



The History of Xinjiang (Part 2)

Ep. 245

PINYIN / TERM	CHINESE	ENGLISH / MEANING
Battle of the Héxī Corridor	河西之战	121 BCE Battle of Héxī saw the Xiongnu pushed out of that most strategic area
Cháng'ān	长安	Present day Xian, in Shaanxi province. Capital of the Western Han, the Tang and a few other dynasties
Chányú	單于	The title of the Xiongnu leader. Also pronounced Shanyu
Chǔ	楚	The powerful kingdom in central China where Hubei is mostly located led by Xiang Yu
Cǎoyuán Sīchóu zhī lù	草原丝绸之路	the Silk Road of the Steppe
Dàyuān	大宛	A city located in the Ferghana Valley....today's northern Tajikistan
dūhù	都护	The title of the head administrator for those frontier regions
Dūnhuáng	敦煌	City in western Gansu famous for the Mogao Grottos and the treasures carted away by Air Aurel Stein and others
Guìshuāng	貴霜	Empire better known in the West as the Kushan Empire. They originally came from the Great Yuezhi
Gāixià	垓下	Near present day Suzhou, Anhui (not the Jiangsu one). Site of the final battle between Liu Bang and Xiang Yu
Gānsù	甘肃	Western province of China where Dunhuang and the Hexi Corridor is located
Huì	惠帝	The Han Emperor Hui, reigned 195-188 BCE
Huò Qùbìng	霍去病	140-117 BCE, Great Han general known for his battles and victories in the west of China
Hàn Dynasty	汉朝	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
Hàn Gāozǔ	汉高祖	The temple name of Liu Bang, founder of the Han Dynasty
Hàn Wǔdì	汉武帝	One of greatest Chinese emperors of all time. Reigned from 141-87 BCE

Hàn-Xiōngnú Wars	汉匈战争	The wars that ran from 133 BCE to 89 CE between the forces of Han China and the Xiongnu Empire
Héqīn	和亲	He meant peace and qin was a relative...this was a system of appeasement that kept the warlike tribes from harrassing and invading China south of the Great Wall
Héxī Corridor	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
Kashgar	喀什	Westernmost major city in Xinjiang and one of the most important of all trading centers along the Silk Road
Khotan	和田	The Kingdom of Khotan, now the xity of Hetian in southern Xinjiang
Liú Bāng	刘邦	Founder of the Han Dynasty who defeated Xiang Yu in the Chu-Han Contention
Liú Chè	刘彻	reign 141 to 87 BCE
Lop Nor / Luóbù Pō	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
Línfén, Shānxī	山西临汾	Capital of the Legendary Emperor Yao, located in Shanxi province
Lóulán	楼兰	Known also as Krorān, an ancient kingdom on the north shores of Lop Nor. Loulan was later renamed Shanshan after China took it over
Méng Tián	蒙恬	Heroic general during the Qin Dynast. Died in 210 BCE
Mòdú	冒頓	234-174 BCE, Xiongnu leader who build the Xiongnu Empire
Qing Dynasty.	清朝	Last Chinese imperial dynasty that ran 1644-1912
Qiāng	羌族	Minority people in China who live up in Northwest Sichuan and the Tibetan Plateau.
Qín Dynasty	秦朝	The first imperial dynasty of China
Qín Shǐhuáng	秦始皇	The first Emperor of China
Qīnghǎi	青海	Western province of China near Tibet and Xinjiang
Shǎnxī	陕西	Northwest province of China. Xian is located there.
Sāi	塞	The Saka people, an Indo-Iranian linguistic group
Tang Dynasty	唐朝	One of China's greatest dynasties. Ran from 618-907 CE with a brief interruption
Tiānmǎ	天马	Heavenly Horses, the famous horses of the Ferghana Valley out near the Yili River Valley

Tiānshān	天山	The Heavenly Mountains, located north of the Tarim Basin
Tóumàn	头曼	Xiongnu leader defeated in 215 BCE by the Qin Army led by Meng Tian. Touman's son was Modu
Túntián	屯田	“state farms worked by Han soldiers.”
Wèi Qīng	卫青	Died in 106 BCE, another great Han general known for his battles and victories in the west of China with Huo Qubing
Wén	文帝	The Han Emperor Wen, reigned 180-157 BCE
Wūsūn	乌孙	One of the Indo-European semi-nomadic steppe people. They came from around Gansu
Xīnjiāng	新疆	The area that is now contained in the Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region in China. Also known by many names prior to 1884
Xiàng Yǔ	项羽	The powerful leader of Chu State who was defeated by Liu Bang at Gaixia in 202 BCE
Xiōngnú	匈奴	A once powerful confederation of tribes whose empire once stretched from the eastern reaches of the Mongol homeland and into East Central Asia
Xiǎo Hé	小河	Also known as the Ördek Necropolis, an ancient site not far from Lop Nor that contained a great number of Tarim Mummies
Xī Zhōu	西周	Western Zhou Dynasty. Also known as the Former Zhou. Ran from 1045 BCE to 771 BCE
Yuèzhī	月氏	A nomadic people originally based in and around Gansu Province
Yīlí River	伊犁河	Major river part in Xinjiang and part in Kazakhstan
Zhāng Qiān	张骞	The great Han adventurer who journeyed to the West between 138-126 BCE and whose story is immortalized in ancient Chinese texts