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## Chinese seal dictionary

Looking up ancient Chinese seal characters isn't as daunting as some might suggest, even if it's significantly more challenging than searching for modern characters. The key to successful lookup is identifying the radical component of the seal character and finding its corresponding section in a reference book. Unfortunately, there's no foolproof method for determining the radical without prior knowledge, so trial-and-error is necessary. Let's start with the traditional approach and explore how electronic dictionaries can speed up the process: Utilize a paper edition of 說文解字 Shuōwén Jiězì featuring a seal radical index. Note that modern editions often have seal script headwords but use modern characters in their indices. Next, consult an online list of seal radicals to determine the radical's number and find its corresponding section in Shuōwén Jiězì. The radical numbers are equivalent to Shuōwén section numbers, as seen in the 部目 "section headers." Alternatively, use Wenlin software and navigate to List -> D. Shuowen Seal Radicals for a comprehensive list of 540 seal radicals, which can be accessed by clicking on any individual radical. This approach is much faster than searching through Shuōwén Jiězì when you're unsure which component is the radical. This collection includes notable figures from Chinese art, literature, and philosophy, spanning multiple dynasties. Notable artists, intellectuals, and thought leaders are listed alongside their titles, honors, and brief descriptions of their contributions to Chinese culture. Some individuals mentioned include Kong Qianqiu, a renowned seal carver, Li Jian, a painter, and Meng Zhaozhong, a scholar. The list also includes notable figures from various schools and styles, such as the Sangiao/Wumen School, Hui School, and others. The entries are organized alphabetically by surname or title, providing a comprehensive overview of Chinese art and intellectual history during this period. The list appears to be a collection of names associated with Chinese art, particularly calligraphy. The individuals listed are either artists, collectors, or students of notable masters. The entries include dates of birth and death (where known), as well as their schools or affiliations. Some notable mentions include: \* Wu Zizhai (1743-1805) and Xu Sangeng (1826-1890), both associated with the Deng School \* Zhang Daqian (1899-1983), a renowned artist and collector \* Zhao Mengfu (1254-1322), a prominent calligrapher and painter of the Yuan Dynasty \* Zhu Chen, a student of He Zhen and associated with the Hui School \* Ba Weizu, a notable art historian and collector The list also includes several other artists, collectors, and students of notable masters, as well as some who were active during the Ming and Qing dynasties. Some entries are accompanied by additional notes or cross-references to other artists. It's worth noting that the original text appears to be a compilation of biographical information, possibly from various sources such as art historical texts, catalogs, or museum collections. Under this license, the material can be freely used in any medium or format for any purpose, including commercial purposes. The licensor cannot withdraw these freedoms as long as you comply with the terms. You must give credit by mentioning the source and providing a link to the license. You can share the content in any reasonable way, but you should not imply that the licensor endorses your use. If you make changes or modifications, you must distribute them under the same license. There are no additional restrictions on how you can use the material, except for certain exceptions like public domain or limited permissions.