

Title: Historical Chinese Character Styles

L2/04-084

From: Joe Becker

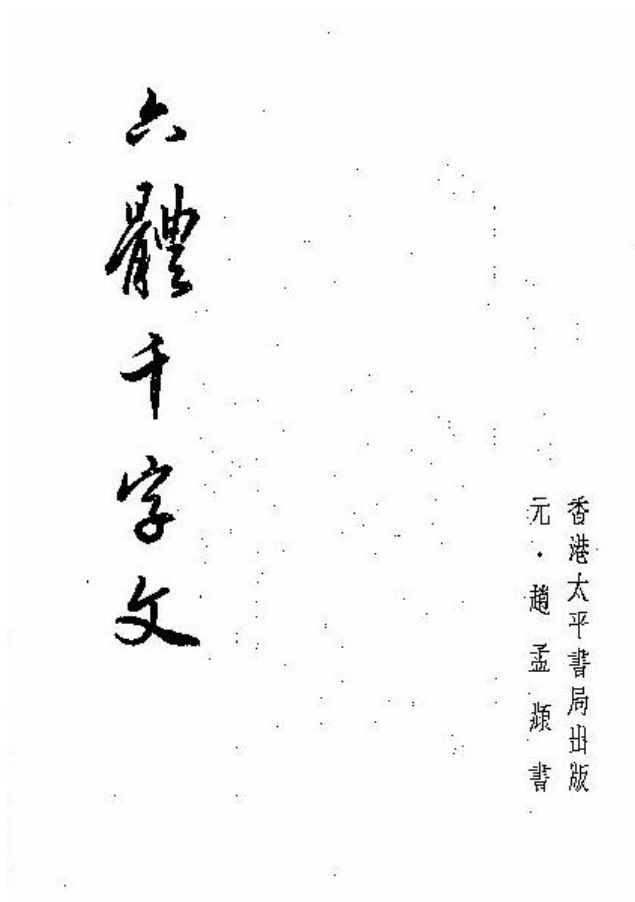
Date: 2/3/4

These scans show a small paperback book called "The Thousand Character Classic in the Six Styles", published in Hong Kong in 1968. This text, written in the 6th Century, consists of 1000 characters (a substantial portion of the classic repertoire), each occurring exactly once. This is a tour de force similar perhaps to writing a novel in English without the letter "e", though closer in spirit to the Japanese I-Ro-Ha alphabet poem.

This form of the Thousand Character Classic has become a traditional exercise for students of calligraphy; as such this particular edition contains no explanatory text but does have a character index.

The text is presented as a matrix: the characters read vertically, and the six columns on each page render them in the "Liu Shu" six principal calligraphic styles: Great Seal, Small Seal, Official, Running, Regular (origin of the printed style), and Grass.

Note the four "Old Hanzi" styles mentioned in L2/03-450: Oracle-bone, Bronze-inscription, Warring States, and Small Seal. As such, the Seal styles represent a transitional twilight zone between the Old Hanzi and the extant modern calligraphic styles.



六 隹 千字文

四 隹 各 六

五 隹 各 六

六 隹 各 六

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(一九六八年六月版)

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徘徊瞻眺	孤陋寡聞	愚蒙
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