighbors / This life will not come again / Just like a day passes by / Act now / Time never awaits you.

rensiluo 人死囉 already dead

Ruili 瑞麗 (place name)

sangai / sanjie 三街 three rotating markets

sanmin zhuyi 三民主義 the Three Principles of the People, created by Dr. Sun Yat-sen, the national father of the Republic of China

Sanzijing 三字經 an ancient Chinese text, used in children’s education

shan shen 山神 mountain gods

Shangliuhu 上六戶 (place name)

shangtun 商屯 merchant settlement

shenghuo xiguan 生活習慣 lifestyles

shengji 生基 grave

shuiyantong 水煙筒 water pipe

side qiongbude 死得窮不得 You may die but you cannot be poor.

silaomian 死老緬 damn old Burman

sipolian de zheng 撕破臉的爭 to fight for one’s domain without considering appearances

siwei bade 四維八德 four ethical principles and eight cardinal virtues

- taiwan laijiang** 台灣來獎 a prize from Taiwan
- tangge** 堂哥 paternal cousin
- Tengchong** 騰衝 (place name)
- ting xiaoxi** 聽消息 to listen to news
- tong jiamen** 同家門 member of the same genealogy
- tou** 偷 to steal
- toujiangdao** 頭漿刀 the first incision
- tudong** 土洞 underground cave
- tugong** 土共 local Communists
- tusi** 土司 native official
- wode gushi sanbenshu ye xiebuwan** 我的故事三本書也寫不完 Even three books would not be enough to record my story.
- wode gushi santian sanye ye shuo buwan** 我的故事三天三夜也說不完 Three days and three nights would not exhaust my story.
- wodeyisheng dou aihu renmin chile henduoku women shi buaiqian ai mingyi** 我的一生都愛護人民, 吃了很多苦, 我們是不愛錢, 愛名義 I have cared for my people my whole life. I have suffered a great deal. I do not aim for money but for name.
- women shi tong guokou** 我們是同鍋口 We are from the same pot.
- wuxia xiaoshuo** 武俠小說 Chinese martial arts fiction
- wuziqiang** 五子槍 five-bullet gun
- xia jiangbianpo** 下江邊坡 to walk downwards to a river
- xiang women miandianren daoqian** 向我們緬甸人道歉 to apologize to us Burmese
- Xianluo [Huaqiao] Ribao** 暹羅華僑日報 a Chinese newspaper company in Bangkok
- xiao** 孝 filial piety
- xidoufen** 稀豆粉 gruel cooked from ground garden peas
- xihuan jiu qu toulai** 喜歡就去偷來 to steal a girl for marriage
- xin** 信 trust
- Xishi xianwen** 昔時賢文 an ancient Chinese text, used in children's education
- yan tade sichu** 醃她的私處 to stuff into a mistress's vagina
- yancai** 醃菜 pickled vegetable
- Yangmeicun** 揚美村 (place name)
- yao zhuanqian jiuyou fengxian pafengxian jiu zhuanbuliaoqian** 要賺錢就有風險, 怕風險就賺不了錢 If you are afraid of risks, you can't make profits.
- yaqiang tiruo** 壓強提弱 to suppress the bully and assist the weak
- yi** 義 justice
- yi sao lu** 一燒路 a journey that requires cooking one meal
- yiba** 一把 a small unit of a mule caravan
- yiben zhengjing** 一本正經 serious manner
- yibian zou yibian tanlu** 一邊走一邊探路 to ask for information while walking

- yidanbang/yixiaobang** 一單幫/一小幫 a small mule caravan
- yige chufang rongbuxia liangge nyuren** 一個廚房容不下兩個女人 A kitchen does not accommodate two women.
- yiren zhaizi** 夷人寨子 village of barbarous people
- yishan burong erhu** 一山不容二虎 A mountain cannot accommodate two tigers.
- youtiao** 油條 deep-fried breadstick
- yuqi jie** 玉器街 jade market
- zhangqi** 瘴氣 pestilential vapors in forests that cause illnesses
- zhao poniang** 找婆娘 to look for mistresses
- Zhenkang** 鎮康 (place name)
- zhenzi** 針織 machine knitting
- zhenzhu** 真主 the True Lord
- zheshi sheme** 這是什麼 What is this?
- zhiqi** 志氣 ambition
- zhong** 忠 loyalty
- zhong di** 種地 farming
- zhong yuanzi** 種園子 cultivating gardens
- zhonghua wenhua** 中華文化 Chinese culture
- zhuan gai/jie** 轉街 rotating market
- zidibing** 子弟兵 younger dependent troops
- zitie** 字帖 copybooks for practicing Chinese calligraphy
- zongjuede gegeburu** 總覺得格格不入 do not fit together well
- zongzi** 粽子 glutinous rice dumplings prepared especially for the Duanwu Festival during the fifth month of the lunar calendar
- zuixiyimin** 罪徙移民 exiles
- zuo huishui** 做匯水 to conduct business that involves transferring money (of different currencies)

Burmese Words

- byo** ဝေဟ် happy
- daba khawlei** ဒါဘာခေါလ် What is this?
- danpauk** ဒန်ပေါက်/ဒံပေါက် Indian *biriyani*
- dikaung** ဒီကောင် kid
- hmatpontin** မုတ်ပုံတင် identification card
- hmaungkho** မှောင်ခိုဈေး black market
- kapya** ကပြား mixed blood
- lanma** လမ်းမ main road
- longyi** လုံချည် a sarong-like skirt commonly worn by both men and women in Burma
- lukyi** လူကြီး big men; officials

monhinkha မုန့်ဟင်းခါး rice vermicelli in fish soup

Mo-ywa-yin mo-ye-cho-meh / Me-Me la-yin no-so-meh / Pe-Pe la-yin oun-thi kweh-sa-meh မိုးရွာရင် မိုးရေချိုးမယ်။ မေမေလာရင် နို့စို့မယ်။ ဖေဖေလာရင် အုန်းသီးခွဲစားမယ်။ When rain comes, we take a shower in the rain. / When mama comes, we drink milk from her. / When daddy comes, we eat the coconut he cuts for us.

saikka ဆိုက်ကာ trishaw

tayoke soe တရုတ်ဆိုး damned Chinese

