



Eunuchs in Chinese History (Part 4)

Ep. 270

PINYIN / TERM	CHINESE	ENGLISH / MEANING
Bā Hǔ	八虎	The Eight Tigers, a cabal of very powerful eunuchs during the Zhengde Era, and led by Liu Jin
Chéng huà	成化帝	Ninth Ming Emperor who tried to do his best but he could not. By the end of his reign, eunuchs controlled palace affairs
Duì shí	对食	A special kind of palace relationship between palace women, a eunuch and a palace woman or between two eunuchs.
Dōng lín Dǎng	东林党	Dōng Lín Faction
Emperor Chóngzhēn	崇祯	The final emperor of the Ming Dynasty, reigning 1627-1644
Empress Zhang	懿安皇后	Don't get her confused with the Empress Zhang above. She lived 1606-1644 and was the Empress Consort to the Tianqi Emperor. Also known as Empress Yian 懿安皇后
Empress Zhāng	孝成靖皇后	Also known as Empress Xiaochengjing (1471-1541), wife of the Hongzhi Emperor
Guì zhōu	贵州	Province in Southwest China
Guǎng xī	广西	Province in Southwest China, just west of Guangdong
Gāo Lì shì	高力士	The chief Eunuch during the period of Xuánzōng. Lived 684-762
Gōng gōng	公公	An archaic usage of a familial term for court eunuchs
Gǔn lóng pào	滚龙袍	Dragon Robes, a kind of garment reserved only for the emperor
Han Emperor Wǔ	汉武帝	Great Han emperor who reigned 157-87 BCE
House of Zhū	朱家族	House of Zhū was the ruling family of the Ming Dynasty, founded by Zhu Yuanzhang
Huī zōng	徽宗	Northern Song emperor from 1100-1126, featured in CHP episodes 132 to 135
Hóng zhì	弘治	Son of the Chenghua emperor and successor as emperor. reigned 1487-1505

Jiājìng emperor	嘉靖帝	Ming Emperor 1521-1567
Jǐngtài emperor	景泰帝	Emperor who reigned after the Zhengtong Emperor was captured. Jingtai reigned 1449-1457
Li Ka-shing	李嘉诚	Sir Li Ka-shing, born June 13, 1928, one of the wealthiest men in the world, founder of a huge business empire. Also a great philanthropist
Líu Jǐn	刘瑾	1451-1510, very powerful eunuch dictator and leader of the so-called Eight Tigers. He climbed to the top on the back of the Zhengde Emperor
Língchí	凌迟	The dreaded death of a thousand cuts
Lóngqìng	隆庆帝	Ming Emperor 1567-1572
Lǐ Fǔguó	李辅国	Most powerful and influential eunuch during the reign of Emperor Suzong. Lived 704-762
Madame Kè	客氏	Partner in crime with Wei Zhongxian. She served the Tianqi Emperor as his nanny and mother figure
Míng Xiànzōng	明宪宗	Temple name of the Chenghua Emperor
Qing Dynasty	清朝	The last imperial dynasty of China that lasted 1644-1911
Qín Èrshǐ	秦二世	The second Qín Emperor
Shǎnxī	陕西	Province in China. Xian is the capital
Sùzōng	肃宗	Tang Emperor from 756-762
Tiānqǐ	天启	Foolhardy Ming Emperor who reigned 1620-1627
Táng Xiànzōng	唐宪宗	Tang emperor who reigned from 805-820
Tóng Guàn	童贯	1054-1126, Eunuch general, politician and adviser during the time of Emperor Huizong
Tǔmù Fort	土木堡	The site of the Tǔmù Fortress Crisis of September 1, 1449 that saw Emperor Zhengtong captured by Oirat Mongols
Wàn Zhēn'ér	万贞儿	The Chenghua Emperor's nanny and later most beloved consort
Wànlì	万历帝	Ming Emperor 1572-1620
Wáng Zhèn	王振	First of the most notorious bad eunuchs of the Ming Dynasty. He engineered the whole Tumu Crisis
Wèi Zhōngxián	魏忠贤	1568-1627, Chief Eunuch during the Ming Tianqi Emperor

Wāng Zhí	汪直	We'll look at this second eunuch dictator next episode. He served during the Chenghua Emperor's reign.
Wǔzōng	武宗	Temple name of the Zhengde Emperor
Xiàozōng	孝宗	Temple name of the Hongzhi Emperor
Xuánzōng	玄宗	Also known as Emperor Míng of Táng. He reigned during one of the two peaks of the Tang but also helped bring the dynasty down. Reigned 712-756. His personal name was Li Longji (see below)
Xuāndé	宣德	Ming Emperor who reigned 1425-1435
Xīchǎng	西厂	The Western Depot, an office setup for and managed by the dreaded eunuch Liu Jin
Xīzōng	僖宗	Tianqi Emperor's Temple Name
Yáng Yīqīng	杨一清	An official who conspired with one of the Eight Tigers, Zhang Yong to bring Liu Jin down
Yáo zú	瑶族	The Yao people of China and Vietnam. They often teamed up with the Miao people in a long struggle with Imperial China
Yúnnán	云南	Province in Southwest China
Yǒnglè Emperor	永乐帝	Also known as Emperor Chengzu, reigned 1402-1424
Zhào Gāo	赵高	Died 207 BCE, a life shrouded in myth and legend, served all three Qin emperors
Zhèngdé emperor	正德帝	Ming emperor 1505-1521, and not a very good one
Zhèngtǒng Emperor	正统	Also known as Emperor Yingzong of Ming, reigned as both the 6th and 8th Ming Emperor
Zhāng Yǒng	张永	One of the Eight Tigers who worked in tandem with Yang Yiqing to bring an end to Liu Jin's career (and life)
Zhū Jiànshēn	朱见深	Personal name of the Chenghua Emperor
Zhū Yuánzhāng	朱元璋	Personal name of the Ming Dynasty founder who reigned as Emperor Tàizǔ or the Hóngwǔ Emperor
Zhū Yòuchēng	朱祐樞	A.K.A. the Hongwu Emperor, founder of the Ming Dynasty who reigned 1368-1398
Zhū Yóujiào	朱由校	Personal Name of the Tianqi Emperor
Zhū Zhīfán	朱真鐸	The Prince of Ānhuà 安化王子 who led a rebellion against eunuch domination of the imperial court in May of 1510