The History of the State of Zeng through New Archeological Discoveries
考古發現揭示的曾國歷史
(presentation in Chinese)

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Abstract
The discoveries of Yejiashan 葉家山 cemetery (ca. 1000 BCE) in 2011, Wenfengta 文峰塔 cemetery (ca. 400 BCE) in 2013, and Guojiamiao 郭家廟 cemetery (ca. 700 BCE) in 2014 in Hubei, China, were all chosen as the “National Top 10 New Archeological Discoveries” of its respective year. These discoveries, together with that of the Zenghou Yi 曾侯乙 tomb (ca. 433 BCE) in 1978, have provided invaluable sources for the state of Zeng 曾, whose history had long been lost in the transmitted texts. The excavations of the tombs of the rulers of Zeng and numerous other cemeteries, ranging from Early Western Zhou to Middle Warring States period, allow us to reimagine the state of Zeng, which ruled over six hundred square kilometers with present Suizhou 隨州 as its center. Zuozhuan 左傳 comments that “among the states to the east of Han River, Sui is the largest” 汉東之國，隨為大. The discoveries of the Zeng cemeteries and their exquisite funerary assemblages including large numbers of bronze vessels and sets of chime-bells show the power of the state of Zeng as well as their cultural development along the middle reaches of the Yellow River.

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