

**The Directory of the Jesuits in China from 1842 to 1955,  
which was recently published by the Taipei Ricci Institute**

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**Abstract**

Researchers in the history of Chinese Christianity during the 16<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> centuries are familiar with the directory of the Jesuits in China from 1552 to 1800 compiled by Fr. Joseph Dehergne, SJ. The book was published in French in 1973 in the prestigious *Bibliotheca Instituti Historici Societatis Jesu*. However, until now no similar directory exists for the second great period of the mission of the Jesuits in China that can easily be situated between years 1842 and 1955: 1842 when the three first Jesuit missionaries arrived in China after the restoration of the Society of Jesus, and 1955 when foreign missionaries had already been expelled from mainland China, and most of the outstanding native Jesuits were imprisoned, an imprisonment that was in many cases to last for almost three decades. The recent publication by the Taipei Ricci Institute of a *Directory of the Jesuits in China between 1842 and 1955*, aimed to remedy this omission. As being one of the three editors of the directory, I present here the compilation process and the structure of this handbook which, despite its imperfection, cannot but greatly help the searchers who are working on the history of Christianity in China during the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries. The talk is also pointing out a few quite unknown especially interesting historical information about Jesuits mission in China, which had been made out of the book's compilation.