



“鑫”，不知有没有可能和我们的祖父楊子贞的元配--邱水娘是亲姐妹？从《二十世纪缅甸印象》中楊子三的全家照上看起来，她样子还真跟祖母有几分相似。

初步从霞阳获得的信息，楊子三其实也是“昭”字辈，有兄弟叫逢春；父亲名“凱”（也作“改”），据说坟墓在蔡岭，规模很大，很有气派。楊凱是“本”字辈，却又不知他的取名，知道他同样是霞阳楊氏三世希泰公（四房）传下的，但他是不是曾祖楊本铭的亲兄弟，又待考查。据说楊子三后来回到霞阳，有威望还当过族长。

《二十世纪缅甸印象》中楊子三的父亲、妻子，儿子都只记录英文拼音名字。

祖父子贞，英文名为 Soo Seng；逢年子三，英文名为 Choo Sum。同一个“子”字，不同英文拼音。子三的儿子 Chan Hyo 等中的“Chan”和“Chang”很有可能代表“章”即我们父亲那一代的“字辈”，却又不作“Cheang”。这种中文名字罗马符号的不统一，当时极为平常。这固然造成利用跨语文文献研究当代华侨人物一定的困难。

子贞和子三既是同宗兄弟；从英文名字无法联上关系，中文名字虽有一丝线牵，不推究一番，也难还其血缘原貌。

### **Soo Seng and Choo Sum**

Printed in an 1909 issue of a Chinese Business Newsletter, the first table here lists the officers in the First council members of the Myanmar General Chinese Trade Affairs Association. The President was Yeo Choo Sum, who also from Hokkien Haicheng, was of the same age as our grandfather. Our grandfather, listed in column 7 from the right, was an ordinary Council member then. He became the next President after Choo Sum. A photo of Yeo Choo Sum appeared to be a handsome young man in another issue of the same Newsletter. The table also listed the official titles they obtained under the late Qing government.

Arnold Wright had also written about Yeo Choo Sum in his book, <20th Century Impressions of Burma>. Choo Sum's father, Yeo Kay, was a migrant from China in Penang in 1859. He went to Rangoon three years later to establish Heng Moh, a business that dealt with rice, silk and other merchandise. (Our great-grandfather, Yeo Poon Miah, had a stake in Heng Moh.) He became rich and invested in properties. In 1888, he entrusted the business to an agent and went back to live in his hometown (believed to be Xiayang) and came to Rangoon only at the end of every year. His business turned bad later and he died in the hometown. Choo Sum, his fifth son, inherited his properties in Rangoon and took up residence in Rangoon. Choo Sum had two wives, the first being Khoo Him Neoh. Our grandmother was Khoo Tsui Neoh, and hence there is a possibility that they were sisters. From the family photo taken from <20th Century Impressions of Burma>, the lady in the centre does somewhat resemble our grandmother. Choo Sum had four sons, namely, Yeo Chan Hyoke, Yeo Chan Khoon, Yeo Chan Taing, and Yeo Chang Doung。

Our grandfather was Soo Seng while Choo Sum, although had his second Chinese character in his name same as grandfather, took up 'Choo' rather than 'Soo'. The spelling of “Chan” or “Chang” in the second name of Choo Sum’s sons could well be a deviation from the more commonly used “Cheang” as in our fathers’ English names. This rather common lack of standard in spelling Chinese names in Roman characters created much confusion in reconciling persons under discussions written in different languages.

It is now known that Choo Sum was indeed a Xiayang Yeo in the same genealogy level as Soo Seng. Choo Sum later went back to Xiayang and became a head of the Yeo clan. His father who could well be a brother of our great-grandfather, but the father was not known to be following the name of “Poon”.

2015.10.11