

## Glossary

- an-tang (庵堂) – nunnery  
bai shen (拜神) – praying to gods  
bai-shi (拜师) – taking on a spiritual master  
bang (帮) – guild  
bu-shi (布施) – alms-giving, donation  
bu-xiao (不孝) – unfilial  
cai-gu (菜姑) – vegetarian aunts  
chi (qi) [WG] (气) – energy  
Chuang-Mu (床母) – Consort of the Cot  
chu-jia (出家) – renunciation  
ci-tang (祠堂) – ancestral hall  
Da-Bei-Fa-Hui (大悲法会) – Great Repentance Religious Service  
Da-Bei-Fa-Shi (大悲法事) – Rites of Compassion  
Da-Bei-Zhou (大悲咒) – Great Repentance Sutra  
Da-Bo-Gong (大伯公) – Great Paternal Uncle  
daimoku [J] (大題) – Sutra  
dana [P] – alms-giving  
dao (道) – The “Way”  
Da-Shi-Ye (大士爷) – A Chinese deity  
da-xi (大戏) – Chinese classical opera  
dharma [P] – Buddhist scriptural knowledge  
dharmacari [P] – practitioner of dharma  
Di (地) – Earth  
di-yu (地狱) – Underworld, Hell  
Di-Zang-Wang-Jing (地藏王经) – Kistagarbha Sutra  
Di-Zhang-Wang-Pu-Sa (地藏王菩萨) – Kistagarbha MahaBodhisattva  
Dukkha [P] – sufferings  
fa-hui (法会) – religious service  
fa-ming (法名) – religious name  
feng-shui (风水) – geomancy

- fo-dao (佛道) – The “Buddha” way  
fo-shen (佛身) – Buddha body  
fu (符) – charm/amulet  
fu-lu-zhu (副炉主) – deputy stove master  
gen (根) – roots  
gong (工) – labourers, artisans  
gong (宫) – a religious place  
gong-de (功德) – meritorious deeds  
gong-de-tang (功德堂) – memorial hall  
gong-yang (供养) – merit making  
Guan-gong (关公) – another name for Guan-di  
Guan-yu (关羽) – another name for Guan-di  
Guan-Di (关帝) – a deified hero  
Guan-Di-Miao (关帝庙) – Guan-di Temple  
Guan-Shi-Yin-Pu-Sa (观世音菩萨) – Goddess of Mercy  
guanxi (关系) – social connections  
Guan-Yin (观音) – Goddess of Mercy  
Guan-Yin-Niang-Niang (观音娘娘) – Goddess of Mercy  
Guan-Yin-Pu-Sa (观音菩萨) – Guan-Yin bodhisattva  
Guan-Yin-Tang (观音堂) – Guan-Yin Temple  
gu-hun (孤魂) – lonely spirits  
gui-jie (鬼节) – Hungry Ghost Festival  
hai-qing (海青) – a black robe worn during religious services by the  
Buddhists  
Hou-Bo-Gong (后伯公) – God of the Back Portion  
hun (魂) – soul  
jiang-jing (讲经) – expounding Buddhist sutra  
Ji-Le-Shi-Jie (极乐世界) – Heavenly Western Paradise  
jin-gang-jing (金刚经) – Heart Sutra  
jin-zhi (金纸) – Golden joss paper  
Jiu-Wang-Ye (九王爷) – Nine Emperor God  
jun-zi (君子) – Gentleman  
kai-shan-lao-ren (开山老人) – pioneers in opening the lands  
kongsi (gongsi) (H) (公司) – trading firms  
Kong-Zi (孔子) – Confucius  
kow-tow (kou-tou) (H) (叩头) – prostration

- Kuan-Ze-Zun-Wang (宽泽尊王) – a Chinese deity  
 kwei (kui) [WG] (魁) – guardian spirit  
 Lianhe Zaobao (联合早报)  
 Liu-bei (刘备) – a Chinese hero  
 lu-zhu (炉主) – Stove master  
 Ma-zu (妈祖) – another name for Tian Hou, Empress of the Heaven  
 miao (庙) – temple  
 ming-yun (命运) – life destiny, fate  
 mitra [P] – Buddhist friends  
 mu-bei (木杯) – wooden blocks  
 mui-tsai (mei-jie) [C] (妹姐) – sisterhood  
 mu-yu (木鱼) – a wooden gong  
 myo-ho [J] (妙法) – mystical powers  
 nam-mo [H] (南摩) – monks or nuns who conduct last rites of services to the dead  
 Namu-Guan-Shi-Yin-Pu-Sa (南无观世音菩萨) – Mantra “Namu Guan-Shi-Yin-Pu-Sa”  
 Namu-O-Mi-To-Fo (南无阿弥陀佛) – Mantra “Namo Amitabha”  
 namyo-ho-rengé-kyo [J] (南无妙法莲华经) – mystical power of the Lotus Sutra  
 nian-jing (念经) – reciting sutras  
 nong (农) – farmers  
 nu-ti-shen (女替身) – female substitute  
 O-Mi-To-Fa-Hui [H] (阿弥陀法会) – Amitabha religious service  
 O-Mi-To-Fo [H] (阿弥陀佛) – Amitabha Buddha  
 O-Mi-To-Jing [H] (阿弥陀经) – Amitabha Sutra  
 po (魄) – soul  
 Preta [P] – hungry ghosts  
 qi (气) – energies  
 qian (签) – destiny sticks  
 Qian-Shou-Qian-Yan Guan-Shi-Yin-Pu-Sa (千手千眼观世音菩萨)  
 – Thousand Hands and Thousand Eyes Guan-Yin Bodhisattva  
 qian-si (签丝) – papers carrying messages of the destiny sticks  
 Qing-Shui-Zu-Shi-Gong (清水祖师公) – Clear Water Ancestor  
 ren-jian (人间) – The Human Plane of Existence  
 samsara [P] – cycles of suffering

- Sangha [P] – Buddhist monastic order  
sang-li (丧礼) – mourning rites  
san-gui-yi (三皈依) – becoming a disciple of Buddhism  
San-Tai-Zi (三太子) – Third Heavenly Prince  
shakubuku [J] (传教) – proaching/proselytising  
shang (商) – merchants  
shan-tang (善堂) – charity hall  
she (社) – lay Buddhist organisation  
shen (神) – gods  
shi (士) – scholar  
shi-ben-huo (蚀本货) – profit losing commodity  
Shi-Jia-Mo-Ni-Fo (释迦牟尼佛) – Sakyamuni Buddha  
Shui-Wei-Sheng-Niang (水尾圣娘) – a Chinese goddess  
Taiji (太极) – Great Beginning  
ta-li (他力) – Other's power  
tang (堂) – a term for temple  
Tian (天) – Heaven  
Tian Hou (天后) – Empress of the Heaven  
Tian-dao (天道) – the “Way” of Heaven  
Tian-Fu-Gong (天富宫) – The name of a temple  
Tian-Gong (天公) – The Heavenly God/Jade Emperor  
Tian-Mu (天母) – another name for Tian hou  
ting-zhu (亭主) – Chinese leader  
ti-shen (替身) – a substitute  
ti-tou-di-zi (剃头弟子) – a shaven-head disciple  
Tu-di-Gong (土地公) – Earth God  
wang ben wang zong (忘本忘宗) – forgetting one's origin and  
ancestors  
wu-gu (五谷) – the five grains category  
xiang-lu (香炉) – incense urn  
xiao (孝) – filial piety  
xiao-zai (消灾) – purification  
xiao-zai-fa-hui (消灾法会) – Rites of Purification Service  
xiao-zai-fa-shi (消灾法事) – rites of purification  
xiao-zai-zhang-cheng (消灾章程) – rites of purification  
xin-tu (信徒) – believers

- xin-yong (信用) – trust  
xiu-xin (修心) – spiritual cultivation  
Xuan-Tian-Shang-Di (玄天上帝) – a Chinese Deity  
yang-jian (阳间) – Heavenly Plane of Existence  
Yan-Luo-Wang (阎罗王) – King of Hades  
yao-cai-dian (药材店) – Herbal Medicine Shop  
Yao-Shi-Fo (药师佛) – Medicine Buddha  
Yao-Shi-Jing (药师经) – Medicine Buddha Sutra  
Yin Yang (阴阳) – Yin and Yang polarity  
yin-guo (因果) – karma; cause and effect  
Yin-jian (阴间) – the Netherworld  
yin-yuan (因缘) – affinity  
yin-zhi (银纸) – silver joss paper  
you-hun (游魂) – wandering spirits  
yu (狱) – hell  
Yu-Huang-Da-Di (玉皇大帝) – Heavenly Emperor  
Zhang-Fei (张飞) – a Chinese Hero  
zhong (忠) – loyal  
Zhong-Yuan-Jie (中元节) – Hungry Ghost Festival  
zhuang-dao (撞到) – being hit  
zi-li (自力) – one's power  
zi-xiu (自修) – self-cultivation  
Zu-Shi-Gong (祖师公) – Ancestor

