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The Era of Sima qian (司馬遷) and Qinshihuangdi (秦始皇帝):
The Historical Background of Compilation of
Qinshihuang Benji (本紀) in 'Shiji'

by Kazuyuki TSURUMA

Sima qian the historian compiled the Xia (夏) Yin (殷) Zhou (周) Qin (秦) and Qinshihuang Benji as pre-history of the Han (漢) in order to write the Wudi (武帝) Benji as a modern history. Both Wudi and Qinshihuang's behavior patterns were similar according to Sima qian's account. As Qinshihuang's image in Qinshihuang Benji is unacceptable as the real image, the purpose of this paper is to clarify the real image of Qinshihuang by analyzing the historical background of the writing. Descriptions of Qinshihuang Benji are classified into a chronological section, the traditional section of the Warring States and a section on the legend that Sima qian himself collected from various places. There is no difference in the quantity among chronological descriptions, but Sima qian put legends, inscriptions, imperial edicts and memorials to the Throne in the section of a chronicle with emphasis. We must recognize that Qinshihuang Benji is a Qin history written from a stand-point of Sima qian, seeing how an increased description was inserted. When Sima qian was twenty years old, he visited historic sites and recorded legends of Qinshihuang. Though this trip was not intended to visit the historic sites of Qinshihuang, the route was similar to Qinshihuang's inspection tour. Sima qian attended Wudi as a government official from

the second tour of the total seven tours and during these tours he saw more of Qinshihuang's ruins. Other than these experiences, he referred to a discussion on the history for destinies of Qin dynasty advocated by the bureaucrats in the beginning of the former Han, such as Jiayi (賈誼). But he had initiated an original viewpoint that the era of unified empire is distinguished from the era of Warring State Qin, for he had lived in the era of Wudi. Sima qian had drawn a conclusion to the history of the Qin Empire, dividing it into Qin Benji and Qinshihuang Benji.

Some Problems about the Capital City Qufu of the Lu State

by Hung HSÜ

The ruined city of the Lu State (魯國) in Qufu (曲阜) is one of the capital sites of the main states in the Zhou Dynasty in China. After further research on the relevant archaeological material, the author humbly put forward some new ideas as follows.

(1) The earliest remains among the dwelling sites existed roughly at the first half of the middle Western Zhou period, and the earliest tombs can be dated to the middle Western Zhou period. The deduced time is essentially consistent with the account "Prince Yanggong shifting the capital to Lu (揚公徙魯)", therefore, the capital city of the Lu State cannot be located in Qufu in the early Western Zhou period.

(2) The earliest city-walls of the Lu city confirmed by the materials available at the present were built earlier than the period between the Western Zhou and Eastern Zhou. It seems to eliminate the possibility that there were earlier city-walls under the extant ones.

(3) The narrow rammed-earth walls which were close to the central section of the city shouldn't be city-walls of a palace-city, since the area of the palace far exceeded the limits of the narrow walls. In the Warring States period, a small city (palace-city) which occupied the southwest section of the whole city, had already existed.

(4) To draw a conclusion, it is untenable that the layout of the city should be the primary source of the capital-constructing regulation in *Zhouli Kaogongji* (『周禮』考工記).