

Ch'in-Ting Hsi-Yü T'ung-Wen-Chih
欽定西域同文志
With Regard to Place Names of Eastern
Turkestan

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Abstract: “Ch'in-Ting Hsi-yü T'ung-wen-chih 欽定西域同文志” written in 18th Century contains important information about Asia and the Silk Road. The source examines many names of places, hills, mountains, rivers and lakes in Manchu, Chinese, Mongolian, Tibetan, Kalmyk and Uighur and deals with the etymology of them. Although the source was written very late, it is based on very ancient sources and we can find out rare information in paces. The source will be examined on the way of critical view with regard to place names in Eastern Turkistan and it will be discussed to inquire about availability. In this process, we will also apply some Chinese dynastic annals especially Shih Chi, Han Shu, Hou Han Shu, Wei Shu, T'ang Shu and historical and geographical sources especially Shang Hai Ching, T'ung Tien, Tzu Chih T'ung Chien, T'ai P'ing Yü Lan, Ta-T'ang Hsi-yü-chi, Ch'in-ting Huan-hsing Hsi-yü T'u-chih.

Key Words: Ch'in-Ting Hsi-yü T'ung-wen-chih, Eastern Turkistan, Place Names, Etymology, Silk Road

Ch'in-Ting Hsi-yü T'ung-wen-chih 欽定西域同文志 (HYTWC) was published in the 28th reign year of ch'ien-lung of Chinese Emperor Kao Ts'ung (1755). It contains lots of valuable information about place names of Eastern Turkistan. Some of the information recorded in the book cannot be found in any other sources. Especially etymologic analyses of it are essentially “folk etymology” and in this regard we see that source was written after a profound field research step by step.

The book contains 24 volumes: Volume 1-3 is about place (settlement) names, volume 4 is about names of mountains and hills and volume 5-6 is about names of rivers and lakes in Eastern Turkestan and Jungaria. Other volumes involve persons in region and names of places, waters and hills in Koke Nor and Tibet. For we are interested in toponymy of Eastern Turkistan, we will analyze only first six volumes. We handled Toyo Bunko copy of the source, published in Tokyo in 1963. We also applied transcription table of Mongolian, Tibetan and Kalmyk names prepared by editors of Toyo Bunko copy.

Firstly we should begin to examine sources of HYTWC.

I. Sources:

Sources of HYTWC are variable. They begin from 4th Century BC to AD 18th Century. Most of the information derived from them is about geographical and historical facts. Especially “Hsi-yü” (namely “Western Regions or Lands”) chapters of annals are mostly used. In

addition “Ti-li-chih” (namely “Geographical Records”) chapter of Hsin T'ang Shu 新唐書 (AD 945) gives correct and exact information. Hsi-yü T'ung-wen-chih is substantially a work of historical geography and surely used some ancient geography books like Shan Hai Ching 山海經 (4th Century BC). For HYTWC based on “folk etymology”, it referred some sources for geographical and historical facts. Basically there are very rare (most of times nothing about it) etymologic analyzes in referred sources. So we understand that etymologic analyzes created from field research. Nevertheless referred or non-referred written sources of it certainly are very important. Written sources recorded in HYTWC are listed below:

Shan Hai Ching 山海經 (4th Century BC) (HYTWC;
IV/1a-1b-2a, VI/10b-12a)

Shih Chi 史記 (109-91 BC) (HYTWC; VI/10b-12a,
VI/21b-22a)

Han Shu 漢書 (AD 111) (HYTWC; I/6a, I/6a-6b, I/7a-7b,
I/22a-23a, II/1a-1b-2a, II/5a-6a, II/7a-7b-8a, II/12a-13a, II/12b-13a,
II/14a-14b, II/15a-15b, II/15b-16a-16b, III/1a-2a, III/9b-10a, III/14a-15a,
III/23b-24a, III/25b-26a, III/27a-27b, III/28a-28b et seq.)

Hou Han Shu 後漢書 (AD 5th Century) (HYTWC; I/6a,
II/1a-1b-2a, II/5a-5b-6a, II/7a-7b-8a, II/15a-15b)

Wei-lüeh 魏略 (AD 239-265) (HYTWC; II/12b-13a,
II/14a-14b, III/1a-1b-2a, III/27a-27b)

San Kuo Chih 三國志 (AD 3rd Century) (HYTWC;
III/27a-27b)

Shui Ching Chu 水經注 (AD 3rd Century) (HYTWC; IV/35b-36a, VI/9b-10b, VI/10b-12a, VI/14a-14b, VI/15a-15b, VI/15b-16a, VI/17a-17b, VI/19a, VI/21b-22a)

Kuo P'u 郭璞's (AD 276-324) annotations (注) for Shan Hai Ching 山海經 (HYTWC; VI/10b-12a)

Hou Han Shu 後漢書 (AD 5th Century) (HYTWC; I/6a, I/7a-7b, II/1a-1b-2a, II/5a-6a, II/7a-8a, II/15a-15b, III/14a-15a, III/23b-24a, III/28a-28b, III/29a-30a, IV/3b-4b, V/1a-1b, VI/10a-10b)

Wei Shu 魏書 (AD 551-554) (HYTWC; I/22a-23a, II/1a-2a, II/5a-6a, II/13a-13b, II/15b-16b, III/1a-2a, III/18b-19b, III/23b-24a, III/27a-27b, III/29a-30a, IV/3b-4b, IV/6b, IV/10b-11a, IV/26a-27a, VI/10a-10b, VI/15a-15b, VI/22a-22b)

Sui Shu 隋書 (AD 636) (HYTWC; I/18b-19a, I/22a-23a, II/12a-13a, II/16b-17b, IV/6b, IV/10b-11a, IV/14b)

Pei Shih 北史 (AD 643-659) (HYTWC; III/14a-15a)

T'ung Tien 通典 (AD 801) (HYTWC; IV 1a-2a)

Yüan He Chih 元和志 [元和郡縣圖志] (AD 813) (HYTWC; V/1a-1b)

Chin Kao Chü Hui Shih Yü T'ien Chi 晉高居誨使于闐記 (AD 938) (HYTWC; VI/22a-22b, VI/23a)

Hsin T'ang Shu 新唐書 (AD 1060) (HYTWC; I/6a, I/14a, I/16b-17a, I/18b-19a, I/22a-23a, I/24a-24b, I/24b-25a, I/25b-26a, I/27b-28a, I/30a-30b, I/33b-34a, I/37b-38a, I/38a-38b, I/38b-39a, II/1a-2a, II/7a-8a, II/12a-13a, II/15b-16b, II/16b-17b, II/23b-24a et seq.)

I-t'ung-chih 一統志 [大清一統志] (AD 1686) (HYTWC; IV 1a-2a)

Su-chou Hsin-chih 肅州新志 (AD 1738) (HYTWC; II/7a-7b)

Hsi-yü T'u-chih 西域圖志 : It was published in the 20th reign year of ch'ien-lung of Chinese Emperor Kao Ts'ung (1755). Although there is no citation of it in Ch'in-Ting Hsi-yü T'ung-wen-chih 欽定西域同文志, some marks show us that Hsi-yü T'ung-wen-chih derived some information from the Hsi-yü T'u-chih that was written eight year earlier than it was. In addition, Hsi-yü T'ung-wen-chih supplemented Hsi-yü T'u-chih in many aspects. It is also important for us because it based on lost book Hsi-yü T'u-chih 西域圖志 that was written in the reign of T'ang Emperor Kao Ts'ung (650-684).

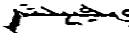
II. Classification of Place Names Recorded in the Source:

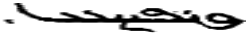
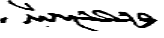
Place names in Hsi-yü T'ung-wen-chih are numerous and very complex. Though we can classify these names in accordance to the principle of toponymy, they can be separated into two groups: Physical and human elements. These two groups have subdivisions. Of course, these are not exact classifications and they can be reduced or added and changed.

A. Physical Elements:

1. Plants:

Bedehlik

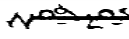
Man.: *Bedelik* ; Chin.: *Po-te-li-k'e* 伯得里克;

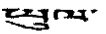
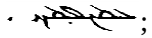
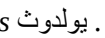
Mon.: *Bedelig* ; Tib.: *Pe Te Lig* ; Kal.: *Bedeliq* ; Tur.: *Bedehlik* .

The name is Uighur Turkic. “Po-te” (bedeh) is “clover”. Here clover plants are plentiful. Therefore, this name was given (HYTWC; I/37b-38a).

2. Waters:

Yulduş

Man.: *Yulduş* ; Chin.: *Yü-le-tu-szu* 裕勒都斯;

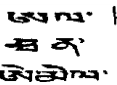
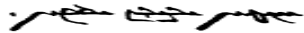
Mon.: *Yulduş* ; Tib.: *Yul Tus* ; Kal.: *Yulduş* ; Tur.: *Yulduş* .

The name is Uighur Turkic. It means “star”. Here, eyes of spring look like stars (HYTWC; I/24b-25a).

3. Earth Features:

Altan Emegel Ayula

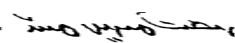
Man.: *Altan emel aola* ; Chin.: *A-le-t'an-e-mo-le-e-la* 阿勒坦額墨勒鄂拉; Mon.: *Altan Emegel Ayula*

; Tib.: *Al Than E Mel Au La* ; Kal.: *Altan emel uula* ; Tur.: *Altan Amal Aula*  . .

The name is Jungar Mongolian. “E-mo-le” (emegel) is “horse saddle”. The Color of mountain is golden and the shape of it looks like horse saddle. Therefore, this name was given (HYTWC; IV/22b-23a).

4. Rock:

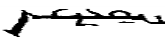
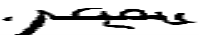
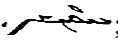
Sunk Taş Tak

Man.: *Sung Taşı Tak* ·  ; Chin.: *Sung-t'a-shih-t'a-k'e* 松塔什塔克 ; Mon.: *Süng Taşı Tay*
 ; Tib.: *Sung Tha Shi Thag*  ; Kal.:
Sung Taşı Tay ·  ; Tur.: *Sunk Taş Tak* ثونك تاش تاك .

The name is Uighur Turkic. “Sung” (sunk) means a towering position. There are border stones that look like tower; they are erecting to the heaven on mountain. Therefore, this name was given (HYTWC; IV/32b).

5. Animal Species:

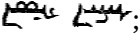
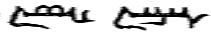
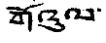
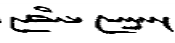
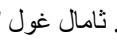
Gulca

Man.: *Gulja* ·  ; Chin.: *Ku-le-cha* 固勒扎 ; Mon.:
 ;
γulja ·  ; Tib.: *Gul Ca*  Kal.: *γulža* ·  ; Tur.:
Gulca غولجا .

The name is Jungar Mongolian. That name was given to argali sheep. Many sheep is fed in that area. Therefore, this name was given. Formerly it was called “Ku-erh-cha 固爾扎” (HYTWC; I/22b).

6. Beverage:

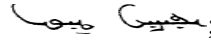
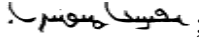
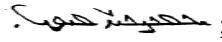
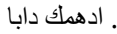
Samal Göl

Man.: *Samal Gool* ' ; Chin.: *Sa-ma-le-kuo-le* 撒瑪勒 郭勒; Mon.: *Samal γool* ' ; Tib.: *Sa Mal Goul*  ; Kal.: *Samal γol* ' ; Tur.: *Samal Göl* .

The name is Uighur Turkic. “Sa-ma-le” (samal) means the first milk of a mare after has kitten. River’s water tastes like it. Therefore, this name was given (HYTWC; V/24a-24b).

7. Food:

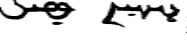
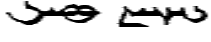
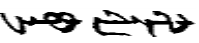
Edehnek Daba

Man.: *Edemek Daba* ' ; Chin.: *E-te-mo-k'e-ta-pa* 額得墨克達巴; Mon.: *Edemeg Dabaya* ; Tib.: *E*    ; Kal.: *Edemeq Daba* ; Tur.: *Edehnek Daba* .

The name is Burut Mongolian. “E-te-mo-k’e” (edehmek) is kind of cake (HYTWC; IV/6b).

8. Color:

Qızıl Buyi

Man.: *Hesel Bui* ' ; Chin.: *He-se-le-pu-i* 赫色勒布伊; Mon.: *Kesel Bui* ' ; Tib.: *He Sel Pu I*  ; Kal.: *Kesel Bui* ; Tur.: *Qızıl Buyi* .

The name is Uighur Turkic. “Pu-i” (buyi) means a land located on border. The color of land is close to red. Therefore, this name was given (HYTWC; III/16a).

9. Direction:

İlgün Qabçıyay yool

Man.: *Jun Habcigai Gool* **چاۋچىن جىل**; Chin.: *Chun-ha-pu-ch'i-kai-kuo-le* 準哈布齊垓郭勒; Mon.: *jegün Qabçıyay yool*

; Tib.: *Cun Hab Chi Gai Goul* ; Kal.: *žöön Xabçiğai yol* , ; Tur.: *Cun Xabçigay Göl* جون خابجیغای غول .

The name is Jungar Mongolian. “Chun” (jegün) means “east”. Snaking river flows eastward. Therefore, this name was given (HYTWC; V/32a).

10. Mines:

Xaşmak Bulaq

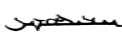
Man.: *Haşimak Bulak* 哈什馬克布拉克; Chin.: *Ha-shih-ma-k'e-pu-la-k'e* 哈什馬克布拉克; Mon.: *Qaşımay Bulay*

ᲛᲗᲚᲙ ᲕᲱᲃᲠ; Tib.: Ha Shi Mag Bu Lag ཧ་ཤི་མག་བུ་ལག; Kal.:
Xaşimaq Bulaq . خاشماق بولاق; Tur.: Xaşmak Bulaq خاشمك بولاق

The name is Uighur Turkic. “Ha-shih-ma-k’e” (xaşmak) refers to a place where contains jade (HYTWC; VI/2b-3a).

11. Location:

Astin Aratuş

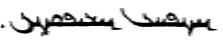
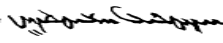
Man.: *Asteng Aratuşi* ; Chin.: *A-szu-t'eng-a-la-t'u-shih* 阿 斯 騰 阿 喇 圖 什; Mon.: *Asteng Aratuşi*

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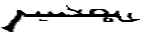
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.  . Tib.: *As Theng A Ra Thu Zhi* ཨ་ས་ཐེང་ཨ་ར་ཐུ་ཞི ; Kal.:
 ; Tur.: *Astin Aratuş* اثتين ارتوش .

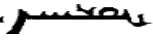
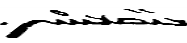
The name is Uighur Turkic. “A-szu-t’eng” (astin) means “low place”. Mouth located on down mountain is “a-la” (ara) namely “intermediate” and “t’u-shih” (tuş, sc. “düz”) means village. This place located thereabouts at the foot of the mountain and near the village (HYTWC; III/14a-14b).

12. Capacity:

Qurgan

Man.: *Horgan* ; Chin.: *Huo-erh-kan* 霍 爾 干;

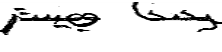
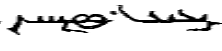
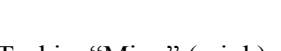
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Mon.: *Qoryan* ; Tib.: *Hor Gan* ཨོར་གན ; Kal.: *Xoryan*
 ; Tur.: *Qurgan* قورغان .

The name is Uighur Turkic. It means “little city” (HYTWC; III/15b).

13. Number:

Mink Bulak

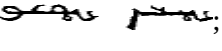
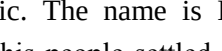
Man.: *Ming Bulak* ; Chin.: *Ming-pu-la-k'e* 明布拉克; Mon.: *Ming Bulay* ; Tib.: *Ming Pu Lag* 
; Kal.: *Ming Bulaq*  Tur.: *Mink Bulak*  .

The name is Uighur Turkic. “Ming” (mink) means “a thousand”. Here there are many eyes of spring. Therefore, this name was given (HYTWC; V/37b-38a).

B. Human Elements

1. Nation, Tribe or People:

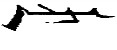
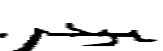
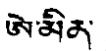
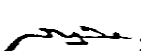
Xara Xucu

Man.: *Hara Hojo* ; Chin.: *Ha-la-he-cho* 哈喇和卓; Mon.: *Qara Qojo* ; Tib.: *Ha Ra Ho Gro* 
; Kal.: *Xara Xojo* ; Tür.: *Xara Xucu*  .

It is Uighur Turkic. The name is Ha-la-he-cho (Kara Hoca) people's name. Formerly this people settled down here. Therefore, this name was given (HYTWC; II/7a-7b).

2. Personal Name:

Emin

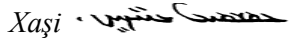
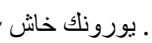
Man.: *Emin* ; Chin.: *E-min* 額敏; Mon.: *Emin* ; Tib.: *E Min* ; Kal.: *Emin* ; Tur.: *Emin*  .

The name is Uighur Turkic. It means “reliable”. There are many people bearing this name among Uighurs. A personal name was given to this place (HYTWC; I/17a-17b).

3. Economical Activity:

Yurunk Xaş

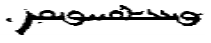
Man.: *Yurung Haşi* ; Chin.: *Yü-lung-ha-shih* 玉隴哈什; Mon.: *Yurüing Qaşi* ; Tib.: *Yu*

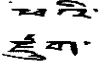
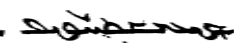
Rung Ha Zhi ; Kal.: *Yurung Xaşi* ; Tur.: *Yurunk Xaş* . يورونك خاش.

The name is Uighur Turkic. “Yü-lung” (yurunk) means “come to pick up”. Uighur people picks up jade here. Therefore, this name was given (HYTWC; III/30b).

4. Religion:

Bayzu Abad

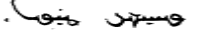
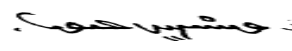
Man.: *Baidzu Abat* ; Chin.: *P'ai-tsu-a-pa-t'e* 牌租阿巴特; Mon.: *Bayiju Abad* ; Tib.: *Pai Dzug*

Pad ; Kal.: *Payizuqbad* ; Tur.: *Bayzu Abad* . بانزو اباد.

The name is Uighur Turkic. “P'ai-tsu” (bayzu) means “endowment of Allah” and “a-pa-t'e” (abad) means “cheerful”. Uighur people say that they are there thanks to Allah (HYTWC; III/15a-15b).

5. Historical Event:

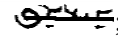
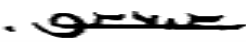
Sar Bagaş Daba

Man.: *Sar Bagaşi Daba* ; Chin.: *Sa-erh-pa-ka-shih-ta-pa* 薩爾巴噶什達巴; Mon.: *Sar Bayaşi Dabayā* ; Tib.: *Sar Pa Ga Shi Ta Pa* ; Kal.: *Sar Bayaşi Dabayā* ; Tur.: *Sar Bagaş Daba* . ثار باغاش دابا

The name is Burut Mongolian. “Sa-erh” (sar) means “to split or to chop” and “pa-ka-shih” (bagaş) means “wrist”. Rumor has it that Burut Mongols fought down the hill and defeated their enemy. Therefore, this name was given (HYTWC; IV/15a-15b).

6. Tombs:

Ç erçü

Man.: *Cercu* ; Chin.: *Ch'e-erh-ch'u* 車爾楚; Mon.: ; Tib.: *Khrer Chu* ; Kal.: *Ç erçu* ; Tur.: *Ç erçu* . چرچو

The name is Jungar Mongolian. It means avoidance or taboo. Here there are many ancient tombs. Most of deaths stemmed from illness. Therefore, this name was given (HYTWC; II/15a).

7. Ancient Remaining Buildings:

Tosar

Man.: *Tosar* 托薩爾; Chin.: *T'o-sa-erh* 托薩爾; Mon.:
Tosar 托薩爾; Tib.: *Tho Sar* ཐོ་སར་; Kal.: *Tosar*
 . 托薩爾; Tur.: *Tosar* توئار.

The name is Uighur Turkic. That is kind of fortification and advocacy. Ancient inhabitants of there built it. Therefore, this name was given (HYTWC; I/33a).

8. Others:

Ö y Tehtir

Man.: *Oi Teter* 韋特特爾; Chin.: *Wei-t'e-t'e-erh* 韋特特
 爾; Mon.: *Oi Teter* 韋特特爾; Tib.: *Oi The Ther* འོ་ཐེ་ཐེར་; Kal.: *Oi*
Teter 韋特特爾; Tur.: *Ö y Tehtir* اوی تهتیر.

The name is Uighur Turkish. This place is down below and there are a few houses (HYTWC; III/7a-7b).

III. Statistical Graphics:

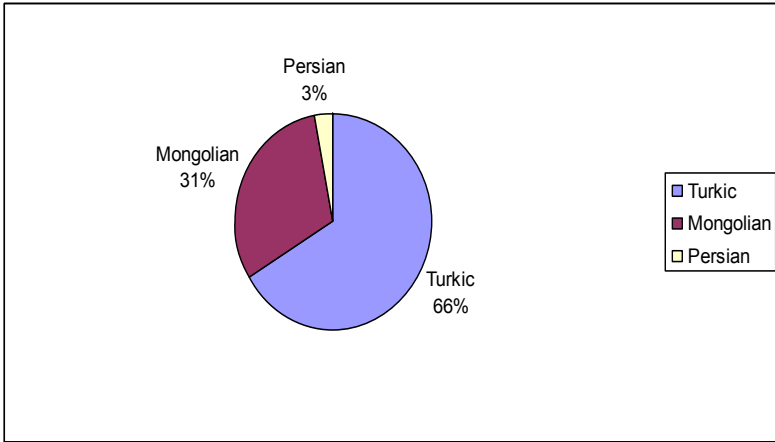
1. Settlements:

Turkish: 277 (Uighur Turkic: 274+Kazakh Turkic: 3)

Mongolian: 129 (Mongolian: 23+Jungar Mongolian: 103+Burut Mongolian: 3)

Persian: 13

Total: 419

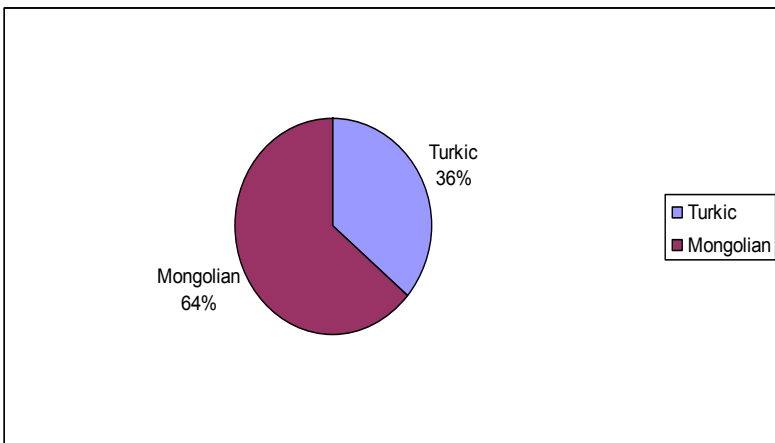


2. Mountains and Hills:

Turkic: 52 (Uighur Turkic)

Mongolian: 91 (Mongolian: 17+Jungar Mongolian: 74)

Total: 143



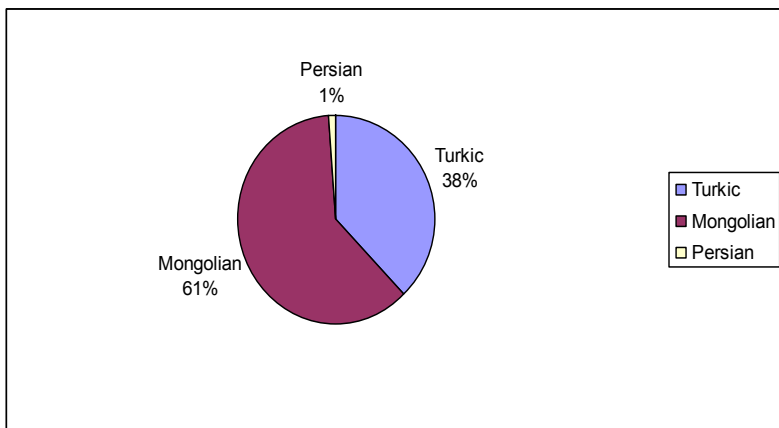
3. Rivers and Lakes:

Turkic: 96 (Uighur Turkic 95+Kazakh Turkic 1)

Mongolian: 155 (Jungar Mongolian 129+Mongolian 22+Burut Mongolian 4)

Persian: 3

Total: 254



Conclusions:

Hsi-yü T'ung-wen-chih is a geographical source that is very important for history and geography of Eastern Turkistan. Nonetheless, it can be criticized in many ways.

Firstly, its some provisions about the national origins of names are very superficial and some times wrong. For example in the explanation of the name of “Uruy Calatu”, source says: “The name is Jungar Mongolian. “E-lei” (oroi) means “mighty”” (HYTWC; I/13a-13b). However, we know, nowadays, that “ulu” namely “mighty” is Turkic word from the time of Asian Huns (Pulleyblank, 1990, p. 25; Yildirim, 2010, p. 92). There are many names originating from different languages but the source says that the names are only Turkic, Mongolian and one or two Persian. Particularly difference between Turkic and Mongolian is not clear and so-called Persian words may be Tocharian or Sogdian. In addition, some Mongolian words may be Tungus words or some Turkic words may be Persian. This is very great and complicated problem.

Secondly, there is no point to give Kalmyk, Tibetan and Manchu writing of place names of Eastern Turkistan. That is understandable for Manchu emperors of China but for the people is not readable and there are no Tibetan, Kalmyk or Manchu place names in area. However, we think that these writings are unmatched for comparative linguistic analyses.

Thirdly, some historical and geographical information is wrong. For example, in the explanation of the name of “Cehter” (HYTWC; II/15a-15b) the source says information from T'ang Shu but we know that this information comes from Han Shu's Hsi-yü (Western Regions or Lands) volume and “Wu-lei 烏壘” chapter, word for word.

Fourthly, the source is not much convenient for the historical analyses. For why the source were written by the order of Manchu Emperor of China in the period of Chinese occupation of Eastern Turkistan. Therefore, some historical judgments should be criticized

attentively. The source can be accepted as a project of Manchu Emperor Kao Ts'ung (Enoki, 1955).

After all, a historian who examine Eastern Turkistan and want to apply to Hsi-yü T'ung-wen-chih should become familiar with linguistic methods and collaborate with linguists. Finally, one who applies to it should have a wide acquaintance with ancient and medieval Chinese. There is no any partial and complete translation of the source.

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Ch'in-Ting Hsi-yü T'ung-wen-chih 欽定西域同文志

V/2b-3a

回 بازول 字		漢 兆賚布拉克	蒙古語 兆克 近泉之 地多兔故名	三谷訛微爾衣補喇克 習鄂	蒙古 字	西番 字	托忒 字
漢 哈畢爾噶布拉克	蒙古語 哈畢爾噶謂肋也布拉克謂	泉也 出山旁故名	三谷阿喀噤時 習鄂	蒙古 字	西番 字	托忒 字	回 字

字回 𐰽𐰺𐰍𐰏𐰤	𐰽𐰺𐰍𐰏𐰤
漢字 烏爾圖布拉克 克 古蒙	漢字 阿拉克 椿濟郭勒
語烏爾圖謂長也 泉水長流故名	阿拉克 蒙古語色 不一也 椿濟墩臺 也郭勒蒙古語河 也濱河之地舊設 墩臺 故名
蒙古字 𐰽𐰺𐰍𐰏𐰤	蒙古字 𐰽𐰺𐰍𐰏𐰤
蒙古字 𐰽𐰺𐰍𐰏𐰤	蒙古字 𐰽𐰺𐰍𐰏𐰤