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The Contract of Kung-Na 貢納 by Buddhist Monks
during the Li Dynasty: Especially at the End
of Syōi-jong's Reign and in Mun-jong's Reign

By TAGAWA Kōzō

During the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries, there appeared frequently in the Kingdom of Korea economic activities of undertaking the collection of the people's Kung-Na 貢納. This was not being done by contract with individual commoner, but in a far larger scale with several dozen commandaries or prefects as a unit. Accordingly the profit was so large that it meant a heavy compulsory burden for the people.

For almost ten years after 1449 A. D., Buddhist monks exclusively enjoyed the right of contracting Kung-Na. Even merchants and government officials took part in this economic activity either by entrusting the monks with the business or by doing it themselves in the monks' name. These conditions began in 1449 when a part of the right of the contraction was given to the monks who were building a great temple called Cin-koan-sa Syu-ru-sya 津寬寺水陸社 for the purpose of financing its construction.

In this article the author studies the following problems: the process and the change of this economic activity, the worship of Buddhism in the late years of Syōi-jong, the protection of Buddhism by the upper class of nobles, the policy of the government to check the priests' rampancy, the socio-political conditions and governmental finances, and the functions of T'u-thüing 都廳 or the private organization of the royal court for engineering and construction.

Some Problems of the Middle-Mongolian

By MURAYAMA Shichirō

During the preparation of a paper ("Some peculiarities of the Chinese transcription of the Secret History of the Mongols") for the 25th International Congress of Orientalists, Moscow 1960, the author happened to find remarkable coincidences between the linguistic part of the thesis of Prof. Dr. Takashirō Kobayashi *Genchō-hishi no kenkyū* (A study of the *Yuan-ch'ao pi-shi*), Tokyo 1954 and many letters sent by the author to Kobayashi in 1947: the author found accidentally his old note-books which contained the complete manuscripts of these letters and could compare the above mentioned part of the thesis of Dr. Kobayashi with the manuscripts of the letters and confirm that this most important part of his thesis was