

Textual Research on Official Seals of Division Commanders in Qing Taiwan

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ABSTRACT

An official seal is a form of written identification used by officials to authenticate documents. In Qing Taiwan, a division commander was the highest ranking military officer and had to report directly to the Emperor. These reports, archived as imperial palace records, offer valuable historical materials for research on the politics and society of Taiwan under Qing rule. Through examining these records from archives including Grand Secretariat Archives, Tan-Hsin Archives, and Lahodobo Settlement Archives, this article attempts to survey and categorize the official seals imprinted on the historical documents by division commanders of both Taiwan and Penghu in different periods of the Qing era.

Keywords: Taiwan Division Commander, Penghu Division Commander, Official Seal