

# Translation of Shichi Ch'ao-hsien Liehchuan into English

(史記 朝鮮列傳 英譯)

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Historical Documents from Shichi Ch'ao-hsien Liehchuan(史記朝鮮列傳) : According to Changan (長安), the three branches such as Shin-shui(濕水), Lieh-shui(洌水) and Shan-shui(汕水) put together and became one large river named Lieh-shui(洌水), after which Lo-lang(樂浪) and Ch'ao-hsien were named.

Man(滿), the king of the Ch'ao-hsien whose last name was Wei(衛) came from the State of Yen(燕).

The Yen State, from the age of her prosperity, attacked borders of Chên-fan(真蕃) and Ch'ao-hsien, dispatched officers to control the conquered areas and also constructed fortresses. Ch'in(秦), after destroying the Yen State, united the border area of Liao-tung(遼東) into her own territory.

But Han(漢) that replaced the Ch'in Dynasty believed this area was too remote to control, and let the Yen State keep the area by rehabilitating old fortresses of the Liao-tung area and made the Pai-shui(溟水) River her frontier border.

When Lu-kuan(盧綰), king of the Yen State, who rose in revolt against the Han Dynasty, fled to the Hsiung-nu(匈奴) area, Man himself, also wearing a topknot and attired in clothes popular in the Ch'ao-hsien area, took refuge crossing the Pai-shui River with about one thousand people.

They lived in the deserted area of the old Ch'in Dynasty, named Shang-hsia-chang(上下鄣). Rallying immigrants and runaways from Chên-fan, Ch'ao-hsien, Yen and Ch'i(齊) states, Man professed himself to be a king and held his court at Wang-chien(王儉).

A series of accidents happened during the rule of emperor Hui-ti and Kao-ti(惠帝·高后, 194—180 B.C.) of the Han Dynasty, but at this time all the nations enjoyed stability for the

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譯者註：史記 朝鮮列傳의 英譯은 譯者가 1978—81年 在美時 이루어진 것으로서, 하바드대학 大學院 人類學科 博士過程에 在學하고 있던 동료인 Rita Wright양과 서울대 이성원교수가 이에 대한 교정을 보여주었다. 史記는 Edouard Chavannes에 의해 47권과 나머지 부분이 1895—1905·1969년에 번역되어 있다. 英譯은 譯者의 蠻勇과 傲氣의 結果로서 誤譯과 拙譯이 많을 줄 믿으며, 이는 모두 譯者의 未熟한 英語에 由來로 讀者의 너그러운 諒解를 求해 둔다. 내용은 표제하고서라도, 외국인에게 朝鮮列傳의 內容을 소개하여 보았다는데 차이할 따름이다. 그리고 영문표기는 Wade-Giles System을 따랐음을 알려둔다 (1982. 5. 27).

first time.

Viceroy of Liao-tung(遼東太守) appointed Man as a foreign subject(外臣) and let him not only protect the frontier against barbarians and prevent lootings but also keep safe the routes which barbarian chiefs needed as tribute-paying-road to the Emperor.

By getting a permission from the Emperor for the above-mentioned job, Man not only enhanced himself and amassed a vast fortune, but also attacked and conquered other barbarian areas adjacent to his territory, including Chên-fan and Lin-chun(臨屯).

Man's son succeeded to the father's throne and Man's grandson named Yu-ch'ü(右渠) also succeeded the throne again.

At those times many runaways and immigrants from the area of the Han Dynasty came into Man's territory.

He became arrogant and did not pay tribute to the Emperor of the Han Dynasty. What is worse, he even intercepted the routes when the barbarian chiefs living near Chên-fan wanted to pay tribute to see the emperor.

In the year 109 B.C.(元封二年), an envoy named Shê-ho(涉何) visited him for admonition, but he did not want to see him at all.

On his way home, Shê-ho ordered his subordinates to kill the person named Chang, Pi-wang of Ch'ao-hsien(朝鮮裨王長), who came out to give farewell to Shê-ho and his company, as soon as they arrived at the vicinity of the Pai-shui River.

After killing Chang, he hurried to his fortress located in P'ing-chou(平州).

He reported in detail to his emperor his deed of killing Chang and, as an award for his deserts, he was appointed the governor of Eastern Liao-tung(遼東東部都尉).

In retaliation for Shê-ho's murdering Chang the soldiers of the Ch'ao-hsien attacked and killed him.

In the Autumn of that year under the reign of Emperor Wu-ti(武帝) (109 B.C), the Emperor sent five thousand naval forces under the command of general Yang-p'u(樓船將軍楊僕) and let him cross over the sea on ships from the Ch'i area to Po-hai(渤海) directly.

At the same time, the general of the Left Corps named Hsün-chih(左將軍荀彘) with his army came from the Liao-tung area and attacked the Yu-ch'ü's territory, but Yu-ch'ü's soldiers also defended firmly against the Han military forces with the geographical advantage of a steep mountain pass.

General Hsün-chih who commanded many soldiers recruited from the Liao-tung area was defeated, and a lot of his soldiers took flight and returned home, but later runaways were all put to death according to military order.

On the other hand, general Yang-p'u who commanded seven thousand soldiers recruited from the Ch'i area arrived at the Wang-chien castle where Yu-ch'ü, King of Ch'ao-hsien, defended firmly with his military forces.

Finding out that there were a few soldiers under the command of general Yang-p'u, Yu-ch'ü came out of his castle and made attack on the Yang-p'u's corps, who were defeated and took to flight.

General Yang-p'u himself, losing in the war, hid in the deep mountain over ten days and then again called up his dispersed soldiers.

General Hsün-chih also made an attack on the Ch'ao-hsien's corps who confronted it on the western side of the Pai-shui River, but he could not move forward at all. The emperor, seeing that the two generals did not have great advantages over Yu-ch'ü's forces, let Wei-shan(衛山) show Yu-ch'ü the dignity of the Emperor's military forces and persuaded him to surrender. Yu-ch'ü bowed his head reverently to Wei-shan and wanted to surrender from the bottom of his heart, and expressed his own opinion that he was in fact afraid of being caught in the two general's trap but now would give full credence to the emperor's word and was inclined to surrender.

Yu-ch'ü ordered the prince, his son, to apologize for fighting against the Emperor's military forces and to pay tribute to him with five thousand horses and provisions. When the prince, obeying his father's order, was going to cross over the Pai-shui River with provisions and ten thousand armed soldiers, Wei-shan and Hsün-chih, suspicious of their military strategy against them, suggested disarmament of his soldiers.

Prince himself, also suspicious of the diplomat Wei-shan and general Hsün-chih's trick that they would plan to kill him in case of disarmament, returned home with his soldiers.

When Wei-shan reported this in detail to his emperor, he was beheaded for his fault,

Meanwhile although the general Hsün-chih's corps destroyed Ch'ao-hsien's corps quartered on the bank of the Pai-shui River, and moved forward surrounding the north-western part of the castle, and although the navy captured the southern area under the castle, Yu-ch'ü himself kept defending the castle so firmly that the Han forces could not attack and overtake his castle for several months.

General Hsün-chih with rough character who originally had an experience to attend upon the Emperor and now commanded a corps of soldiers recruited from the Yen area, became more arrogant to his men than ever before, after gaining a small victory over the Ch'ao-hsien military forces

Navy general Yang-p'u attacked Ch'ao-hsien with his soldiers recruited from the Ch'i area, but there were many soldiers who took to flight after losing a battle.

Most soldiers were afraid of going to war again, because they had great difficulties in the last battle with Yu-ch'ü's forces, and a lot of soldiers were killed during the last war. Yang-p'u was always ashamed of his defeat, and although he surrounded the castle, he had a friendly manner to make peace with Yu-ch'ü.

When Hsün-chih was attacking Ch'ao-hsien forces in a hurry, some ministers of the Ch'ao-hsien government were trying to communicate secretly with Yang-p'u and suggested to him the possibility of surrender, although it was not yet determined whether they would surrender or not.

At this time Hsün-chih pushed Yang-p'u to attack the castle as soon as possible. Yang-p'u did not agree with him because Yang-p'u intended to keep his promise to reconcile with some ministers of the Ch'ao-hsien government.

Meanwhile Hsün-chih himself sent his men into the castle to tap the ministers' opinion for the possibility of surrender, but they did not answer to him at all because of their previous promise with Yang-p'u.

And so the two generals always alienated each other by reason of the events above-mentioned.

Hsün-chih suspected that Yang-p'u would revolt against him on the ground that he was once defeated in battle against the Ch'ao-hsien forces sacrificing many of his soldiers. Now, although he was communicating secretly with ministers of the Ch'ao-hsien government, there was no answer from them, and so Hsün-chih himself did not dare to make an attack on the castle alone.

The Emperor said that he earlier sent Wei-shan to persuade Ch'ao-hsien to surrender, but the latter did not complete his job because of his discord with Hsün-chih even when Yu-ch'ü sent his son to the Emperor for surrender, and now although two generals surrounded the castle, they could not decide what to do because of their disagreement.

At last the emperor ordered Kung Sun-sui, the governor of Chi-nan(濟南太守公孫遂) to remedy everything at his discretion.

When Kung Sun-sui arrived at the battlefield, Hsün-chih told him that the reason why Ch'ao-hsien did not surrender until then was that although general Yang-p'u promised to do it secretly, he did not even want to meet the ministers of Ch'ao-hsien. Expressing his own opinion to Kung Sun-sui in detail, Hsün-chih suggested that if Kung Sun-sui would not replace general Yang-p'u, the result would be more harmful, or Yang-p'u himself in collusion with Ch'ao-hsien's army would revolt and destroy them.

Kung Sun-sui, agreeing to his opinion, ordered Yang-p'u to come to Hsün-chih's headquarter for a meeting and let officers of Hsün-chih capture general Yang-p'u. After capturing him, he united Yang-p'u's army into Hsün-chih's.

When he reported his activity to the Emperor in detail, the Emperor instead reprimanded Kung Sun-sui himself.

As soon as Hsün-chih put together two corps under his command, he began to make a fierce attack on the castle.

Ch'ao-hsien-hsiang-Lu-jen(朝鮮相路人), Hsiang-Han-yin(相韓陰), Ni-ch'i-hsiang-San(尼鷄相參) and Chiang-chün-Wang-chia(將軍王暎) discussed that at first they had intended to surrender to general Yang-p'u, but he was already captured, and what is worse, Hsün-chih began to attack in such a hurry that they were not able to defend. And so they all took refuge in the Han Dynasty except one person named Lu-jen, who died during the refuge.

During the Summer of 108 B.C.(元封三年), Ni-ch'i-hsiang-San let a person kill King Yu-ch'ü and himself surrendered to Han.

Still the Wang-chien castle was not fallen.

Ch'eng-chi(成己), one of the ministers of the murdered king Yu-ch'ü, resisted again against the Han forces and often harassed them.

And so Hsün-chih let Chang(長), son of the murdered King Yu-ch'ü, and Tsui(最), son

of the surrendered prime minister Lu-jen, persuade Ch'eng-chi to give up, and then killed him. At last the Han Dynasty subjugated the Ch'ao-hsien territory, where they established four commendaries(四郡).

After the subjugation, San was rewarded with an official title of H'uo-ching-ssu(灑清侯), Han-yin with Chiu-chü-ssu(平州侯), Wang-chia with P'ing-chou-ssu(荻苴侯) and Chang with Chi-ssu(幾侯) all according to their all merits to Han Dynasty during the war. And in the case of Tsui, he was also rewarded with the title of Wen-yang-ssu(溫陽侯) not only for his great achievement to persuade and kill minister Ch'eng-chi, but also for his dead father, Lu-jen, who also helped Han subjugate Ch'ao-hsien.

Emperor Wu-ti summoned the general of the Left Corps, Hsün-chih, and sentenced him to death on the charge that he made many mistakes during the war because of his jealousy of merits and discord with general Yang-p'u, and the Emperor also sentenced general Yang-p'u to be confiscated of his post and became a commoner, on the charge that arriving at Lieh-k'ou(洌口) near Wang-chien castle, he did not wait for Hsün-chih's army but decided to attack in such a hurry, sacrificing many soldiers.

T'ai-shi-kung(太史公, the author of Shichi, Ssu-ma Ch'ien himself) said that Yu-ch'ü believed so firmly in the geographical advantage of Ch'ao-hsien territory that he ruined his state forever, that Shê-ho was beheaded by Ch'ao-hsien's army because of his covetousness for merits, and last he ridiculed Yang-p'u for trying to escape from death sentence with the poor excuse of commanding small corps composed of only five thousands soldiers.

Yang-p'u ended in losing the power to control Han-yü(番禺) area and in bringing upon him the contempt of his friends.

Both Hsün-chih and Kung Sun-sui were sentenced to death on the charge of competing for military merits with each other.

Thus, there was nobody who was rewarded with great names.