



# The History of Yunnan Province

## (Part 1)

Ep. 328

PINYIN / TERM	CHINESE	ENGLISH / MEANING
Yúnnán	云南	A landlocked province in the southwest of the PRC. Population is around 50 million. The capital of the province is Kunming. Yunnan borders the provinces of Guizhou, Sichuan, Guangxi, and Tibet as well as Southeast Asian countries:
Hénán	河南	Province in northern China where Huaxia civilization began
Hǎinán	海南	Island province off the coast of southwest Guangdong
Guǎngzhōu	广州	Once known in the West as Canton, it is a historic port city and capital of Guangdong province
Luópíng County	罗平县	A county in northeast Yunnan
Guìzhōu	贵州	Interior province in west China bordering Yunnan
Guǎngxī	广西	Province in southern China to the north and west of Guangdong
Yúnlǐng	云岭	The Yun Mountain range, of which Yunnan was south of
Hàn Dynasty	汉朝	The Han Dynasty, founded in 202 BC (Western Han). Following an interregnum lasting 9- 25 AD, the Dynasty continued on (Eastern Han) from to 25 to 220 AD
Yuánmóu Man	元谋人	Homo erectus yuanmouensis, a subspecies of Homo erectus which inhabited the Yuanmou Basin in the Yunnan roughly 1.7 million years ago. It is the first fossil evidence of humans in China, though they probably reached the region
Sìchuān	四川	Province in southwest China with its capital in Chengdu. It bordered Yunnan to the north
Lake Diān	滇池	Lake Dian, one of the three great lakes of Yunnan Province. Lake Dian was in Kunming, Lake Erhai 洱海 was in Dali and Fǔxiān Lake 抚仙湖 was in Chengjiang, Jiangchuan and Huaning Counties
Kūnmíng	昆明	Capital city of Yunnan Province and location of Lake Dian and the ancient Dian Kingdom
Diān Kingdom	滇国	The Dian Kingdom, established by the Dian people, a non-Han metalworking civilization from the late Spring and Autumn period until the Eastern Han dynasty. The Dian language was likely one of the Tibeto-Burman languages.
Eastern Zhōu	东周	The Eastern Zhou was divided up into the Spring and Autumn and Warring States Periods. It preceded the Qin Dynasty. It began in 771 BC after the capital was moved east to Luoyang. It fell in 256 BC
Xīnán Yí	西南夷	The "Yi" non-Han indigenous people of the Southwest, a chapter of the Record of the Grand Historian

<b>Simǎ Qiān</b>	司马迁	Han Dynasty historiographer who (along with his father Sima Tan) wrote the 史记 The Record of the Grand Historian
<b>Yízù</b>	彝族	The Yi ethnic minority people of Yunnan
<b>Chǔ</b>	楚国	The Yi or Nuosu people historically known as the Lolo, are an ethnic group in China, Vietnam, Laos and Thailand. Numbering 9 million people, they are the seventh largest of the 55 ethnic minority groups officially recognized by the
<b>King Zhāoxiāng</b>	秦昭襄王	Great-grandfather of Qin Shihuang, he was king of Qin from 306 to 251 BC. King Zhaoxiang reigned as the King of Qin for 57 years, and was responsible for the state of Qin achieving strategic dominance over the other six major

<b>King Huìwén</b>	秦惠文王	Father of King Zhaoxiang. He reigned 338-311 BC
<b>Duke Xiào</b>	秦孝公	Father of King Huiwen. He reigned 361-338 BC
<b>Shāng Yāng</b>	商鞅	c. 390 – 338 BC, a Legalist, philosopher, and politician. Born in the Zhou vassal state of Wei during the Warring States period, he was a statesman, chancellor and reformer serving the State of Qin, where his policies laid the
<b>King Qīngxiāng</b>	顷襄王	Chu king who reigned 298 to 263 BC
<b>Xióng</b>	熊	The surname of most all Chu kings
<b>Zhuāng Qiáo</b>	庄騫	Chu general sent west on a expeditionary force in 279 BC. Founded the Dian Kingdom the following year
<b>Qín Shǐhuáng</b>	秦始皇	King of Qin who founded the Qin Dynasty in 221 BC. He was China's first emperor of a dynasty
<b>Nányuè Kingdom</b>	南越国	204-111 BC, an ancient kingdom ruled by Chinese kings of the Zhao family. It covered Guangdong, Guangxi, Hainan, Hong Kong, Macau, southern Fujian and central to northern Vietnam. Nanyue was established by Zhao Tuo, then
<b>Yèláng Kingdom</b>	夜郎国	An ancient political entity first described in the 3rd century BC in what is now western Guizhou. It was active for over 200 years and among the first of this southwestern region to submit to China
<b>Bā and Shǔ</b>	巴蜀	Ba is an ancient state from around the Chongqing area, Shu was centered around Chengdu. They were both conquered by Qin in 316 BC.
<b>Hàn Wǔdì</b>	汉武帝	Emperor of the Han Dynasty from 156 to 87 BC
<b>Jùn</b>	郡	A commandery
<b>Jiānwèi Commandery</b>	犍为郡	The commandery established near the Lake Dian region
<b>Hàn-Xiōngnú Wars</b>		A series of military conflicts fought over two centuries (from 133 BC to 89 AD) between the Han Empire and the Xiongnu confederation, although extended conflicts can be traced back as early as 200 BC and ahead as late as 188 AD.
<b>Zhāng Qiān</b>	张骞	Died c. 114 BC, was a Chinese official and diplomat who served as an imperial envoy to the world outside of China in the late 2nd century BC during the Western Han dynasty. He was one of the first official diplomats to bring
<b>Xīnjiāng</b>	新疆	Autonomous Region (Province) in China's northwest. Capital is Urumqi
<b>Chámǎ Gǔdào</b>	茶马古道	The Ancient Tea Horse Road

<b>Pǔ-Ērh</b>	<b>普洱</b>	Dali City is located in western Yunnan, approximately 250 km (160 mi) northwest of the provincial capital of Kunming.
<b>Dàlǐ</b>	<b>大理</b>	the county-level seat of the Dali Bai Autonomous Prefecture in northwestern Yunnan. Dali City is administered through 12 township-level districts, two of which are also commonly referred to as Dali. Dali City is located in western
<b>Lǐjiāng</b>	<b>丽江</b>	Prefecture-level city in northwest Yunnan, parts of which are a UNESCO Heritage Site
<b>Zhōngdiàn</b>	<b>中甸</b>	A county-level city in Northwestern Yunnan. It's the government seat of the Dêqên Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture, bordering Sichuan to the northwest, north, and east.Zhongdian was renamed Shangri-La in December 2001.
<b>Zayu - Cháyú Xiàn</b>	<b>察隅县</b>	A county in the Nyingchi, Tibet Autonomous Region. It means "people's residence" in Tibetan. It borders Zuogong County in Qamdo, Deqin County and Gongshan County in Yunnan Province in the east, Medog County in the west,
<b>Bōmì</b>	<b>波密</b>	A county of Nyingchi Prefecture in the south-east of the Tibet Autonomous Region. Historically known as Powo or Poyul, it was the seat of a quasi-independent kingdom until the early 20th century. Accounts of this terrestrial
<b>Dàxià</b>	<b>大夏</b>	name given in antiquity by the Chinese to the territory of Bactria (present-day Afghanistan)
<b>Yìzhōu</b>	<b>益州</b>	Also called Yi Province or Yi Prefecture, It was a zhou (province) of ancient China. Its capital city was Chengdu.[
<b>Shízhàishān</b>	<b>石寨山</b>	Located in Jinning District, Kunming City. Shizhaishan and Lijiashan are the location where many Dian Kingdom rulers were interred in underground tombs
<b>Lǐjiāshān</b>	<b>李家山</b>	Site of more Dian Kingdom-era tombs. Not far from Shizhaishan
<b>Sānxīngduī and Jīnshā</b>	<b>三星堆/金沙</b>	Arcaeolgocal sites discovered around Chengdu of an ancient Bronze Age civilization.
<b>Guō Mòruò</b>	<b>郭沫若</b>	1892-1978, was a very respected Chinese author, poet, historian, archaeologist, and government official
<b>Gōujiàn</b>	<b>勾踐王</b>	Reigned 496–465 BC as king of the Kingdom of Yue (越國, present-day northern Zhejiang)
<b>Diān Wáng Jīn Yìn</b>	<b>滇王金印</b>	The gold seal of the King of Dian
<b>Zāngkē</b>	<b>牂牁郡</b>	One of the commanderies setup by Han Wudi after making peace with the Yelang of Guizhou
<b>Three Kingdoms</b>	<b>三国</b>	The period frtom the fall of the Han in 220 AD to rthe founduing of the Jin Dynasty in 280
<b>Nánzhōng</b>	<b>南中</b>	The ancient name for a region in southwest China that covers parts of present-day Yunnan, Guizhou and southern Sichuan provinces
<b>Zhūgě Liàng</b>	<b>诸葛亮</b>	181-234, military engineer, strategist, statesman, and writer. He was chancellor and later regent of the state of Shu Han during the Three Kingdoms period. He is recognised as the most accomplished strategist of his era, and
<b>Cuànmán</b>	<b>爨蛮</b>	An ethnic group in northern Yunnan. They came into power after assisting Zhuge Liang's Southern Campaign and dominated Yunnan during the Northern and Southern dynasties period. They were defeated by the Sui dynasty in 602
<b>Shǔ Hàn</b>	<b>蜀汉</b>	One of the Three Kingdoms of 220-280 AD. Shu Han was based in China's southwest and had its capital in Chengdu
<b>Cáo Wèi</b>	<b>曹魏</b>	One of the Three Kingdoms of 220-280 AD. Cao Wei was based in the north of China's and had its capital in Xuchang and Luoyang

<b>Wú</b>	<b>吴国</b>	The third of the Three Kingdoms of 220-280 AD. Also called Sun Wu, it was based in the east of China's and had its capital in Wuchang and Jianye (Nanjing area)
<b>Fēnjiǔbìhé, héjiǔbìfēn</b>	<b>分久必合, 合久必分</b>	Famous line from Romance of the Three Kingdoms. Divided for a long time must be united, united for a long time must be divided
<b>Western and Eastern Jin</b>	<b>西晋/东晋</b>	The Western Jin lasted 266-311 and was based in Luoyang and Chang'an. From 312-420 the Eastern Jin was based in Jiankang (Nanjing)
<b>Northern and Southern Dynasties</b>	<b>南北朝</b>	A period of political division that lasted from 420-589. It following the Sixteen Kingdoms and the Eastern Jin dynasty. It is sometimes considered as the latter part of a longer period known as the Six Dynasties (220–589)
<b>Líu Sòng</b>	<b>刘宋</b>	The first of the Northern Dynasties. It lasted 420-479
<b>Southern Qí</b>	<b>南齐</b>	The second of the Southern Dynasties. It lasted 479-502
<b>Northern Zhōu</b>	<b>北周</b>	The last of the Northern Dynasties. It lasted 557-581 and was succeeded by the Song
<b>Suí Emperor Yáng</b>	<b>隋炀帝</b>	The second and final emperor of the Sui Dynasty. He reigned 604-618
<b>Báimán</b>	<b>白蛮</b>	Indigenous people of the Cuanman era, 3rd-4th Century. See Cuanman above
<b>Wūmán</b>	<b>乌蛮</b>	Indigenous people of the Cuanman era, 3rd-4th Century. See Cuanman above
<b>Bái people</b>	<b>白族</b>	An East Asian ethnic group native to the Dali Bai Autonomous Prefecture of Yunnan Province, Bijie area of Guizhou Province, and Sangzhi area of Hunan Province. They constitute one of the 56 ethnic groups officially recognized by
<b>Six Dynasties</b>	<b>六朝</b>	See Northern and Southern Dynasties above
<b>Táng Gāozǔ</b>	<b>唐高祖</b>	Founder of the Tang Dynast. Personal name Li Yuan 李渊
<b>Cháng'ān</b>	<b>长安</b>	The ancient capital of many past dynasties. Located in present day Xian
<b>Lake Ěrhǎi</b>	<b>洱海</b>	An alpine fault lake in Dali City, Dali Prefecture, Yunnan. Erhai was also known as Yeyuze (叶榆泽) or Kunming Lake (昆明池) in ancient times.
<b>Ānnán Dūhùfǔ</b>	<b>安南都護府</b>	An imperial protectorate and the southernmost administrative division of the Tang dynasty. It ran from 679 to 866, located in modern-day Vietnam. An Nam, simplified to "Annam", is the Vietnamese form of the Chinese name
<b>Xínúluó</b>	<b>细奴逻</b>	Seventh Century chieftain of the Mengshe tribe
<b>Méngshè</b>	<b>蒙舍</b>	One of the many tribes or Zhào's 诏 around present day Dali Prefecture
<b>zhào</b>	<b>诏</b>	See above
<b>Nánzhào Kāiguó Jūnwáng</b>	<b>南诏开国君王</b>	the founding monarch of Nánzhào
<b>Dà Méng</b>	<b>大蒙</b>	Great Méng

Pīluōgé	皮罗阁	The founder of the Nanzhao kingdom in what is now Yunnan. He reigned from 728 or 738 through 748
Tang Emperor Xuánzōng	唐玄宗	The seventh emperor of the Tang dynasty in China, reigning from 712 to 756 CE. His reign of 44 years was the longest during the Tang dynasty
Nánzhào Kingdom	南诏国	A dynastic kingdom that flourished in what is now southern China and northern Southeast Asia during the 8th and 9th centuries. It was centered on present-day Yunnan
Méng Guīyì	蒙归义	Honorific name given to Pīluogē by the Tang emperor
Gélúófèng	阁逻凤	Nanzhao king who succeeded Pīluogē and reigned 748 to 779
Sūzōng	唐肃宗	Tang emperor who reigned 756-762
Dàizōng	唐代宗	Tang emperor who reigned 762-779
Ān Lùshān Rebellion	安史之乱	Also known as the An–Shi Rebellion, An–Shi Disturbances, this was an eight-year civil war (from 755 to 763 AD) during the mid-Tang that started as a commandery rebellion against the Imperial Government, attempting to
Yímóuxún	異牟尋	Grandson of Geluofeng, the sixth king of Nanzhao, reigned from 779 to 808.
Chengdu	成都	Capital city of Sichuan province
Dādù River	大渡河	A major river located primarily in Sichuan. The Dadu flows from the eastern Tibetan Plateau into the Sichuan Basin where it joins with the Min River, a tributary of the Yangtze River.
Xiànzōng	唐宪宗	Tang emperor who reigned 805-820
Wǔzōng	唐武宗	Tang emperor who reigned 840-846
Shìlóng	世隆	The 11th king of Nanzhao, reigned 859-877
Gāo Pián	高骈	c. 821-887, Chinese military general, poet, and politician of the Tang Dynasty. He initially gained renown for defeating Nanzhao incursions, but later became known for his failure to repel the rebel army under Huang Chao
Quán Táng Shī	全唐诗	The Complete Tang Poems, the largest collection of Tang poetry.
Dàlǐ Old Town	大理古城	The historic old town center of Dali Town 大理镇
Chóngshèng Temple	崇圣寺	a Buddhist temple near the old town of Dali. The Three Pagodas are part of the complex. It was once the royal temple of the Kingdom of Dali, originally built in the 9th century. At its height, the temple included 891 rooms, 11,400
Quàn fēng yòu	劝丰祐	The 10th king of Nanzhao,
Xiǎoyàn Tǎ	小雁塔	The Small Wild Goose Pagoda, located in Xi'an
Dàlǐ Kingdom	大理国	A state situated in modern Yunnan, from 937 until 1253