On the Establishment of the T'u Sū 土司 in the Sino-Burmese Frontier in Early Ming Dynasty
By Nobuo KANDA

In the early period of the Ming Dynasty T'u Sū were established in Sino-Burmese frontier i.e. in Mèng Yang 孟養, Mu Pang 木邦, Mèng Tíng 孟定, Ta Hou 大候, Wan Tién 湛甸, etc. This fact is mentioned both in Ta Ming Shih Lu 大明實錄 and Ta Ming I T'ung Chih 大明一統志, but respecting the date of their establishment there is considerable difference between these two sources. Many of the books published in later days follow the statement in I T'ung Chih, and Ming Shih 明史 compromises those two different statements. What makes us more perplexed is one record in Shih Lu, that of March 10 in the 15th year of Hung Wu 洪武. On this very day, it says, Fu 府, Chou 州 and Hsien 順 belonging to the Yün Nan Pû Chêng Shih Sū 雲南布政使司 are established altogether at a time. This establishment, however, is merely the nominal one following the administration under the Yüan 元 Era, at least the Fa established in frontier i.e. in Mèng Yang, Mèng Tíng, Mu Pang, etc. must be only in name and not in reality. For at that time the power of Suù Lûn Fa 思倫發 in Ping Mien 平甸 (Lu Ch'uan 龙川) was so mighty that every T'u Sū in the above districts was under his influence. But in the 30th year of Hung Wu an internal disturbance broke out in Ping Mien and the Ming Army, taking advantage of it, moved to the attack and destroyed that influential power. As a result of this the condition under which T'u Sū set up independently in this region was ready and in fact T'u Sū were established non-officially in the Chien Wên 建文 Era, and Emperor Yung Lè 永樂 recognized them soon after his accession. The date of this recognition is the very one of the establishment of T'u Sū recorded in Shih Lu and the description in I T'ung Chih reporting the establishment in the Hung Wu Era is presumed to be an error.

On the Rhyme 歌 in the Yün Ching (韻鏡)
By Tôru MineYA

Many reexaminations of the phonemic system of the C'hieh Yün have been made after the presentation of Karlberg's brilliant task. Concerning the rhyme 歌, however, it is almost established that the vowel was /a/, opposing to the front vowel /a/ of the rhyme 歌 etc., in Ancient Chinese. A single exception is C. W. Luh's solution that assumes the vowel as /o/. (Luh Chih Wei: The Phonology of Ancient Chinese. Yenching Journal of Chinese Studies. Monograph Series No. 20, 1947) In this respect, the author cannot agree with him, especially from the view-point of the pattern of rhymes that is found in the relation to the upper character of fan ch'ieh (反切上字).

Regarding the vowel of the rhyme 歌 as /a/ in Ancient Chinese, we have to solve the question why the rhymes 歌 and 歌 were arranged in the separate tables in Yün Ching, because, in Yün Ching, it is recognizable that both the rhymes containing /a/ as a principle vowel and the rhymes containing /a/ are arranged in the same table. The author solves the question by the phonetic change of the vowel /a/ > /a/ in open syllables that happened between the C'hieh Yün and Yün Ching, and this way of interpretation should not be restricted within this rhyme only. (cf. the author's article "On the III and IV divisions of Yün Ching" in the Journal of the Linguistic Society of Japan, No. 21)

Moreover, this solution seems to be suggestive to the meaning of 內外轉 denoted in the Yün Ching, for the rhymes 歌 and 歌 are denoted distinctively: the former as 內轉 and the latter as 外轉. But, the question of 外轉 for the group 歌 being not yet solved, a complete interpretation of 外轉 demands further investigations.

Actual State of the Tokharian Studies
By Naoshiro TSUJI

As a continuation of his article: The Designation-problem of the so-called Tokharian Language (1935), the author tries to give a brief survey of the progress in the Tokharian studies since 1935. (1) Designation-problem. The author distinguishes between the established results: (A = Agnean, B = Kuchean) and various pending problems: (uig. týr = týr (Henning) or toýr (Bailey), āryaandra's birthplace = Agniđa (Henning), uig. yaratiš and tokh. A rairū " translate" or " compose"? tokh. A ārš = Tokh. A (Sieg) or skt. ār̥ya (Bailey)? Henning's ār̥ga and āgni, etc.). (2) Position of Tokharian among the Indo-European family of languages (Benveniste, Pedersen, etc.). (3) Texts and translations enumerated so far as known to the author. (4) Grammatical, etymological and lexical studies with special reference to comprehensive works by Pedersen, van Windekens, Krause, etc. (5) Lexicon and glossaries.

The Political Background of the An Lu-shan Rebellion (Concluded)
By E. G. PULLEYBLANK

Li Lin-fu 李林甫, who dominated most of the remaining years before the rebellion of An Lu-shan belonged to the Kuan-chung aristocracy. At first he conflicted with the examination-bureaucrats and removed them by subtle intrigues. As he was well aware of the new focis of power that were being created in the Chieh-tu-shih 簡庶使 armies, he tried to assert his control over the most important of these armies. At the same time he attacked the men who achieved prominence through the roads of military service and finance and brought them to ruin. He advocated a policy of appointing only non-Chinese or men of lower origin as commanders. Not long after Li Lin-fu was at the very peak of his personal power, the men who had been in his instruments began to conspire against him. Yan Kuo-chung 楊國忠 was in the strongest position to do this. He was quickly appointed Chief-Minister, after Li Lin-fu fell ill and died. Then Yang Kuo-chung became at strife with An Lu-shan, who had benefited Li Lin-fu's short-sighted