On the so-called Sino-Khariṣṭi Coins

by Kazuo Enoki

Since its discovery in 1874 by Sir Douglas Forsyth, the so-called Sino-Khariṣṭi coins have been collected and studied by a number of scholars. The conclusions arrived at by R. Hoernle, who studied the coins more systematically than any other else, are generally followed in the academic world. In Hoernle’s opinion, (1) the coins were issued after the coins of Maues, Azes and Azilises, who were of Saka stock and ruled Punjab and its neighbourhood from c. 50 B.C. to c. 80 A.D. and (2) the Guargas or *Gurgas circulated them in Khotan sometime between A.D. 73 and 200, when the region had been under the control of Chinese power. Against Hoernle, F.W. Thomas maintained that the coins were issued either in Yarkand or in Khotan under the rule of Yarkand kings at the middle of the 1st century A.D. when the king of Yarkand was so strong as to control Khotan and many other countries in Chinese Turkestan.

In the present article, the author tried to establish that (1) the so-called Sino-Khariṣṭi coins were issued after the model of coins of Eu克拉底 I (c. 171—155 B.C.), as well as after that of "round coins" of Ch’in 秦, which were circulated before the “fan-liang 半兩” coins came into being and that (2) they were made and used in Khotan and its vicinity sometime between the end of the 2nd century and the beginning of the 1st century, B.C.

The Chün-wang-piao 郡望表 (Lists of County Nobles) in the T’ang Period

by On Ikeda

In recent years, some works of Prof. N. Niida (仁井田陞) and Prof. W. Eberhard have added considerably to the study of the caste system (身分制度) of old China. Their studies of intra-caste marriage (Ebenbürtigkite) in hundreds noble families between the period of the Six Dynasties and the beginning of the T’ang Dynasty especially valuable in the study of the caste system of China, notwithstanding the former regards it as ancient aristocracy, the latter regards it as medieval gentry. The basic data for research on this question is the lists of county nobles found at Tun-huang. However, the qualification of this document as data has been in doubt, with Hsiang Ta (向達) and K. Utsunomiya (宇村宗明) etc. taking the viewpoint that it is the Chên-kuan-Shih-tsü-chih compiled at the order of
the Emperor T'ai-tsung and with Mou Jun-sun (牟潤孫) taking the viewpoint that it was forged by poverty-stricken member of famous nobles with the intention of raising the marriage price.

After an inclusive study of materials concerning to this subject the author reached the following conclusions:

1) The following items discovered at Tun-huang are tables of county nobles which may be called Chiün-wang-piao (lists of county nobles) and have no connection with the Chên-kuan-Shih-tsu-chih (貞觀氏族志).
   A) 位字79號 (incomplete roll copied by a bhiksu Wu-chên in 836 A.D.).
   B) S.5861 (4 fragments) & P. 3191 (incomplete).
   C) S. 2052.
   D) P. 3421 (incomplete).

2) The records of distinguished family-names in many counties contained in the T'ai-p'ing-huan-yü-chi (太平寰宇記), Kuang-yün (廣韻) and Ku-chin-hsing-shih-shu-pien-chêng (古今姓氏書辯證), are also reckoned to have their sources in the lists of same category.

3) On careful comparison with the descriptions of several Sung (宋) bibliographies, we may identify A with the Chou-shih-tsu-p'u (諸氏族譜), and B and the list in T'ai-p'ing-huan-yü-chi with the T'ien-hsia-chün-wang-shih-tsu-p'u (天下郡望氏族譜).

4) These lists of county nobles have neither official nor authentic character, but are the products of popularity, and differentiating into some variations they spread over to wide people.

5) The intra-caste marriage system found in these lists has some reflection of the real circumstances in the former period, but on the other hand we can not deny it include the element of fiction.

6) The origin of these lists perhaps had any connection with the Clan-adjustment policy of Emperor Hsiao-wen of Northern Wei dynasty, and afterwards their diffusion has been continued in the decline period of nobilities.