

THE TOYO GAKUHO  
(REPORTS OF THE ORIENTAL SOCIETY)

Vol. 54, No. 2

Sept. 1971

The Currency Policy of Ma Yin of the Ch'u Kingdom  
and the Chinese Baner of the Five Dynasties Period

By Kaisaburō Hino

Under the T'ang Dynasty, the then remarkable economic growth of China was largely confined to the narrow strips of land on the banks of the Yellow River, the Grand Canal, the Yangtzekiang and the Han River. One of the lesser kingdoms that inherited relatively backward areas in the succeeding Five Dynasties Period, Ma Yin's 馬殷 Ch'u 楚, as did others, felt that a large stockpile of gold, silver and bronze coins in the government treasury would provide it with the needed financial security, but was handicapped by the scant yield of copper from its mines. Struggling for survival, the kingdom successfully increased its production of silk, cotton and other kinds of fabrics, rice, tea, etc., and expanded their export to North China. To keep up such activities, the Ch'u market badly needed more coins in circulation, while the government had no other means than trying to absorb thoroughly those coins for building up the required reserve. A shrewd financial policy had to be found to solve this dilemma. (To be concluded.)

The Houses of Duke Chou and Duke Shao  
—Some Questions Concerning the Origin of the

Book of *Shao Kao*—

By Masaaki Matsumoto

Not enough has been clarified about the origin of the early part of the *Shu Ching*. In this respect, what needs be determined first may be the relationship between Duke Chou 周公 and Duke Shao 召公, the two principal characters in those books. The two dukes, who used to be considered brothers or kinsmen, have been established by recent researches as the representatives of two tribes that had earlier been subject to the Yin but cooperated with the Chou at the time of the latter's overthrow of the Yin at the end of the eleventh century B.C. The Shao, in particular, joined the Chou camp out of fear that a part of its territory might be confiscated by the Yin.

The earliest part of the *Shu Ching* seems to be based upon the theme of the antagonism between Duke Chou and Duke Shao. Firstly, after the death of King Wu 武王, his younger brother Duke Chou succeeded to the throne as the former's son King Ch'eng 成王 was still a minor, thus

incurring ill feeling of the Chou Clansmen and the tribal chieftains who had supported the Chou. Secondly, the city of Lo i 洛邑, that was built for governing the East after the suppression of the Easterners which had taken place after the death of King Wu, was situated within the sphere of influence of Duke Shao. We learn from the *Shu Ching* and the bronze inscriptions that Duke Shao, who was younger than Duke Chou by more than thirty years, could never contend with the latter on an equal footing as long as the latter was alive. Duke Chou abdicated after seven years in favor of King Ch'eng and died after a little over three years thereafter. This changed the situation for Duke Shao. The earlier books of the *Shu Ching*, the *Lo Kao* 洛誥 and the likes, seldom refer to Duke Shao and ascribe the establishment and government of Lo i to Duke Chou, while such books as the *Shao Kao* 召誥 and the *Chün Shih* 君奭 say that the same city was built by nobody but Duke Shao and that his government was entrusted by King Ch'eng. The present order of the books in the *Shu Ching*, which predates the *Shao Kao* to the *Lo Kao*, is due to still later editing.

The present author reconstructs, from the bronze inscriptions, the process in which Duke Shao, after the death of Duke Chou, deported the latter's descendants to faraway places and took over the control of Lo i. He concludes that the two books, *Shao Kao* and *Chün Shih*, were written to justify Duke Shao's sway over that city.