

## **Fantasy and Myth——Writing of Law in “Xin Min Gong An” and “Ju Guan Gong An”**

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### **Abstract**

“Xin Min Gong An” and “Ju Guan Gong An” published in Wan Li 33 and 34 (1605, 1607) are representative works in the transition period of Gong An fictions in Ming dynasty. Following the two-stage development of Yu Xiang Dou’s two Gong An fictions and Ning Jing Zi’s “Xiang Xing Gong An,” editors of these two Gong An fictions continued the progress of literaturization, and after these two Gong An fictions came out the masterpiece in Ming Gong An fictions, “Long Tu Gong An.” The method of writing of these two works is significant as it serves as a link between past and future Gong An fictions in Ming dynasty. Instead of dull recounts of legal documents as in previous Gong An fictions, editors of them made efforts in highlighting fantasy in stories and improving narrative techniques in writing. Stories in both fictions are affiliated in a single official, whose legendary way in law judgment and personality are the focus of fiction, and thus, both fictions almost become legends of heroes. Following these two Gong An fictions, this kind of so-called “bull’s-eye” phenomenon by Hu Xi has gradually become a tradition in Chinese Gong An fictions.

**Keywords:** Xin Min Gong An, Ju Guan Gong An, Gong An fictions in the Ming Dynasty, to Trick and Cajole, Chinese Legal System, Yi Yu Ji, Bull’s-eye