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Qiaopi from Malaysia as Depository of Social History and Sources of Remittance to China

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Abstract: Since their migration to Malaya, the Chinese had been remitting money to their families in China. Like all Chinese overseas, the idea stemmed from the very impetus of migrating abroad at that time, namely, to earn a living and to send money back home to support their families. The money were sent through various channels and soon, various means or systems were established to help these Chinese to send their money, and to ensure that the money arrived safely. The Qiaopi system was one such system. The system involves the remittance of money through an agent arrangement in their localities where they money could be collected by their families through the agents’ counterparts or companies in China. The system, though precarious in its early days nevertheless developed into the trusted system through which Chinese from Malaya sent their money back home. The remittance of money however, was only part of the story behind Qiaopi in these re-

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