

solely by manufacturers, and salt production rights were regarded as valuable assets to be bought and sold, reorganization of the industry by the government would all that more difficult.

After the founding of the Republic of China, the first call for salt administrative reform was made by Xiao Kun 蕭堃, Yunnan's salt commissioner (*yanyunshi* 塩運使), who introduced open market operations and subsidies to manufacturers to improve their refineries. In addition, Xiao argued that cooperative refineries should be built at the salt mines in order to strengthen the supervision of the manufacturers.

As for the Western Powers, free trade in salt was welcomed by Richard Dane, the Foreign Chief Inspector of the Salt Revenue Administration (*jihesuo* 稽核所), based on the reasoning that an open market would expose extractors to the rigors of pure competition.

Meanwhile, Xiao Kun proposed as an alternative to a salt refining public utility, an organization called Wubao 伍保, in which salt refiners were held jointly responsible for supervising each other. Both of these measures were aimed at preventing salt smuggling, while Wubao also promised improvements in law and order. Although Xiao Kun's proposed reforms by no means outright called for the introduction of modern equipment or institutions, the organizational strengthening of salt mines and other local social institutions under government regulation can be said to have aspects in common with Zhang Jian's state-sponsored salt refinery.

The Vagaries of the Sino-Soviet Non-Aggression Pact Negotiations
Following the Manchurian Incident:
Discord over the "Recognition" of Manchukuo

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This article focuses on negotiations conducted between the Republic of China and the Soviet Union during 1931-33 aiming at a non-aggression pact in the midst of an increasing military threat from Japan, an effort that eventually proved unsuccessful.

The research to date on why the negotiations failed has pointed to 1)

misgivings on the part of the Chinese out of fear of a negative reaction from the Japanese and 2) China's frustration over the USSR's decision to sell the Chinese Eastern Railway to the Japanese puppet state of "Manchukuo." The findings reported in this article are intended to contribute to this research by suggesting a different set of Soviet and Chinese attitudes towards "Manchukuo" from what has been argued to date.

It is well-known that the Soviet Union adopted an attitude of appeasement toward Japan in the midst of the shockwaves it experienced in the wake of the Manchurian Incident of September 1931. What is particularly telling about such an attitude is the USSR's deep concern over the provocative actions taken by the Chinese Consul stationed in the city of Blagoveshchensk towards Japan and "Manchukuo," resulting in efforts to ease the situation by demanding that the consul be recalled to "Manchukuo" and recognizing the establishment of a "Manchukuo" Consulate in that same city. Such a decision is worthy of note from the viewpoint of international law, since the act of allowing a foreign country that has not been officially recognized to set up a consulate within one's territory constitutes "de facto recognition." In the case of the Soviet Union, this decision was made by Joseph Stalin, indicating the USSR's supreme leader considered his country's response to "Manchukuo" to have been a top priority issue.

It was in December 1932 that the Chinese and the Soviets announced the renewal of diplomatic relations, immediately followed by the opening of talks aimed at the conclusion of a non-aggression pact. Then in May 1933 China proposed in its draft of the agreement, "Any situation arising from acts of aggression will not be recognized as de jure or de facto." In other words, China was demanding that "Manchukuo" not be recognized by the parties to the agreement.

In response, the Soviet Union struck the article concerning recognition from its draft proposal altogether and called for neutrality in the case of aggression by a third country. The reason for such a position lay in the fact that the USSR had already recognized "Manchukuo," meaning that accepting the Chinese proposal would be like daring to take a risk for the sake of the ROC.

Although China was clearly aiming at strengthening its diplomatic position though the negotiations conducted with the Soviet Union at that time, such

an objective was nullified by the attitude taken by the USSR. Consequently, in November 1933 the decision was made by the Chinese to bring the talks to an unsuccessful conclusion.

Formation of the British Consular Court in Būsa‘īdī East Africa
in the Mid-19th Century

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The East African dominions of the Arab dynasty Būsa‘īdī centering on Zanzibar experienced a commercial heyday in the midst of the flourishing maritime trade of the mid-19th century. Following the entry of North American and European merchants into East African waters beginning in the early part of that century, a Būsa‘īdī-British commercial treaty was concluded in 1839. This article attempts to clarify the yet-to-be-examined process of the establishment of the British consular court in Būsa‘īdī East Africa through an analysis of British Indian sources from two distinct epochs.

The first epoch, dated a few years before and after 1842, marked the arrival of the first British consul in Zanzibar. Through an examination of cases occurred at that time concerning criminal behavior, which was not covered by the treaty, the author finds that both the Būsa‘īdī and British authorities handled the cases with mutual deference, as exemplified by measures taken by the Būsa‘īdī sovereign in one case and the surrender of an Englishman accused of murder. Regarding both criminal and civil cases after that epoch, a custom was being formed based on the principle that a defendant's nationality determined the court of jurisdiction.

The second epoch, dated a few years before and after 1866, was marked by the procedures of the consular court becoming part of English domestic jurisprudence. The demands of the British consular officers who had been forced to determine criminal justice without any ground in English law determined the legislation concerning the consular court at Zanzibar. An increase in both the number of and the amount claimed in civil suits filed at the court after the legislation clearly shows expanding use of the court as an option for the settlement of disputes.