

CONVENTIONS

1. All Chinese transliterations follow the pinyin system. For clerics and temples outside the People's Republic of China whose names are widely known by other transliteration systems, spellings are provided at the first appearance of their names in the text.
2. The rendering of Buddhist terminology regarding Nanputuo Temple draws on publications by the temple and Buddhist Association of Xiamen, including *Qiannian gusha Nanputuo* (2013), which describes the temple in both Chinese and English.
3. Monks are referred to by their "first" names, typically consisting of two characters.
4. Chinese characters are provided at the first appearance of a name or term and may be repeated later for technical discussion and easy reference.
5. Sanskrit transliterations are provided for the names of selected deities, texts, and rituals.
6. Months and days for rituals and assemblies are given in the lunar calendar when describing it in general terms, while the solar calendar is used for a specific occurrence.
7. The major shifts in politics that affected the temple during the years of our research and fieldwork caused shifts in the value of the yuan.

We list them to provide context for three periods that roughly correspond to the years we cover in part III (chapters 4, 5, and 6).

Exchange rates (average):

1981–1988: 1 U.S. dollar = 2.7 yuan

1990–1994: 1 U.S. dollar = 6.7 yuan

1995–2005: 1 U.S. dollar = 8.4 yuan

8. The following abbreviations are used in the text for frequently cited sources, with full information in the bibliography:

<i>NSZ</i>	<i>Nanputuo si zhi</i>
<i>QGN</i>	<i>Qiannian gusha Nanputuo</i>
<i>XFZ</i>	<i>Xiamen fojiao zhi</i>

9. The following acronyms are used in the text and notes:

BAX	Buddhist Association of Xiamen
BCM	Buddhist College of Minnan
CPC	Communist Party of China
PRC	People's Republic of China
ROC	Republic of China
SEZ	Special Economic Zone
XRAB	Xiamen Religious Affairs Bureau