

## Biography Workshop

Dr Tiping Su: Chinese people in the *Australian Dictionary of Biography*

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Date: Thursday 27 October 2016

Venue: Seminar Room B, Coombs Building, ANU

Time: 12 midday until about 1.30 p.m.

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As a national biography, the *Australian Dictionary of Biography* (ADB) not only records the past but reflects the present, with state working parties being allocated quotas on the basis of the current population when determining subjects of articles. It is estimated that Australians of Chinese heritage number up to one million people or about 4 per cent of the Australian population; theirs is a fast-growing group. Only 30 Chinese people, however, are among the 13,000 entries recorded in the ADB, about 0.23 per cent.

This paper discusses the entries on Australians of Chinese heritage in the ADB. But I will also discuss Australians of Chinese heritage who were significant and representative but who have been overlooked or neglected and are 'missing' from the ADB.

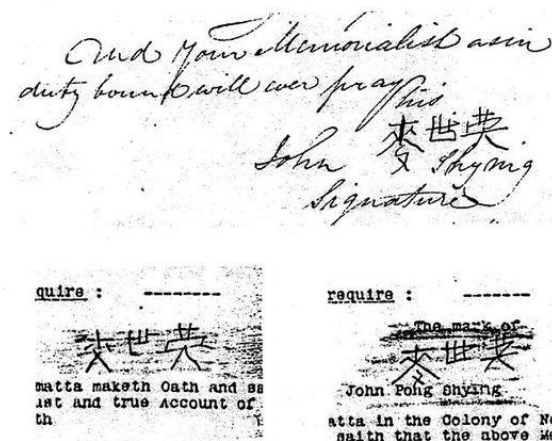


Fig 6 Three examples of John Pong Shying's signature on documents.

Tiping Su was awarded his PhD in comparative literature and world literature from Renmin University of China in 2013 and now works in the Australian Studies Centre, School of English Studies, Xi'an International Studies University. He visited the National Centre of Biography in 2011; he is currently the holder of a one-year fellowship at the ANU, again attached to the NCB. He is interested in English literature, history and Australian Chinese, especially about the question of identity. He has published several papers on Australian literature and Australian Chinese, such as *Landscape Narrative and national traits* and others.