

An Abstract of the Five Migrations of the Hakkas

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Overseas Hakkas claim that their ancestors have moved five times.

1. Their first migration was at the end of the Western Jin Dynasty (265 AD to 317 AD).
2. The second migration took place in around 874AD just before the end of the Tang Dynasty (618 AD to 907 AD).
3. The third migration was due to the conquest of the Mongols and the collapse of the Song Dynasty (960 AD to 1279 AD).
4. The fourth migration of the Hakkas occurred between 1680 AD to 1720 AD after the Manchus had established their Dynasty of Qing (1644AD to 1911AD).
5. The fifth and the last took place after the destruction of the Taiping Heavenly Kingdom (1851 AD to 1864 AD).

The First Migration

(Around 311 AD to 317 AD)

Towards the end of the Han Dynasty (206BC to 220AD) the land was divided by the three most powerful generals during that time. In the North was Cao Cao, in the region of South and Southeast of the Yangtze River was Sun Quan and Liu Bei in Sichuan, the Western part of the land. Cao Cao, who was the Prime Minister of the Han Court, died in 220AD and his son Cao Pi succeeded him as the new Prime Minister. Without hesitation Cao Pi dethroned Emperor Xian of the Han Court and established his own Dynasty called Wei in 220AD with the capital in Luo Yang in Henan province.

The following year Liu Bei established his Kingdom called Su in the Western part of the land with the capital in Chengdu in Sichuan province. In 229 AD Sun Quan proclaimed the formation of his Kingdom with the capital in Jian Ye (present day Nanjing) in Jiangsu province. The historians called this period the Romance of the Three Kingdoms with incessant warfare for more than 50 years.

In 260 AD Cao Huan was installed as Emperor Yuan of the Wei Dynasty and his Prime Minister was Si-Ma Yan. The Kingdom of Su was conquered by Wei Dynasty in 263 AD. In 265 AD Emperor Yuan was dethroned by his Prime Minister Si-Ma Yan who established his own Dynasty called Jin. Si-Ma Yan installed himself as Wu Di (Emperor Wu) of Jin Dynasty. He subjugated the Kingdom of Wu in 280 AD. Thus Si-Ma Yan unified the country which had an estimated population of 16,163,863.

Si-Ma Yan was not only a drunkard but also a debauchee who could not tolerate criticism. He kept thousands of young and beautiful girls in his palace as his concubines. He could punish any official who dare to expostulate with him on his debauchery. Si-Ma Yan died in 290 AD and was succeeded by his son Si-Ma Zhong who was crowned as Emperor Hui. Si-Ma Zhong was a moron who did not have the ability to govern such a large country. He allowed his wife Empress Gu Nan-Feng to take charge of the administration. She used her husband's authority to manipulate with power and the country fell apart in a civil war which was called the Rebellion of the Eight Princes that lasted from 290 AD to 305 AD. Eventually Empress Gu died in the general chaos.

As a result of the civil war the situation of the country deteriorated into famine which followed by droughts and the

invasions of locusts. The non-Han Chinese tribes of the Turkic Xiong Nu, the Jie, the Xian Bei, the Di and the Qiang took advantage of the anarchy and established themselves into political and armed units. In 304 AD the Di founded a kingdom in the western part of the country, the Xiong Nu proclaimed the formation of a kingdom in south Shaaxi. The historians called this period "Wu Hu Luan Hua" The Invasion of the Five Barbarians.

In 311 AD Liu Zong the chieftain of Xiong Nu seized Luo Yang, the capital of Jin and captured Emperor Hui who was later executed. The 14 years old Si-Ma Ye, a nephew of Emperor Hui, was installed as Emperor Min in Chang An in Shaanxi by a relative. In 316 AD another leader of the Xion Nu tribe overran Chang An and captured Emperor Min who was later killed by the conquerors. It was the end of the Jin Dynasty.

Due to the famine, the political and economic chaos in North China en masse of Han Chinese fled southward to the safety regions south of the Yangtze River. In 317 AD Si-Ma Rui set up a new Dynasty called Eastern Jin in Jian Kang (present day Nanking city) and installed himself as Emperor Yuan. The exodus of Han Chinese continued to move into south of Yangtze River. They were the powerful family groups and they established political units to control over their new homes. They swamped the regions where it is now called the provinces of Jiangsu, Jiangxi and Anhwei. It was estimated that more than a million people had emigrated to the South.

There were feuds between the emigrants and the locals mostly over the seizure of lands by the new comers. The locals nicknamed them "Cang Ren" reckless fellows among them were the forebears of the Hakka People. Although the new Dynasty of Eastern Jin had made a few attempts to recover the North, Emperor Yuan and the new comers were contented with their new found and fertile land in the South. As a result the Chinese population in the South increased by several folds and the non-Han Chinese in the South were Sinicized by these Diaspora.

The Second Migration of the Hakkas

(Around 874AD)

In Northern China, Tuo-Ba (surname) Gui, the leader of the Xian Bei tribe, destroyed the military power of the other tribes of Turkic Xiong Nu, the Jie, the Di and the Qiang. Thus the whole of Northern China came under his control. In 386 AD Tuo-Ba Gui established his Dynasty called Later Wei (386 AD to 534 AD). He titled himself as Emperor Dao Wu (386 AD to 409 AD) and employed many Han-Chinese to administer his government. About half of the population in his domain were Han-Chinese. Gradually, the Han Chinese subjects were Sinicizing many of the citizens of Xian Bei origin. In 471 AD Yuan Hong was installed as Emperor Xiao Wen (471 AD to 499 AD). He proclaimed that all the people of Xian Bei descent should be sinicized. He decreed four steps that Xian Bei people should do:

- (1) to adopt Han Chinese surnames. He and his children adopted Yuan as their surname as his name was Yuan Hong.
- (2) to encourage Xian Bei people to speak only Han language and to adopt Han model of administration in government offices.
- (3) to inspire Xian Bei and Han Chinese to intermarriage.
- (4) forbid Xian Bei people to wearing their tribal costume.

The sinicization was a great success and people of Xian Bei origin considered themselves as Han Chinese. People of other

tribes followed suit and sinicizing themselves as Han Chinese too. Thus North China became a melting pot and the population living there considered themselves as Han Chinese.

In 420 Liu Yu dethroned Si-Ma De Zong the last Emperor of Eastern Jin and established the Song Dynasty. This period was called the Dynasties of South and North which lasted until 581AD when Yang Jian unified the whole of China under his Dynasty of Sui (581AD to 618AD). In 618AD Li Yuan, a general in the Sui armed forces, seized the throne from Emperor Gong, the last Emperor of Sui and founded the Tang Dynasty (618 AD to 907 AD).

Tang Dynasty was the most resplendent in all Chinese history. It was the golden age of Chinese culture. Tang Dynasty was super in political and economic organization and in religious too. The influence of Tang civilization in Asia was at its apex. Chang An, the capital of Tang, was the central for studying classical poetry and Buddhism. After the revolt of An Lu Shan in 757AD the Tang government began to deteriorate. Population growth and the declining administrative efficiency were the main causes that impoverished the people and followed by famine.

In 874AD a peasant uprising occurred in Hua Zhou (present day Hua county in Henan province) and its leader was Wang Xian Zhi. The following year another peasant rebellion, with its leader named Huang Chao, broke out in Cao Zhou (present day Cao county in Shandong province) and Ju Zhou (present day He Ze county in Shandong province).

Huang Chao led the hungry peasants and pushed southward. They crossed the Yellow River and Yangtze River and overran the cities of Fuzhou and Guangzhou in the coastal region. He killed all the foreign residents in Guangzhou city, about 120,000 of them and razed the city to the ground.

In 880 AD his peasant army swiped westward and captured the Tang capital of Chang An. Huang Chao installed himself as the first Emperor of Qi Dynasty. The Tang Court fled to Chengdu in the west in present day Sichuan province. Eventually with the help of the Tibetans the Tang Court destroyed the fledgling Qi dynasty. Huang Chao escaped back to his home base in Shandong province and committed suicide there.

In order to escape famine, drought and peasant upheavals people from the Central Plain of China were immigrating to the regions south of the Yangtze River. History repeated itself as they were in the similar situation as the earlier emigrants in the 4th century.

They armed and banded themselves in groups to move southward and settled down in the fringes of the five ridges in the provinces of Jiangxi, Hunan and Guangdong. These displaced people or Guest People had no intention of staying here permanently. They hoped to return to their homeland in the north when the turbulence was over. However, the situation in the North had deteriorated into total chaos with the collapse of the Tang Dynasty in 907 AD.

After the extinction of the Tang Dynasty China was disintegrated into many Kingdoms. The next fifty three years was called by the historians as Wu Dai (Five Dynasties) and Shi Guo (Ten Kingdoms). Under these chaotic circumstances there was no way that these Guest People wanted to go back north to their homelands.

They always told themselves that they would return to the north, but they lived there right until the 20th century preserving their ancient tongue (Hakka) and custom. Even up to the present day they still saying that they were originally from the north.

NOTE: On September 8, 1927 Mao Zedong led a group of

peasants and staged a uprising which was called Autumn Harvest Uprising in Hunan province. After the collapse of the uprising Mao Zedong congregated about 800 men and 80 rifles, the remnants of the uprising. They climbed the Jing Gang Shan and established the first Red revolutionary base in these mountains. Jing Gang Shan is a massive mountain ranges, lying between the two provinces of Jiangxi and Hunan. There were only five villages, at that time, in this region of 900 square kilometers. All the families were Hakkas whose forefathers came from the north several hundred years ago. (Selected Works of Mao Zedong Vol.1)

The Third Migration of the Hakkas

(960 AD to 1279 AD)

The third started in around 1274 AD during the Song Dynasty. The Hakka People fled from the conquering Mongolian armies. The provinces of the middle and south China were already settled by the earlier migrants. They had to settle farther south. They arrived in the provinces of Guangdong, Fujian, Taiwan and North Vietnam. (The original version was not located in the web).

The Third Migration of the Hakka People by chungyn Sun.
Jan. 05, 2014 7:31 pm.

There are more Hakkas living in Guangdong province than all the Hakkas in the world combined together. The counties in Guangdong province where the Hakkas live are as follows.

(A) Many Hakkas live east of Ling Nan called Ling Dong. The counties of Ling Dong where the Hakkas live are: (1) Mei Xian; (2) Jiao Ling; (3) Ping Yuan; (4) Xing Ning; (5) Wu Hua; (6) Feng Shun; (7) Da Pu; (8) Rao Ping

(B) Hakkas also live in the counties of the river basin of Dong Jiang or the East River. The counties are: (1) Lian Ping; (2) He Ping; (3) Xin Feng; (4) Long Men; (5) Long Chuan; (6) He Yuan; (7) Zi Jin; (8) Hui Yang; (9) Bo Luo; (10) Dong Guan; (my ancestral county), (11) Bao An.

(C) From the north of Guangdong province down through the river basin of Bei Jiang or the North River the counties where Hakkas live are: (1) Cong Hua; (2) Hua Xian; (3) Qing Yuan; (4) Ying De; (5) Weng Yuan; (6) Qu Jiang; (7) Yue Chang; (8) Ru Yuan; (9) Shi Xing; (10) Nan Xiong; (11) Lian Xian; (12) Lian Shan.

(D) Hakkas also live in the counties in the river basin of Xi Jiang: (1) He Shan; (2) De Qing; (3) Yun Fu; (4) Si Hui; (5) Si Chuan.

(E) In the lower south of Guangdong province, the counties are: (1) Chi Xi; (2) Fang Cheng; (3) He Pu; (4) Qin Xian.

(F) In the eastern costal regions where Hakkas live are the counties of: (1) Hai Feng; (2) Lu Feng.

Why is it that the majority of the Hakkas live in the province of Guangdong? To answer this question we have to go back to the Song Dynasty. Seven generations after Zhao Kuang Yin, the founder of the Song Dynasty, in 1100AD Zhao Ji became the 8th Emperor of the Song Dynasty. It was during his reign that the Song empire started to decline. The financial situation of the country was in bad shape. Its administrations were in a mess. Yet Zhao Ji continued to spend a lot of the government's resources on his hobbies which were painting and creative arts as he was a

born artist. He also maintained a luxurious Court. In the process it further strained the country's revenue.

During that time there lived a tribe called Nu Zhen in the present day northeastern part of the land in the upper basin of Song Hua Jiang which was part of the domain of the Liao. They had risen to power and they rebelled against their ruler, the Liao. They established their own dynasty known as the Jin Dynasty 1115AD to 1234AD). In 1153AD they moved their capital from the northeast to Yan Jing (present day Beijing city Hebei province).

A new dynasty like Jin could easily defeated the Liao, Emperor Zhao Ji thought that his army could do the same. So Zhao Ji formed an alliance with the Jin hoping that, together, they could destroy the Liao. Zhao Ji wanted to regain the sixteen border prefectures previously lost to the Liao in 963AD.

The Jin attacked the Liao from the east and the Song from the south. The Jin army had no trouble to overrun the eastern part of Liao. However, the Song armies were beaten by the Liao. Knowing that the Song was weak the Jin marched southward into the Song territory. The Song could not stop them. In consternation, Zhao Ji abdicated in favor of his eldest son called Zhao Huan. But the Jin hordes continued riding south.

In 1126AD the Jin captured Kaifeng, the Song capital. The two Emperors, Zhao Ji and his son the newly crowned Emperor Zhao Huan were still in the capital. They did not escape fast enough from the blitzkrieg of the Jin. They were captured by the Jin and became prisoners.

The numbered ninth son of Zhao Ji called Zhao Gou continued to resist the Jin. The following year in 1127AD Zhao Gou crowned himself as the numbered tenth Emperor of the Song Dynasty. He established his capital in the southern city of Lin An (present day Hangzhou city Zhejiang province).

Yue Fei (1103AD to 1142AD) was born in a poor farmer family. His father died when he was very young. It was at the time that the Jin from the Northeast were conquering the South. Yue Fei joined the Song army and rose to the rank of a general. He was a fanatical patriot. When he was just a young boy he loved his country dearly. His mother tattooed these four words on his back, which meant "Loyalty and Patriotism". He compiled a motto which which meant "Return My Country".

Yue Fei swore that he would recapture the lost territory in the North and free the two Emperors held in captivity by the Jin. Yue Fei organized a northern expedition army and marched northward. He recaptured a vast territory from the Jin. When Zhao Gou crowned himself as the Emperor he was tormented day and night by two matters. First, Zhao Gou was afraid that his elder brother Zhao Huan and his father Zhao Ji would be released by the Jin. He would have to give up the throne in favor of either of them.

The second matter was that a much adored and highly respected general might grab the throne just like his ancestor the founder of the Dynasty Zhao Kuangyin did 167 years ago. General Yue Fei and his northern expedition army were winning battles after battles. The Jin were being routed and pushed further northeast. The Emperor of Jin was in panicked. Down in the south Zhao Gou was also in panicked. Zhao Gou was afraid that Yue Fei might conquer the whole of the northern territory and free the two Emperors from the Jin.

One of Zhao Gou's ministers called Qin Kuai who was the representative of the big landlords in the south. Qin Kuai was in favour of making peace with the Jin. He advised Zhao Gou to contact the Jin and had secret peace. Zhao Gou accepted his suggestion and appointed him as the Prime Minister. Secret peace talks were being held with the Jin.

Meanwhile Yue Fei continued his march northward. Of course he did not know the skulduggery of the Emperor. A big decisive battle was about to take place at Zhu Xian Zhen (朱仙镇) about 20 kilometers away from Kaifeng the former capital of Song. Yue Fei never drink in his whole life. But in this occasion he ordered wine to be served at the dinner. He told his officers, "We must march to Huang Long Fu (present day Nong An in Jilin province) to welcome back the two Emperors. Then we shall celebrate and drink again". Huang Long Fu was the city where the two Emperors were being held by the Jin. During the feast Yue Fei composed a famous patriotic poem titled "Man Jiang Hong." (I had posted many times to the Forum. For those who had missed it, this is the poem composed by Yue Fei).

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gIQ2JxF_Kis

Meanwhile, the secret peace talks with the Jin were about to be concluded. Qin Kuai, the Prime Minister, advised Zhao Gou, the Emperor, to issue edict ordering Yue Fei to avoid the decisive battle and pull back to the South. When Yue Fei received the first edict he ignored it thinking that it was a hoax. But the Emperor, Zhao Gou, sent him twelve orders within one day. He had no alternative but to obey lest he would be charged for insubordination.

Yue Fei and his northern expedition army were ordered back to the capital. The Emperor rewarded with great honour to all the generals who took part in the northern expedition. Yue Fei was appointed as the deputy Minister of Defense. With this appointment Yue Fei was being stripped off as the commander of the northern expedition army.

Yue Fei was a patriot and he did not know the intrigue of the Emperor and Qin Kuai the Prime Minister. He continued to urge the Song Court to recapture the north and free the two Emperors. That was the last thing that Zhao Gou wanted to do. Qin Kuai told the Emperor that Yue Fei had to be eliminated and the Emperor agreed. Zhao Gou ordered Yue Fei and his eldest son Yue Yun to be arrested on charges of conspiracy to overthrow the Song Court. Father and son were tried for high treason. They were sentenced to death. They were being held as criminals in an old well. Qin Kuai had them executed secretly.

<http://yn.chung.id.au/YueFei&YueYun.jpg>

The younger son of Yue Fei called Yue Ting fled to Huan Mei present day Dong Rui county in Hubei province. He changed his surname to E. In 1195AD Zhao Kuo became the Emperor. Yue Fei was rehabilitated and Zhao Kuo posthumously bestowed upon Yue Fei the title of E Wang or Prince of E. Yue Fei was extolled by patriots as a symbol of national resistance to foreign domination. The patriots hated Qin Kuai. They created a recipe called You Zha Kuai which meant deep fried Qin Kuai in hot oil. It was a popular

cuisine specially for breakfast. Two rolls were deep fried in hot oil. The two rolls were supposed to be Qin Kuai and his wife. They called it deep fried “Qin Kuai and his wife”.

Generations later people shortened it to, deep fried Kuai “You Zha Kuai” because those with the surname of Qin would not like to eat the rolls that were named after their own surname. So the surname Qin was omitted in the recipe. Since then we have been eating deep fried Qin Kuai and his wife for more than eight hundred years. Yet we do not know that Kuai was the name of the Prime Minister who had murdered Yue Fei and his son Yue Yun during the Song Dynasty. People will continue to eat You Zha Kuai forever. Here is a couplet:

After the Song Dynasty people rarely named themselves Kuai. Standing in front of Yue’s tomb, I am ashamed to have the surname Qin. History also recorded that Qin Kuai’s grandson, who was ashamed of his grandfather’s deed bravely fought and died in a battle against the Jin troops. In 1233AD the Song Court formed an alliance with the Mongols from the north with the intention of destroying the Jin. It was agreed among them that after the destruction of the Jin the land south of Huang He or the Yellow River would be returned to the Song, whereas the Mongols would occupy the rest of the land north of the Yellow River. In 1234AD the combined forces of the Song and the Mongols destroyed the Jin. However, after the extinction of the Jin, the Mongols did not honour the agreement and did not return the land south of the Yellow River to the Song. Instead, in 1268AD, the Mongolian army began to conquer the South.

The Hakka People, who were the strong supporters of the Song, desperately resisted the invasion, but the Mongolian armies under the command of Genghis Khan were too strong. The Song Court fled further south and the Hakkas went with them. They fled from Ji Zhou (present day Ji An city in Jiangxi province through Fuzhou and Quanzhou in present day Fujian province, to Meizhou (present day Meixian), Chaozhou, Xiushan (present day Humen town in Dongguan county), Huizhou and finally in 1278AD they arrived at Ya Shan near Xin Hui in the coastal province of Guangdong. The remaining members of the Song Court, the Song army and the civilians numbered over a quarter million. The Song Emperor was Zhao Bing, an eight-year old boy. They set up their Court on the boats because they had no land of their own.

Wen Tian Xiang, a Hakka, and the last Prime Minister of Song Dynasty was captured by the Mongolian troops at Wu Po Ling (present day Hai Feng Lufeng in Guangdong province). He was sent back to Da Du (present day Beijing city in Hebei province where he was executed because he refused to surrender and work for the Mongols. While he was being transported to Da Du, Wen Tian Xiang wrote this famous poem when he passed through the Pearl River.

Wen Tian Xiang was reminiscing of how, four years ago, he raised an army to fight the Mongols in Gan Shui (or River Gan) at Huang Kong Tan in Jiangxi province, and the many battles he had fought. While in prison in Da Du and before he was executed Wen Tian-Xiang wrote a famous essay entitled “Zheng Qi Ge” (or The Song of Uprightness)

A year later in 1279AD the Mongols finally caught up with the Song Court. In front of them lay the deep waters of the South

China Sea and behind them stood the Mongolian armies. Quite literally, the Song Court was between the devil and the deep blue sea.

Lu Xiu-Fu, a Minister in the Song Court, carried the young Emperor Zhao Bing on his back and said, “We, the Emperor and the Minister, would not be humiliated by foreigners”. With this statement and the young Emperor still on his back, Lu Xiu-Fu walked right into the sea. Both of them were drowned. That was the end of the Song Dynasty that had existed for 320 years.

<http://yn.chung.id.au/TheEnd.SongDynasty.jpg>

After the extinction of the Song Dynasty, the remnants of this great Dynasty, including the Hakka people, did not go back to the north but instead dispersed and settled down in the regions between the provinces of Guangdong and Fujian, especially in the districts of Meixian, Dongguan, Huizhou, Dabu, Haifeng, Lufeng, Yongding, Yongxin and many other hilly places. One of these people was my ancestor. They built villages and remained isolated and aloof, retaining their own customs and speaking their ancient dialect (Hakka). Over the years they multiplied and proliferated.

The Fourth Migration of the Hakkas (1661AD to 1720AD)

In 1279 AD the Mongols, who came from the north of China, destroyed the Song Dynasty (960 AD to 1279 AD). They established the Yuan Dynasty (1280 AD to 1368 AD). This was the first time in history that a non-Han Chinese Government ruled the whole of China. This was the most racial conscious Government in Chinese history. The Mongols divided the people under their rule into four classes. The northern sinicized Chinese were treated as 3rd class citizens and the Chinese living south of the Yangtze River were treated as 4th class citizens who were oppressed, suppressed, maltreated, persecuted, generally ill-treated and regarded as nothing more than slaves.

The 4th class citizens had had enough of hardship under the Mongols. So during the years between 1348 AD to 1353 AD they organized themselves into many groups throughout the country for the sole of fostering rebellion against the Mongols: Fang Guo-zhen in Zhejiang province; Liu Fu-tong in Anhui province; Li Er in Jiangsu province; Zhu Yuan-zhang in Hao Zhou Zhejiang; and many others in other parts of the country.

Eventually Zhu Yuan-zhang united all these groups and destroyed the Yuan dynasty. In 1368 AD Zhu Yuan-zhang established the Ming dynasty (1368 AD to 1644 AD). It was comparatively peaceful through out the period of the Ming dynasty. The administration of the Ming was orderly and the society was stable. The Ming Government conducted a census of the empire and the result was that there were about hundred million people living in the Ming empire.

At the turn of the seventeenth century the Ming dynasty began to decline. The eunuch dominated the Ming Court. The national morality was at its nadir. Political corruption were wide spread through out the country. High taxes and intellectual irresponsibility’s were the normal of the day.

The decadence was followed by wide spread of banditry and desolation in many parts of the empire. During this period there were two bands of bandit under Zhang Xian-zhong and Li Zi-cheng who overran the greater part of the Ming empire for nearly twenty years resulting untold misery.

Li Zi-cheng was a poor peasant who lived in Mi Zhi district in Shaanxi province. In 1628 AD Shaanxi was hard hit by a famine. Many people died of starvation. There were banditry every where and the Ming government could not cope with the disaster. With a few young men Li Zi-cheng formed a bandit band and became its leader. His band was like a rolling snow ball which grew bigger and bigger as thousands upon thousands of hungry peasants joined him. He organized an army and marched eastward. While on the march he raided government treasuries and offices.

In the April 1644 AD he descended on Beijing, the capital of the Ming dynasty. He captured Beijing on the 25th of April and his followers ransacked the city as the numbered seventeenth Ming Emperor, Zhu You Jian fled and hid in the Prospect Hill, over looking the Forbidden City, not far from his palace. Later he hanged himself in the pavilion on that hill.

Wu San-gui was the Ming general sent to defend Shanhaiguan (The Gate of Mountain and Sea) which was the only gate accessible to the Central Plain of China, through the Great Wall that dividing the Zhongyuan (the Central Plain of China) and the Liaoling peninsular (Southern Manchuria). Wu San-gui heard that his father was captured by Li Zi-cheng who forced his father to urge him to surrender. Wu San-gui agreed to surrender and was marching back to Beijing. However, when the news came that his favorite concubine, Chen Yuan-yuan was kidnapped by the rebel leader, he changed his mind and retreated to Shanhaiguan. He opened the gate of Shanhaiguan and invited the Manchus to joined forces with him to attack the rebels. The Manchus, who were from the Northeast, had overran the peninsular of Liaodong and wanted to extent to the Central Plain of China, but their objective was blocked by the Great Wall. Now they were delighted with Wu's invitation.

The combined forces of the Manchus and wu marched to Beijing. They routed the rebels. Before he withdrew from Beijing Li Zi-cheng killed Wu's father, his favorite concubine and his entire family. The Manchus, after ceremonially buried the Ming emperor, established the Qing dynasty (1644 AD to 1911 AD). That was the end of the Ming Dynasty. Later in July 1645 AD Li Zi-cheng was killed by the villagers in Hubei province.

Now about the other rebel Zhang Xianzhong. As the result of the 1628 AD famine in Shaanxi province, there was another man named Zhang Xianzhong who also formed a banditry band consisting mainly of hungry peasants who roamed Northern China. Later they went plundering and pillaging from the north to the south. Zhang Xianzhong titled himself the Ba Da Wang (Eighth Great King) and his followers nicknamed him the Huang Lao Hu (The Yellow Tiger). The armed forces of the Ming Court were too weak to stop him from crossing the Yellow River. He captured a large part of the province of Hubei where there was abundance of water and rice for his men to eat. He killed all the landlords and confiscated wealth from the rich and gave them to the poor; a Robin Hood.

In March 1635 AD Zhang first entered Sichuan and captured its capital Chengdu. However, the Sichuanese resisted him strongly and he had to withdraw to the north to Shaanxi province, his homeland, where, he formed an alliance with other armed bands.

In 1640 AD with 100,000 men Zhang Xianzhong again invaded Sichuan through the Yangtze gorges and captured Chengdu the second time. According to the history recorded by the Manchu Qing dynasty Zhang Xianzhong put all the residents in Chengdu to the swords. The Yellow Tiger engraved on a big stone (later it was called Zhang Xianzhong's stone) these words:

"The Heaven gave rise to everything to nourish men. Men has not even a thing to thank the Heaven. Kill kill kill kill kill kill kill kill."

He depopulated the city of Chengdu and recklessly killed millions of people in the province of Sichuan. The Ming Dynasty ended in 1644 AD and the Manchus established the Qing Dynasty (1644 AD to 1911 AD). Zhang Xianzhong founded his own Kingdom called Da Xi (Great West Kingdom). The Manchu troops entered Sichuan in 1645 AD and defeated Zhang. Again Chengdu was razed to the ground by the Manchus who also killed millions of Sichuanese. The province of Sichuan was almost depopulated by the killings of Zhang and the Manchus.

After the downfall of the Ming dynasty Zheng Cheng Gong, the patriot of the Ming Court, refused to be subjugated by the Qing government. He resisted the Qing Government fiercely and tried desperately to restore the Ming Dynasty, but he failed. In 1661 AD with 25,000 troops he crossed the Straits of Taiwan and landed in Taiwan. Among the troops of Zheng Cheng Gong there were many Hakkas. Zheng Cheng Gong proclaimed Taiwan as a territory of the Ming Dynasty. He established a Kingdom in present day Taiwan. For the next twenty years under the rules of Zheng Cheng Gong, his son Zheng Jing and grandson Zheng Ke Shao many Chinese emigrated to the Taiwan Island and most of them were Hakkas.

The main reasons for these energetic hardworking and courageous Hakkas flocking to Taiwan were to escape the miserable lives and the oppression on the mainland. Besides the soil in Taiwan was fertile. To the Hakkas Taiwan was indeed an El Dorado. Thousands upon thousands of Hakkas moved and resettled themselves in Taiwan. It was estimated that within a year one-third of the Hakkas in Guangdong province had emigrated to Taiwan.

In order to be acquainted with the local conditions and strengthened the ties between the Manchu Court and the country as a whole, Emperor Kangxi, during his reign (1662 AD to 1722 AD) toured his empire more than ten times. He toured the Southern provinces six times and during one of these trips he decided to encourage the Hakkas in the Southern provinces to emigrate to Sichuan province which was sparely populated due to the turmoil happened several decades ago. He offered financial assistance to those who were willing to resettle in Sichuan; eight ounces of silver per man and four ounces per woman or child.

In order to escape the poverty and hardship thousands upon thousands of Hakkas living in the regions between the provinces of Guangdong and Fujian responded and accepted Emperor Kang Xi's offer. This en masse movement of Hakkas to Taiwan Island and Sichuan province was called the fourth migration of the Hakkas by the historians. It was estimated that within a year one-third of the Hakkas in Guangdong province had emigrated to Taiwan. They settled in the Northwest of the island in the counties of Xinzhu, Taoyuan, Miaoli, Xinbu, Zhudong and Zhunan.

There were also a few pockets of Hakka settlements in regions of Gaoxiong and Pingdong. Many Hakkas also resettled themselves in the east coast of the island in the areas from the cities of Hualian to Taidong. By the turn of the eighteenth century it was estimated that there were more than 200,000 Hakkas in the island.

They moved to the West and many of them settled in Chengdu Plain, north and northwest of Chengdu city, the capital of Sichuan province, where many a few decades ago Zhang Xianzhong and

the Manchus had depopulated the city. Chengdu Plain is a very fertile plain because it is latticed by canals and streams.

Some of them resettled themselves in the furthest west in the region of Xikang in the counties of Daofu, Luhuo, Ganzi and Badan. From November 1935 to June 1936 the Fourth Red Army under Zhang Guo-tao established a Soviet Government there. The historians called this en masse movement of Hakkas to Taiwan Island and Sichuan province the fourth migration of the Hakkas.

The Fifth Migration of the Hakkas (1865 AD to 1940 AD)

On January 11, 1851 Hong Xiu Quan, Yang Xiu Qing and others staged an uprising in Jin Tian village in the county of Gui Ping in Guangxi province. It was called the Taiping Heavenly Kingdom and Hong Xiu Quan proclaimed himself the Heavenly King. Hong was a Hakka (See my stories entitled The Youth of Hong Xiu-quan parts one and two).

The first thing the Heavenly King did was to issue a decree to unbind the women's feet and for men to cut off their pigtaileds and to keep long hair. Later, the Taiping soldiers were to be known as Long haired soldiers. Hong's sister named Xuan Jiao was to head the team of Foot Inspectors whose duties were to stop and forbid women to practice foot bidding.

In 1852 the Taiping army, proceeding northward from Guangxi, marched through the provinces of Hunan, Hubei, Jiangxi and Anhwei. They marched eastward along the Yangtze River and captured Nanjing in March 1853. Nanjing was renamed the Heavenly City and became the capital of the Heavenly Kingdom. Immediately after the establishment of their capital the Heavenly King dispatched an expedition force northward.

The mission was to capture the Manchu capital Beijing. The northern expedition forces marched to the vicinity of Tianjin where they were defeated. The Taiping army failed to build stable base areas in the places it occupied, and also, after establishing its capital in Nanjing, the leading group in the army committed many political and military errors. Therefore the Taiping could not withstand the combined onslaught of the forces of the Qing Government and of the British, U.S. and the French mercenary troops who finally destroyed this peasant revolution in 1864.

The result of the Taiping destruction was the butchering of many of those Hakkas with the surname of Hong by the Manchu authority. Due to these massacres many Hakkas fled the country to other parts of the world or changed their surnames. Those who had no means to escape sold themselves off as 'pigs' or indentured labor and ended up in Nanyang or Southeast Asia (see my posting "The Crippled Tree by Han Suyin).

Gold was discovered in 1848 in California U.S.A. Thousands of Chinese joined in the gold rush starting from 1849 to California (Jiu Jin Shan or Old Gold Mountain). The number of Chinese there had increased from about 25,000 in 1852 to 50,000 in 1867, and by 1882 there were 132,000 Chinese on the Pacific coast. **It was estimated that one-sixth of the population of this new State of California were Chinese. Many of them were Hakkas.** Many of the Chinese workers were brought in from Hong Kong and Canton on contract by Leland Stanfords and Charles Crocker in doing the hard work on the railroad building across the High Sierra in the 1860s.

When the railroad was completed in 1869 this redundant Chinese workers herded into the Chinatowns in San Francisco and other smaller cities. It is much better for the Californian Hakkas to

tell the stories of the "Burlingame Treaty", the "Yellow Peril in America" and the "the riots at Rock Springs (Wyoming) in 1880.

Gold was also discovered in Melbourne Australia in 1851 (Xin Jin Shan or New Gold Mountain). Hoping to make a fortune, many Hakkas from Guangdong province went to Australia to dig for gold. Among them were my grandfather and granduncle (See my story "Two Gold Diggers"). In 1890 in the State of Victoria, Australia, there were 9377 Chinese in a population of 1,150,000. There were three Chinese to one Australian in the Northern Territory of Australia.

Many Chinese, including Hakkas, also ventured out to work in the silver mines in Peru, sugarcane plantations in Cuba, Jamaica and Surinam (Dutch Guinea in South America: I have a Hakka friend there who owns a book shop which is called Peter Chong). There were many Hakka workers in the pineapple plantations in Hawaiian Islands. Dr. Sun Yat-sen's family had emigrated there.

The other day a Hakka letter, Mr. Sherman Cheung, told me that there are 3,000 ethnic Hakka speakers out of 30,000 ethnic Chinese in Panama. Due to the White Australia Policy and the restriction on Chinese entering U.S.A. Chinese emigrants to U.S.A. and Australia had slowed down at the turn of the 20th century.

After the establishment of the Chinese Republic, China entered the period of War-lordism. During the First World War in 1917 China declared war on Germany and Austria, but it had no troops to contribute to the war. Instead China dispatched 140,000 workers to France to help in the war effort like minding the machinery in the factories, digging trenches in the battle fronts and many other odd jobs. Later many Chinese students, including Zhou Enlai, Deng Xiaoping, Zhu De, Chen Yi and many others, followed them to Europe especially France to study-cum-work. Many of the workers and students were Hakka.

These students, in October 1920 formed the "Communist Youth" of China in a forest outside the town of Montargis, France, nine months before the formation of the Chinese Communist Party in Shanghai (See Mao Tse-Tung and I were Beggars by Siao-Yu chapter 38 first published in 1959). Subsequently, these workers and students returned to China.

The most important of Chinese emigration was the great exodus of Hakka, Cantonese Hokkienese to the British, French and Dutch colonies in Southeast Asia. The Chinese population of Singapore rose from 54,000 in 1866 to 224,00 in 1911. The Chinese in Dutch East Indies (present day Indonesia) increased from 175,000 in around 1860s to 295,000 in 1911. During the period from 1910 to 1930 the Chinese arriving in these three colonies increased by about 60 per cent.

After 1930 Singapore, Malacca, Penang and Cholon (a suburb of Saigon) became almost 100 per cent Chinese cities. About half of the population in the Malay peninsula (present day Malaysia) were Chinese who were former peasants and coolies from the two provinces of Guangdong and Fujian.

They were the Hakkas, Cantonese, Teochew, Hokkien, Amoy and Foochow from South China. After the Second World War all the European colonies in Southeast Asia had gained their independence. Chinese emigrations to Nanyang came to a stop.

(The End)