

THE TOYO GAKUHO

Vol. 78, Nos. 2-September 1996

(THE JOURNAL OF THE RESEARCH DEPARTMENT
OF THE TOYO BUNKO)

Opium Trade and the Ch'ing Policy to Replace
Indian Opium with Native Opium

by Yōko NIMURA

In 1869, Wen-xiang (文祥) one of the ministers of Tsung-li-Yamen proposed to Rutherford Alcock, H.M.'s ambassador to China, to simultaneously stop the poppy cultivation in India and China. Alcock was deeply impressed by the proposal and at a conference with the Indian Government in February 1870, advised the Indian Government to cooperate with the Chinese Government in exterminating poppy cultivation in both Countries.

Why did Alcock propose to the Indian Government to abandon the opium trade? At that time opium trade had faced two aspects of its historical change. The first is the competition from Chinese opium. To drive out Indian opium by encouraging native product was the policy of Chinese Government. This policy had been already referred to in the famous Xu Nai-ze's (許乃濟) memorial in 1836, but then it had been condemned and rejected by the Emperor. After the Opium War, Li Hung-zhang (李鴻章) insisted on adopting the policy, and encouraged poppy cultivation in China.

The other is the fact that opium trade was being an obstacle to the sale of British manufactured goods in Chinese market. Before 1850's, British manufactured goods could not enter into the Chinese market. But, after 1860, with the monetary support

of colonial banks, British cotton goods could effectively enter the market in China. Many manufacturers thought if opium trade had never existed, China would take more cotton goods. Alcock also recognized opium trade as being prejudicial to the general interest of commerce.

In Britain after 1870, the anti-opium movement had become active. The leaders of the anti-opium activity were Quakers, and they were allied with the manufacturers of Manchester. Alcock was a diplomat who represented the interest of British manufacturers, and who realized the necessity of such a change in opium trade.

The Dinh Family of Gia Hung Prefecture
in the Period of the King Le Thanh Tong:
From the Analysis of the Testament

by Takao YAO

The Dinh family, whose ancestors were the heads of Muong people in Thanh Son sub-prefecture, Vinh Phu province, in north west Vietnam, have handed down a testament dated from the 15th century. Although the Le government instructed on the formation of documents, this testament varies in style from the format.

First, the names of the testators are indicated in this testament, but those of the successors nor are the method of distribution of the property mentioned.

Second, the fixed property was very small, thus the most valuable property was the content of the "Le" (provisions) of the testament, which provided duties of service by the villagers for the head's family and their privilege in the village. In addition, the provisions differed from the condition of the Le society in the Red river delta.

Finally, despite of the differences, the testators made an