

royal prince, while the latter, emphasizing Germany's economic interests with the Qing court, continued to argue for the dispatch of royalty. Although the German minister in China was unable to change the position of the home foreign office's decision, when France announced that it would dispatch an envoy holding the rank of ambassador, the German foreign office gave the ranking diplomat to China permission to submit his credentials to the Qing court as "ambassador." It was in this way that the German foreign office tried to achieve its goals within the framework of inter-European relations.

Regardless of the intentions of the Qing court, it can be said that the funeral procession for emperor Guangxu was turned into an international diplomatic venue by the simple fact that the World Powers arbitrarily decided to dispatch special envoys.

The Mongolian Aristocracy and Institutional Reform in Inner Mongolia
from the Viewpoint of the Relationship between
the Beijing Government and Zhang Zuolin

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During the Qing period, Mongolian banners (旗) and aristocrats (*wanggong* 王公) promoted Chinese immigration to Inner Mongolia. Consequently, the region was largely cultivated and Chinese *xian* 县 districts were demarcated there during the early 20th century. After the 1911 Revolution (辛亥革命), Outer (Khalkh) Mongolia won the right to self-government, but Inner Mongolia remained within the territory of the Republic of China. Traditional governance in post-Revolution Inner Mongolia grew unstable as the Republic of China attempted to set up provinces (省) in the league-banner (盟旗) region, while a portion of the Mongolian *wanggong* opposed such a move. The purpose of this article is to describe how a modernized form of governance was introduced into inner Mongolia, by examining the relationship between the ROC Government, Zhang Zuolin 張作霖 and the Mongolian *wanggong* during the post-Qing Dynasty era.

In July 1921, the Mongolian People's Government was formed in Khalkh Mongolia, despite the fact that the ROC government had ordered Zhang

Zuolin to reclaim the region in the previous May. Then in April 1922, after the outbreak of the First Chihli-Fengtien War (第一次奉直戰爭), Zhang left Beijing and declared the independence of the Three Eastern Provinces (Dong-san-sheng 東三省), after which he began planning the future of Khalkh Mongolia. Meanwhile, the ROC Government and the Bureau of Mongolian-Tibetan Affairs (蒙藏院) planned to hold a conference in March 1924 to discuss how to reclaim Khalkh Mongolia. Representatives of the Mongolian *wanggong* were also invited to participate in discussions over establishing a system of self-defense for Inner Mongolia in relation to reclaiming Khalkh Mongolian.

At the conference, the Bureau asked the Mongolian *wanggong* to join China in its operations to reclaim Khalkh Mongolia, but differences existed among the *wanggong* about autonomy and banner system. It was in this way that the *wanggong* was groping for the modernization of Inner Mongolian between the rule of the Qing Dynasty and new institutions established by the Republic of China. One consequence of the conference was the airing of political differences within the Mongolian aristocracy and of the existence of problems that would not be solved for decades.