

From Point State to Area State

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Abstract. Here is a case of “state [*re*]formation” in which an ethnically composite state becomes more homogeneous. Lǚ was not at first purely Sinitic. Along with evidence of deforestation, the Chūn/Chyōu 春秋 (CC) chronicle of Lǚ records the suppression of the Rúng 戎 people, whose lifestyle may have depended on hunting, over the period 0676-0650, and a seeming shift in the self-perception of Lǚ, from a few *points of habitation* to an *area of domination*: from point state to area state.

Lǚ 魯 was created in early Jōu at modern Lǚ-shān 魯山 (33° 45' N, 112° 48' E), south and east of Lwò-yáng (Hsu **Western** 158). After Jōu had defeated a rebellion of the conquered Shāng, Lǚ was moved to the east of the Shāng enclave state of Sùng, with a stronghold at Chyŵ-fù 曲阜, apparently to outflank any future Shāng uprisings. The fiefs of Chí and Yēn were also moved eastward at this time. Most probably, Lǚ was a garrison state, imposed on a local and largely non-Sinitic populace.

No early CC entry for Lǚ uses the term bǐ 鄙 “border,” hence the 08c Lǚ court did not see itself as ruling an area *defined* by borders. It acquired borders after the Rúng were suppressed, the Lǚ local version of a more general Sinification process noticed by Lattimore. That process occupied the first 70 years covered by the CC. Details are:

0721	Yǐn 2	spr	Prince met with Rúng at Chyén
		aut	Prince covenanted with Rúng at Táng
0718	Yǐn 5	spr	Prince went spearfishing at Táng [<i>in former Rúng lands</i>]
0716	Yǐn 7	win	Rung abducted [Jōu envoy] at Chǔ-chyōu [<i>raid</i>]
0710	Hwán 2	9mo	Prince covenanted with Rúng at Táng
0676	Jwāng 18	sum	Prince pursued Rúng to W of the Jì [<i>reprisal; new policy</i>]
0675	Jwāng 19	aut	Prince's son covenanted with Chí and Sùng [<i>cf next</i>]
		win	Chí, Sùng, and Chǔn attacked our W border [<i>cf next</i>]
0674	Jwāng 20	win	Chí attacked Rúng [<i>text var for Rúng: 我 “us”</i>]
0670	Jwāng 24	win	Rúng invaded Tsáu [<i>to the SW of Lǚ</i>]
0668	Jwāng 26	spr	Prince attacked the Rúng [<i>response to previous</i>]
		sum	Prince returned from attacking Rúng [<i>last hostilities</i>]

The task of eliminating the Rúng of Tàì-shān was undertaken by Chí Hwán-gūng:

0664	Jwāng 30	win	Prince met Lord of Chí on Lǚ side of the Jì [<i>cf next</i>] Chí attacked the Mountain Rúng [<i>cf entry for 0674</i>]
0663	Jwāng 31	6mo	Lord of Chí presented booty from Rúng [<i>final victory</i>]
0650	Syī 10	sum	Lord of Chí and Chieftain of Syŵ attacked N Rúng

This seems to mark the end of the Rúng as a people *in the immediate Lǚ area*. In all four subsequent CC mentions (at years 0627, 0606, 0590, and 0525), the Rúng appear as the allies or adversaries of the central state Jìn, or states immediately adjoining Jìn. The Rúng of the east seem to be no longer in the picture.

Borders. We may now note the interplay of Rúng suppression and Lǚ border consciousness, by reviewing all uses of the term 鄙 “border” in the CC. Entries in *italics* are repeated from the above list:

0676	Jwāng 18	sum	<i>Prince pursued Rúng to W of the Ji</i>
0675	Jwāng 19	win	Chí, Sùng, and Chún attacked our W border [<i>first W</i>]
0674	Jwāng 20	win	<i>Chí attacked Rúng [location unclear]</i>
0664	Jwāng 30	win	<i>Chí attacked the Mountain Rúng</i>
0650	Syī 10	sum	<i>Lord of Chí and Chieftain of Syǔ attacked N Rúng</i>
0634	Syī 26	spr	Chí violated our W border
		sum	Chí violated our N border [<i>first N</i>]
0620	Wún 7	sum	The Dí violated our W border
0613	Wún 14	spr	Jū attacked our S border [<i>first S</i>]
0612	Wún 15	aut	Chí violated our W border
		12mo	Lord of Chí violated our W border and attacked Tsáu
0610	Wún 17	sum	Lord of Chí attacked our W border
0589	Chǔng 2	spr	Lord of Chí attacked our N border
0565	Syāng 8	sum	Jyǔ attacked our E border [<i>first E</i>]
0563	Syāng 10	aut	Jyǔ attacked our E border
0561	Syāng 12	3mo	Jyǔ attacked our E border and besieged Tái
0559	Syāng 14	sum	Jyǔ violated our E border
0558	Syāng 15	sum	Lord of Chí attacked our N border and besieged Chǔng
		aut	Jū attacked our S border
0557	Syāng 16	spr	Lord of Chí attacked our N border
		aut	Lord of Chí attacked our N border and besieged Chǔng
0556	Syāng 17	aut	Lord of Chí attacked our N border and besieged Tsáu
			Gāu Hòu of Chí led a host and attacked our N border
0555	Syāng 18	aut	Chí host attacked our N border
0548	Syāng 25	spr	Tswēi Jù of Chí led a host and attacked our N border
0503	Dìng 7	aut	Gwó Syà of Chí led a host and attacked our W border

With the extermination of the Rúng to the west of Lǚ (0676), the Lǚ *western* border seems to have come into existence, not as a point that might be attacked, but as a line that might be infringed. It is first reported *as* infringed in the following year, 0675. After the Chí campaigns against the northern Rúng (0650), a Lǚ *northern* border appears in the CC (0634). No recorded campaigns precede the first infringements of the southern (0613) or eastern (0565) borders. Probably only the Rúng (perhaps the remnant of a non-Sinitic coastal people) disputed the territory of Lǚ with Lǚ itself. With their elimination, the court seems to have felt itself to be in charge of an area.

Thus did Lǚ make the transition from a garrison state to a territorial state: a polity and not the *agent* of a polity. This was probably the Lǚ version of the transformation of all the former vassal fiefs into independent states, after the fall of Jōu in 0771. How typical the Lǚ experience may have been awaits further study; the somewhat different relation of Jìn with its own Rúng is already evident from the data here considered.

Works Cited

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