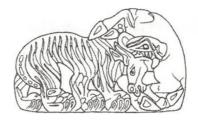
CHINESE SCHOLARS ON INNER ASIA



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CONTENTS

Luo Xin 羅新	
Introduction	xi
Roger Covey	
A Note on the Translations	xix
Wu Yugui 吴玉貴	
Turks in the Gaochang Provisioning Texts	1
Jiang Boqin 姜伯勤	
The Chinese Persia Expeditionary Force as Referenced in the Turfan Documents	41
Zhang Guangda 張廣達	
The Nine Zhaowu Surnames (Sogdians) in the Six Hu Prefectures and Other Places in the Tang Dynasty	59
Rong Xinjiang 榮新江	
The Religious Background to the An Lushan Rebellion	97
Wang Xiaofu 王小甫	
The Establishment of the Khitan State and Uyghur Culture	139
Liu Pujiang 劉浦江 and Kang Peng 康鵬	
The Forenames and Courtesy Names of the Khitans: The Father-Son Name Linkage System from the Perspective of Cultural Anthropology	183

viii	
Cai Meibiao 蔡美彪	
Khitan Tribal Organization and the Birth of the Khitan State	255
Yekemingghadai Irinchin 亦鄰真	
Regarding the Mongol Bo'ol in the 11 th and 12 th Centuries	315
Zhou Qingshu 周清澍	
A Critical Examination of the Year of Birth of Chinggis Khan	331
Han Rulin 韓儒林	
The Kirghiz and Neighboring Tribes in the Yuan Dynasty	353
Chen Dezhi 陳得芝	
The Kerait Kingdom up to the Thirteenth Century	411
Liu Yingsheng 劉迎勝	
A Study of Küšän Tarim in the Yuan Dynasty	463
Luo Feng 羅豐	
Liquor Still and Milk-Wine Distilling Technology in the Mongol-Yuan Period	487
Luo Xin 羅新	
Reflections on the Appellations of Xiongnu Shanyu Titles	519
Yao Dali 姚大力	
From Tribal Confederacy to Ethnic Community: On Historical Changes in Manchu Identity before the Mid-Qing	547

	Contents ix
Maps	605
Chinese-language Primary Sources Cited	613
Bibliography	625
Index	669
Contributors	703

TURKS IN THE GAOCHANG PROVISIONING TEXTS

Wu Yugui 吴玉貴

Six of the nine provisioning texts excavated from the number 307, 329, and 517 Qu 麹 family Gaochang 高昌 era tombs in Astana 阿斯塔那 Turfan had content related to the Turks. The people to whom who provisions were provided included Turkic emissaries of Abo Kehan 阿博珂寒 (Apa Qaghan 阿波可汗), Tanhan Kehan 貪旱珂寒 (Tanhan Qaghan 貪汗可汗), Shuluo Kehan 恕羅珂寒 (Chuluo Qaghan 處羅可汗), Nanxiang Kehan 南 厢珂寒 (the Qaghan of the Southern Wing), and Beixiang Kehan 北厢珂 寒 (the Qaghan of the Northern Wing). A "nephew" is also mentioned, along with the names of iron and gold masters of the Turkic Qaghan. Such records in these texts are not without value to the study of Turkic history and the relationship between Gaochang and the Turks. This paper aims at making preliminary explanations of issues related to the Turks found in these texts.¹

1

In the second, third, and fourth volumes of *Documents Unearthed in Turfan* 吐魯番出土文書 there are over twenty texts whose contents are related to provisioning,² but there are great differences amongst those being provisioned, the contents of the provisioning, and the record-keeping formats. As many parts of the texts are missing, a clear categorization cannot be made. According to my preliminary investigations, the provisioning texts can be divided into two general categories. The first category of those being provisioned is complex, and, apart from guest emissaries, it includes those being provided with "shangxian" 上現 [meaning unknown], those provided with "material for constructing steles," those provided with "garrison troops," etc. Many kinds of food were provided, and, apart from the staples of wheat flour, common millet, broomcorn millet, and wheat bran, the texts also include foods such as meat, meat from animals not slaughtered, liver, lungs,

¹ See Wang Su 王素, "'Documents Unearthed in Turfan,' Evaluation of the First Three Books" 《〈吐魯番出土文書〉前三冊評介》 in *The Study of Chinese History* 《中國史研究》, 1983, no. 2.

² Documents Unearthed in Turfan《吐魯番出土文書》 (Beijing, 1981).