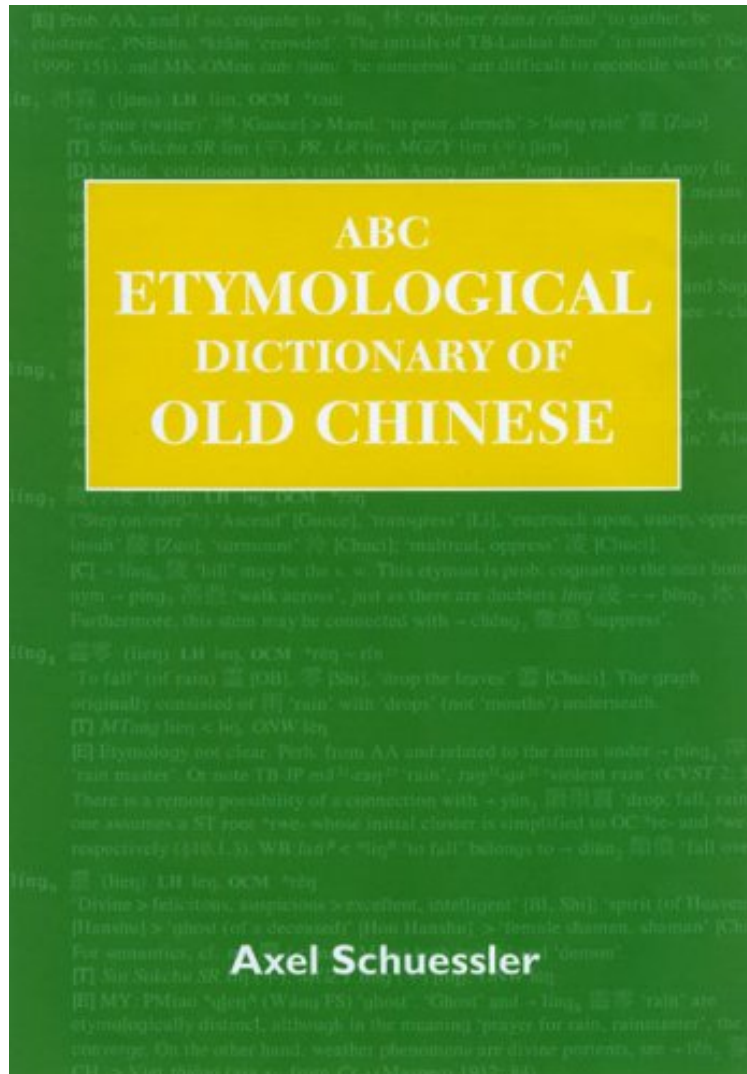


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ABC Etymological Dictionary of Old Chinese (ABC Chinese Dictionary Series)

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Axel Schuessler : ABC Etymological Dictionary of Old Chinese (ABC Chinese Dictionary Series) before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised ABC Etymological Dictionary of Old Chinese (ABC Chinese Dictionary Series):

14 of 15 people found the following review helpful. A godsend! By Bubbha The fact that a dictionary like this is finally available is a wonderful thing for someone like me, fascinated both with the Chinese language and with historical linguistics. Books and online information regarding the historical linguistics of the Chinese language are woefully

inadequate, and those that are available are often poorly researched or chock full of folk etymology. Then along comes this godsend of a book, packed with the findings of numerous scholars and experts in this field, satisfying a great deal of my curiosity. Highly recommended for anyone with an interest in the development of the Chinese language over time. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Four Stars By S. Mitchell Complex but occasionally quite edifying. 0 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Five Stars By Anonymous Rating w/o review

This is the first genuine etymological dictionary of Old Chinese written in any language. As such, it constitutes a milestone in research on the evolution of the Sinitic language group. Whereas previous studies have emphasized the structure of the Chinese characters, this pathbreaking dictionary places primary emphasis on the sounds and meanings of Sinitic roots. Based on more than three decades of intensive investigation in primary and secondary sources, this completely new dictionary places Old Chinese squarely within the Sino-Tibetan language family (including close consideration of numerous Tibeto-Burman languages), while paying due regard to other language families such as Austroasiatic, Miao-Yao (Hmong-Mien), and Kam-Tai. Designed for use by nonspecialists and specialists alike, the dictionary is highly accessible, being arranged in alphabetical order and possessed of numerous innovative lexicographical features. Each entry offers one or more possible etymologies as well as reconstructed pronunciations and other relevant data. Words that are morphologically related are grouped together into "word families" that attempt to make explicit the derivational or other etymological processes that relate them. The dictionary is preceded by a substantive and significant introduction that outlines the authors views on the linguistic position of Chinese within Asia and details the phonological and morphological properties, to the degree they are known, of the earliest stages of the Chinese language and its ancestor. This introduction, because it both summarizes and synthesizes earlier work and makes several original contributions, functions as a useful reference work all on its own.

About the Author Axel Schuessler is emeritus professor at Wartburg College, Iowa.