

On the *Beile* 貝勒 of the Early Ch'ing Dynasty

By Nobuo KANDA

Beile 貝勒 which means the king in Manchu was on a very important position in administration in the early days of the Ch'ing Dynasty. There were various kinds of *beile* and inter-relations among them have been left unknown. The present writer tries to collect and examine as many examples of *beile* as possible from *Man-wên Lao-tang* 滿文老檔, *Shih-lu* 實錄 of the Ch'ing Dynasty and other records of those days, putting focus especially on the study of the real features of the *beile* during *T'ien-ming* 天命 era of T'ai-tsu 太祖 and *T'ien-ts'ung* 天聰 era of T'ai-tsu 太宗. *Beile* in its wider sense denotes *doro jafaha beile* 議政貝勒 (administrative kings) collectively. *Doro jafaha beile* during the two eras numbers sixteen; thirteen sons and grandsons of T'ai-tsu Nurhaci and three sons of Šurgaci his brother. However, only four of them who were important men called *amba beile* 大貝勒 (great king) were given the title of *beile*, and the others were generally given the title of *taiji* 台吉. Among those *taiji* there were four *ajige beile* 小貝勒 (miner king), and in the days of *T'ien-ming* era those eight *beile*—four *amba beile* and four *ajige beile*—were at the same time *hošoi beile* 和碩貝勒 and each governed eight *gūsa* 八旗 or eight banners. In *T'ien-ts'ung* era there often happened the changes of position among *hošoi beile* and there has not been any settled view as to who governed which *gūsa*. The writer tries to make it clear in this article. Of the sixteen *hošoi beile*, ten survived till the end of *T'ien-ts'ung* era. When the era changed to *Ch'ung-tê* 崇德 and new peerage was established, seven of the *hošoi beile* were given the title of *hošoi cin wang* 和碩親王 and the other three *beile*, those of *doroi giyūn wang* 多羅郡王 and *doroi beile* 多羅貝勒.

Slave-nobles in the Early Delhi Sultanate

By Matsuo ARA

Ṭabaqāt-i Nāširi by Minhāj al-Dīn is the most fundamental and important material to know the history of the first-half of the so-called Slave Dynasty. In this book there are described twenty-five *Shamsī maliks* [*Ṭabaqāt* XXII]. Tracing the careers of these maliks—their birth, experiences as slaves in the court of Sulṭān Iltutmish, the process of their promotion in rank, the writer points out the fact that these maliks who were court-slaves (*bandagān-i khāš*) of Iltutmish occupied important positions of the governing class in the reign of the next sultan *Shamsī*. In the next place, the writer investigates how each of these twenty-five men held *iqṭā'*, what role they played in the Provincial Government, and explains their important parts in the party strives. Then, the writer, investigating the reason why these slave-nobles played such an important role under the reign of the Slave Dynasty from the points of view of the characteristics of the court-slaves and the historical background of Delhi Sultanate, explains the historical