

Review

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became regent, was called "Uncle Prince Regent," and later "Prince Regent Father of the Emperor" (*Doro be aliha han-i ama wang*), Professor Wang believes that his use of the title was connected with his marriage to the Borjigid Empress Dowager. Since the archival record shows conclusively that he began to use the designation "Father of the Emperor" in 1648, one can only agree that he had been granted the title before his death (p. 243) – and not, as stated elsewhere in the article, "before his birth" (p. 233). Unfortunately, despite the interesting use of Chinese and Korean archival sources, this contribution is somewhat convoluted and marred by typographical errors.

The final article is another careful study by Michael Weiers of an edict of the Yung-cheng emperor from 3 January 1723 requiring the return of all imperial memorials

from K'ang-hsi's reign ("Mandschurische Dokumente zu einer neu eingeführten Kanzleipraxis der frühesten Yung-cheng Zeit," pp. 254-270). The edict was promulgated by both the famous general Funingga and the Workshop Superintendent of the Cannon Factory, K'ao-lang, with only a single slight variation, so that it can be assumed they faithfully copied the original Manchu text. A memorial by the Governor of Shensi, Aha Gasitu, from 21 August 1723, reveals how he observed the imperial command to return all memorials with vermilion annotations to prevent their "misuse." The last two memorials are provided in facsimile.

Volume 2 of *Aetas Manjurica* covers a broad spectrum of Manchu Studies. No doubt Volume 3 will continue the tradition.

MICHAEL UNDERDOWN

ĴAQA ČIMEDDORĴI. *Die Briefe des K'ang-hsi-Kaisers aus den Jahren 1696–97 an den Kronprinzen Yin-ch'eng aus mandschurischen Geheimdokumenten. Ein Beitrag zum ersten Dsungarenkrieg der Ch'ing 1690–1697*. Asiatische Forschungen, Bd. 113. Wiesbaden: Otto Harrassowitz, 1991. IX, 345 S., Karten. DM 148.- (HB). ISBN 3-447-03008-9

With this work Dr. ČimeddorĴi advances, and to some extent corrects, our knowledge of the Ch'ing campaigns against Galdan. His study is based on the correspondence between K'ang-hsi and Crown Prince Yin-ch'eng contained in the collection of Manchu documents published in Taipei in 1977 under the title *Kung-chung-tang K'ang-hsi-ch'ao tsou-che* (Secret Memorials From the K'ang-hsi Period). While these letters do not enable us to "gauge the dimensions of (the emperor's) mind" to the extent possible in Jonathan Spence's masterly *Emperor of China. Self-Portrait of K'ang-hsi*, they nevertheless convey a good idea of the emperor's views on the conduct of the campaigns. This study has the added advan-

tage of providing the texts in scholarly transliteration, accompanied by translations (into German), comprehensive notes, and commentaries.

For one hundred years after the submission of the Qalqa Mongols in 1691 (the Southern Mongols had already submitted in 1635), the Manchus were engaged in war against the Oirat (Öled), or West Mongols. The present work deals with the three campaigns mounted in 1696–1697 by the Ch'ing against the Jungar (*ĴegunĴar*), one of the four Oirat tribes.

Of course, these campaigns have been the subject of many studies in the past, a number of them based on Manchu or Mongolian sources. An early instance was Wal-

ter Fuchs' "Galdanica. Miscellen zum Kriege Kanghsi's gegen Galdan" in volume 9 (1944) of this journal. Other scholars in the field have included Okada Hidehiro, Walther Heissig, Veronika Veit and I.Ja. Zlatkin, while Michael Weiers published the emperor's own summary (*hergin sóshon*) of the collection of records concerning the campaigns in the northwest (Erich Haensch, *Historische Mandschutexte*, Hrsg. Michael Weiers. *Asiatische Forschungen*, Bd. 29. Wiesbaden: Otto Harrassowitz, 1970).

Čimeddorji provides a good survey of this earlier research, as well as a very useful commentary on the records and archival practices of K'ang-hsi's reign (pp. 15-41). In 1678 (p. 50; 1679: p. 56), having become the undisputed leader of the Jungars, Galdan was rewarded with the title "qan" by the 5th Dalai Lama. The same year he sent a mission to K'ang-hsi, seeking recognition. The Ch'ing were occupied at the time with rebellions in the south and were at first not overly concerned about the emergence of this new West Mongol force. However, when the Jungars began to interfere in Qalqa affairs a decade later, the emperor decided that Galdan represented a threat to China.

Accordingly, his generals and advisers were asked to draw up plans for Galdan's defeat. The Ch'ing had not hitherto undertaken such a distant campaign (Galdan was based in Qobdo at the time), but the emperor planned a three-prong attack and promulgated detailed orders concerning transport, provisions, and stores. General Fiyangu, one of the few military commanders who supported the campaign, was entrusted with the Western Army, which was to advance from Köke qota and Ningxia to Tula. General Sabsu was in command of the Eastern Army. This was to prevent any Jungar push to the east. The emperor himself led the Central Army,

which was to swiftly advance to the Kerülün. Detailed itineraries and maps of this, and the two subsequent campaigns against Galdan, are contained in appendices.

In the course of the first campaign (1 April – July 1696) K'ang-hsi wrote 32 letters to his son Yin-ch'eng. These dealt with the weather in Mongolia, the state of the horses supplied by the Ministry of War, with scientific observations, and with the military operations themselves. The following extracts give the tone of the letters and reveal something of the emperor's character:

"On the 15th, we set out early in the morning and as we got under way a south-east wind suddenly sprang up, it poured down and then there was a big snow-storm. The cold was quite terrible." [Letter No. 3]

"There are really days when, in the early morning, one's beard is frozen stiff." [Letter No. 8]

"Only the horses belonging to the Ministry of War are not up to scratch." [Letter No. 7]

"If one measures the Polar Star with the instrument (sextant) at the border post, it is 5 degrees higher than at the capital." [Letter No. 8]

"In this place there is absolutely nothing. Only sand and stones. After we ... had let the young imperial eunuchs collect stones, and had sieved them under water and chosen some, I sent you a box of various kinds of coloured stones." [Letter No. 15]

"We are constantly sending out scouts, gathering information and rounding up the stragglers." [Letter No. 9]

"As we looked out, the West Route troops had already occupied the heights and thus had a geographical advantage. The Öled seized a small spur at the base of the mountain and faced them on foot. The large force (the Ch'ing troops) was also on foot and fired its cannons and guns. They mar-

ched very orderly and silently ... When they were only ten double paces from us the arrows came down like rain and driven snow." [Letter No. 25]

This last passage is from a description of the battle at Jayun Modu, in which K'ang-hsi quotes an Oirat deserter. Contrary to some earlier opinion, Galdan did not die here, but "fled with a total of only ten followers in the direction of the forest at Sangkur Sekiyen" (Letter No. 28). J. Spence describes these events as follows:

"Galdan fled into our trap, and was met by Fiyanggu at Jao Modo. They fought there for four hours over a distance of 30 *li*. But though over two thousand Ölöds were killed, Galdan himself escaped. Then from prisoners we learned ... how they had issued a false prophecy in the dead Dalai Lama's name: 'Galdan will be successful if he goes to the east.' And so I took another army that autumn, and marched west to Kuei-hua-ch'eng ..." (*op. cit.*, Penguin ed., p. 21).

During this second campaign, which lasted from 14 October 1696 to 12 January 1697, K'ang-hsi continued his correspondence with Yin-ch'eng. The eleven letters chosen by Čimeddorji from this campaign deal with such matters as Ch'ing policy, hunting and Galdan's relations with the lamaist hierarchy in Tibet.

When one reads them (14 seized letters destined for the Dalai Lama, Diba and Mongol princes in Köke Nor) one discovers that he (Galdan) has completely failed to mention the fact of his defeat and exhaus

tion (Letter No. 40). As Spence writes (pp. 21-22): "Again Galdan eluded us, and the following spring I pursued him for a third time, marching west to Ninghsia. ... I told him (General Wang Hua-hsing) ... let's cancel the hunt and rest the horses, and then go hunting Galdan. How about that?"

The thirteen letters chosen from the fifty written by the emperor on the third, and final, campaign (26 February 1697 - 4 July 1697) deal with the military plans, the capture of Galdan's son Sebtenbaljur, K'ang-hsi's return and the news of Galdan's death.

"Today, on the 4th, towards evening, Galdan's son Sebten Baljur arrived. He looks very small and ordinary." [Letter No. 46]

"On the 18th ... I discovered through lengthy personal questioning that Galdan's death is a fact, and that he took poison and committed suicide." [Letter No. 55]

Although Galdan's death signalled the end of K'ang-hsi's campaign, the Jungars were not finally defeated until 1775.

As mentioned above, this work consists of more than simply the texts of the letters and their translations. The bibliography, notes, and commentaries are very detailed and will be useful to all scholars interested in the Oirat in particular, and in this period of Ch'ing history in general. It is remarkably free of mistakes, the duplication of page 65 being an exception. Altogether, this is a valuable contribution to the history of the West Mongols.

MICHAEL UNDERDOWN

ALICE SÁRKÖZI. *Political Prophecies in Mongolia in the 17-20th Centuries*. Wiesbaden: Otto Harrassowitz, 1992. *Asiatische Forschungen*; Bd. 116 / *Bibliotheca Orientalis Hungarica*; Bd. 38. 165 S. DM 88.- (HB). ISSN 0571-320X. ISBN 3-447-03234-0

Bis zur Zeit der sogenannten Kulturrevolution Chinas wurden Prophezeiungen über bevorstehende Katastrophen oder das Ende der Welt mit starkem politischem Akzent in