

## Medical History in Japan

*Historical Significance of the Standardization of Acupoint Locations”, the Second Japanese Acupoint Committee (5) “Detailed Guide to the Location of Acupoints” from the classics to the WHO standardization”, pp411-422, Tokyo, Ishiyaku Publishing, June 2009 (partially revised)*

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(continued from KAIM Journal vol.6 no.1, no.2, no.3 and no.4)

### 4. Secondary standardization – unification on the theoretical level

After the first century and through the spread of metal needles the confusion about meridians and acupoints deepened, so that people were forced to come to a solution through standardization based on the original form of the "Sun Wen" and "Ling Shu". On the other hand the "Sun Wen" and "Ling Shu" describe medical basics in general, but are not necessarily a text specializing in acupuncture and moxibustion.

At this point the theories of that time were organized through the "Hall of Brilliance" (Ming Tang) around the third century, determining as a specialized text of meridians and acupoints the 12 regular and eight extraordinary meridians as well as their 349 acupoints. Figure 6 shows a reproduction of the first volume of the "Huangdi Neijing Mingtang" commented by Yang Shangshan during the early Tang period of the Kamakura period manuscript [8]. The roots go back to the books brought back by Japanese embassies to the Tang court and have later been handed down only in Japan, but were scattered and ultimately lost in China. As can be seen from the Figure, the text of the original reads "The lungs. The lungs have a weight of three jin and three liang, it has two parts divided into six lobes ...", showing that the individual viscera and bowels were described from the point of view of the visceral manifestation theory, detailing meridians, acupoints and finally concrete instructions for acupuncture and moxibustion treatment.

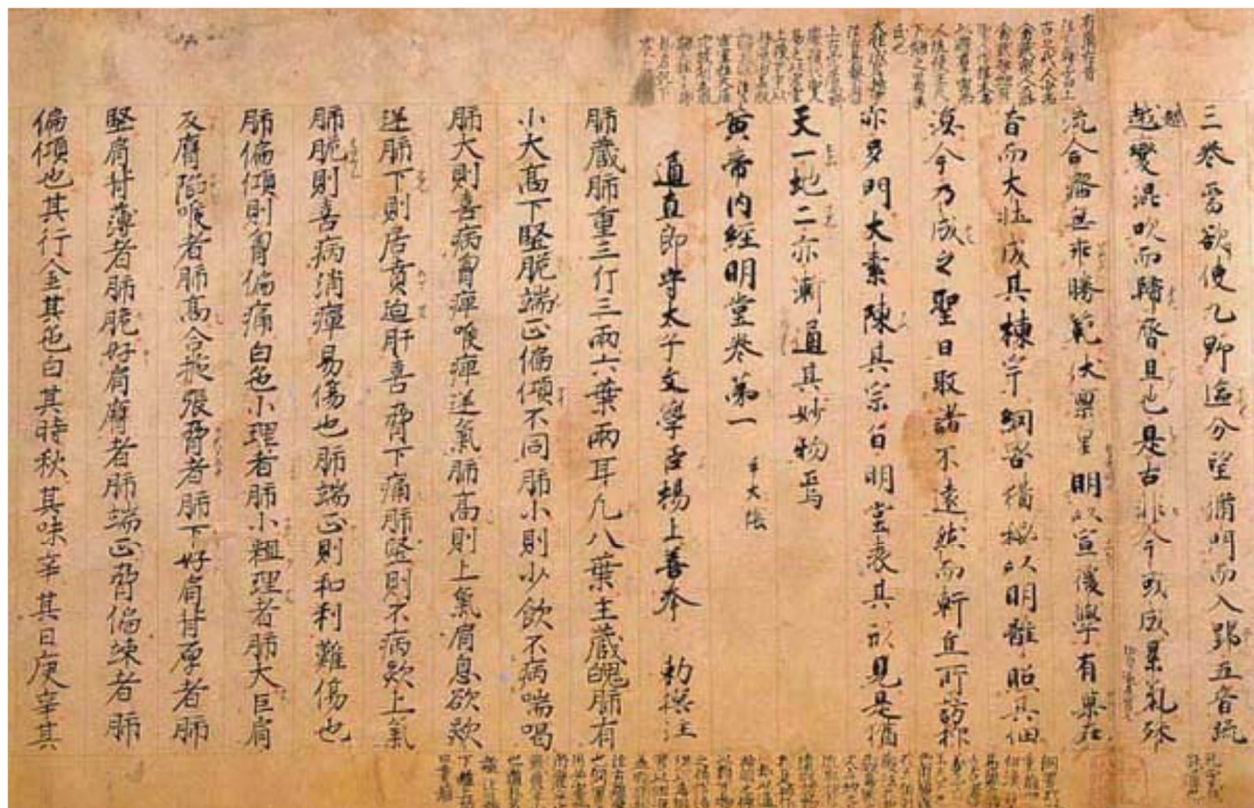


Figure 6 Huangdi Neijing Mingtang with commentaries by Yang Shangshan

Moreover, Anonymous person recompiled the original "Ming Tang" and "Sun Wen" / "Ling Shu" texts specializing on acupuncture and moxibustion, but in the latter half of the 4<sup>th</sup> century in the "Jia Yi Jing" (Systematic Classic of Acupuncture and Moxibustion) not 365 points, but 356 points are listed [9]. Also, using quotes from The first volume of the "Huangdi Neijing Ming Tang" with commentaries by Yang Shangshan transmitted to Japan served and the "Jia Yi Jing" or "Ishinpo", a considerably detailed restoration could be completed through cooperation of China and Japan. Professor Huan Longxiang of the China Academy of Chinese Medical Sciences "Collection of lectures on the Huang Di Ming Tong text" [10] and Hiroshi Kosoto's compilation of the Japan Nei Jing Medical Society's "Huang Di Ming Tong" [11] are the results. Based on those we have now been able to obtain an almost complete view of the second standardization.