



# The History of Xinjiang (Part 1)

Ep. 244

PINYIN / TERM	CHINESE	ENGLISH / MEANING
<b>Chinggis Khan</b>	成吉思汗	1162-1227, Founding Khan (Emperor) of the Mongol Empire
<b>Dūnhuáng</b>	敦煌	City in western Gansu famous for the Mogao Grottos and the treasures carted away by Air Aurel Stein and others
<b>Èrlǐtóu Culture</b>	二里头文化	1900-1500 BCE Bronze age civilization located mostly in Western Henan. This may or may not have been the Xia Dynasty
<b>Emperor Wǔ / Hàn Wǔdì</b>	汉武帝	One of greatest Chinese emperors of all time. Reigned from 141-87 BCE, a record that took centuries to break! More about Han Wudi next episode
<b>Gānsù</b>	甘肃	Province of Western China. Capital is Lanzhou
<b>Hétíán / Khotan</b>	和田	The Kingdom of Khotan, now the city of Hetian in southern Xinjiang
<b>Héxǐ Corridor</b>	河西走廊	Also known as the Gansu Corridor, the main road from westernmost China to the easternmost Tarim Basin where the northern route of the Silk Road began
<b>Hāmì</b>	哈密	One of Xinjiang's most famous places, located in the Turpan Basin, an ancient civilization and darn good melons. Go try one.
<b>Kūnlún Mountains</b>	昆仑山	The mountain chain that rims the south of the Tarim Basin
<b>Lop Nor / Luóbù Pō</b>	罗布泊	Ancient salt lake, now mostly dried up where two of Xinjiang's greatest rivers flowed into. Lop Nor once covered 10,000 square km of area
<b>Lóngshān</b>	龙山文化	3000-1900 BCE, a neolithic culture in China centered in and around Shandong Province
<b>Lóulán</b>	楼兰	Known also as Krórān, an ancient kingdom on the north shores of Lop Nor. Loulan was later renamed Shanshan after China took it over
<b>Qiěmò County</b>	且末县	City and county west of Loulan. Also known as Cherchen, Charchan and Qarqan. Located in southern Xinjiang
<b>Shāng</b>	商朝	1600-1046 BCE, China's official first dynasty (not an imperial one though) for which written records have been found
<b>Shǎnxī</b>	陕西	Province in northwest China famous for a million things, including being next to a province that sounds almost the same
<b>Tiānshān</b>	天山	The Heavenly Mountains

<b>Western Hàn</b>	西汉	The Chinese dynasty founded by Liu Bang. The Western Han is also known as the Former Han and ran from 206 BCE to 9 CE
<b>Xinjiang</b>	新疆	The area that is now contained in the Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region in China. Also known by many names prior to 1884
<b>Xià Dynasty</b>	夏朝	2070-1600 BCE, China's most ancient of all dynasties, except no proof of their existence has been found (yet).
<b>Xiǎohé</b>	小河 (小河墓地)	Also known as the Ördek Necropolis, an ancient site not far from Lop Nor that contained a great number of Tarim Mummies
<b>Xiyù</b>	西域	The Western Regions, one of the ancient names for Xinjiang up to about the Tang
<b>Yánghǎi</b>	洋海	Another necropolis that yielded many Tarim Mummies
<b>Yíngpán Man</b>	营盘美男	One of the Tarim Mummies discovered
<b>Yùmén</b>	玉门	The Jade Gate, west of Dunhuang. The "Lo Wu Station" of China. End of the line
<b>Zhōu Dynasty</b>	周朝	A dynasty that followed the Shang and preceded the Qin. It ran from 1046 to 249 BCE