

*The Qinling Frontier and the
Construction of Empire in China:
Three Examples from Early and
Middle Period History*

秦嶺分界和中國王朝的建立：中國早期和中期
歷史上的三個例子

*Ruth Mostern (馬瑞詩) and Elijah Meeks
University of California, Merced*

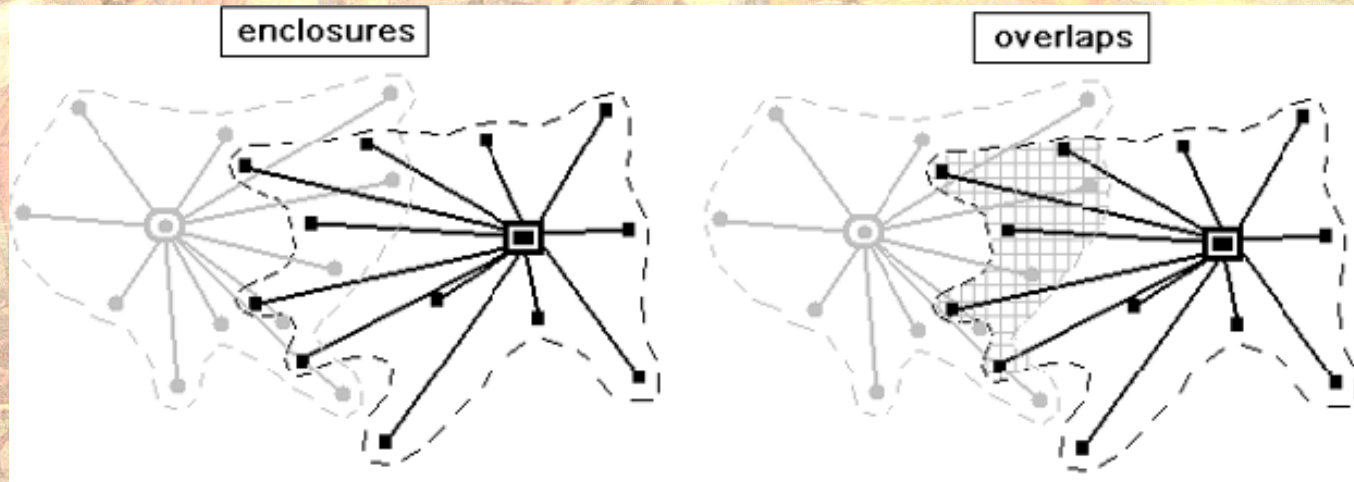
*For presentation at the International Symposium on Historical
Research on Plank Roads and Applications of 3S Technology*

Hanzhong, May 16-18, 2007

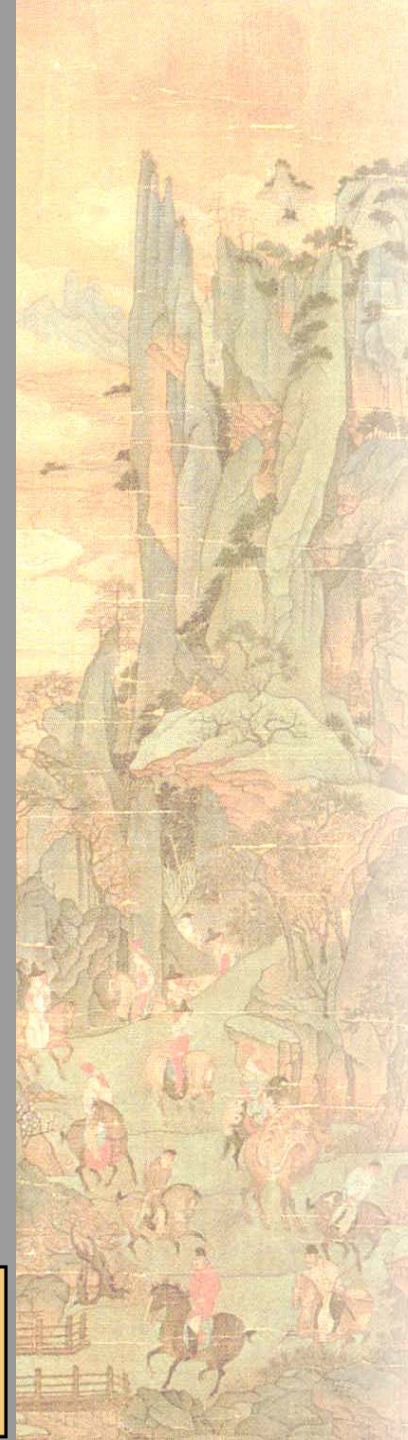
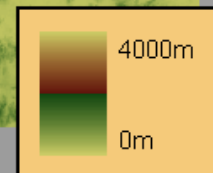
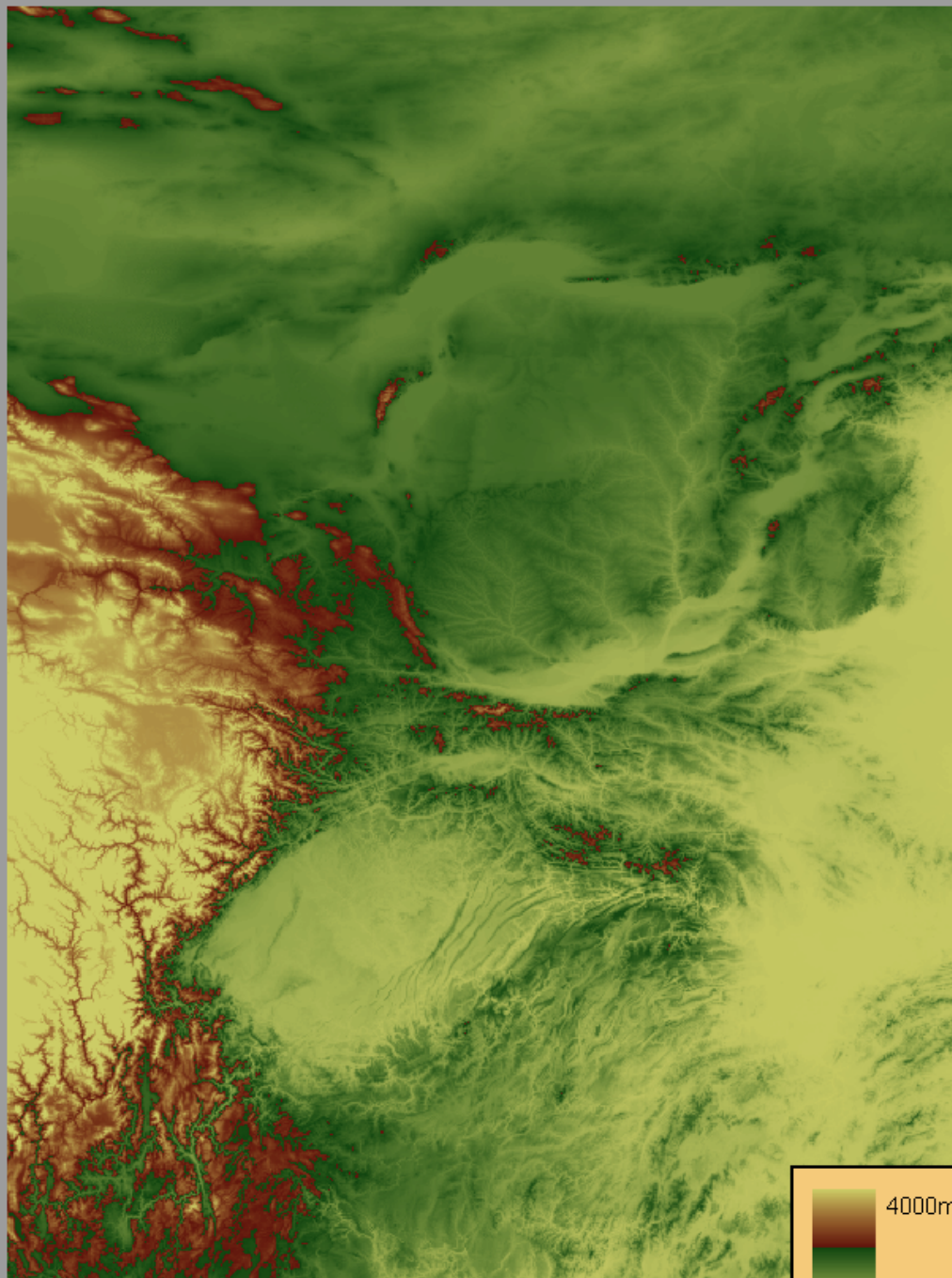
Frontier Spatiality 边界的空间性

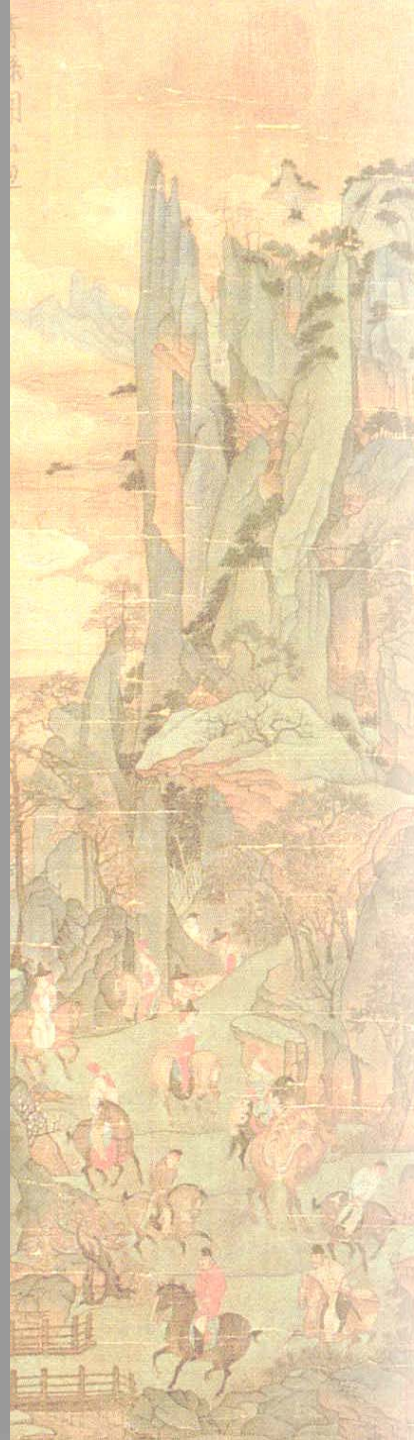
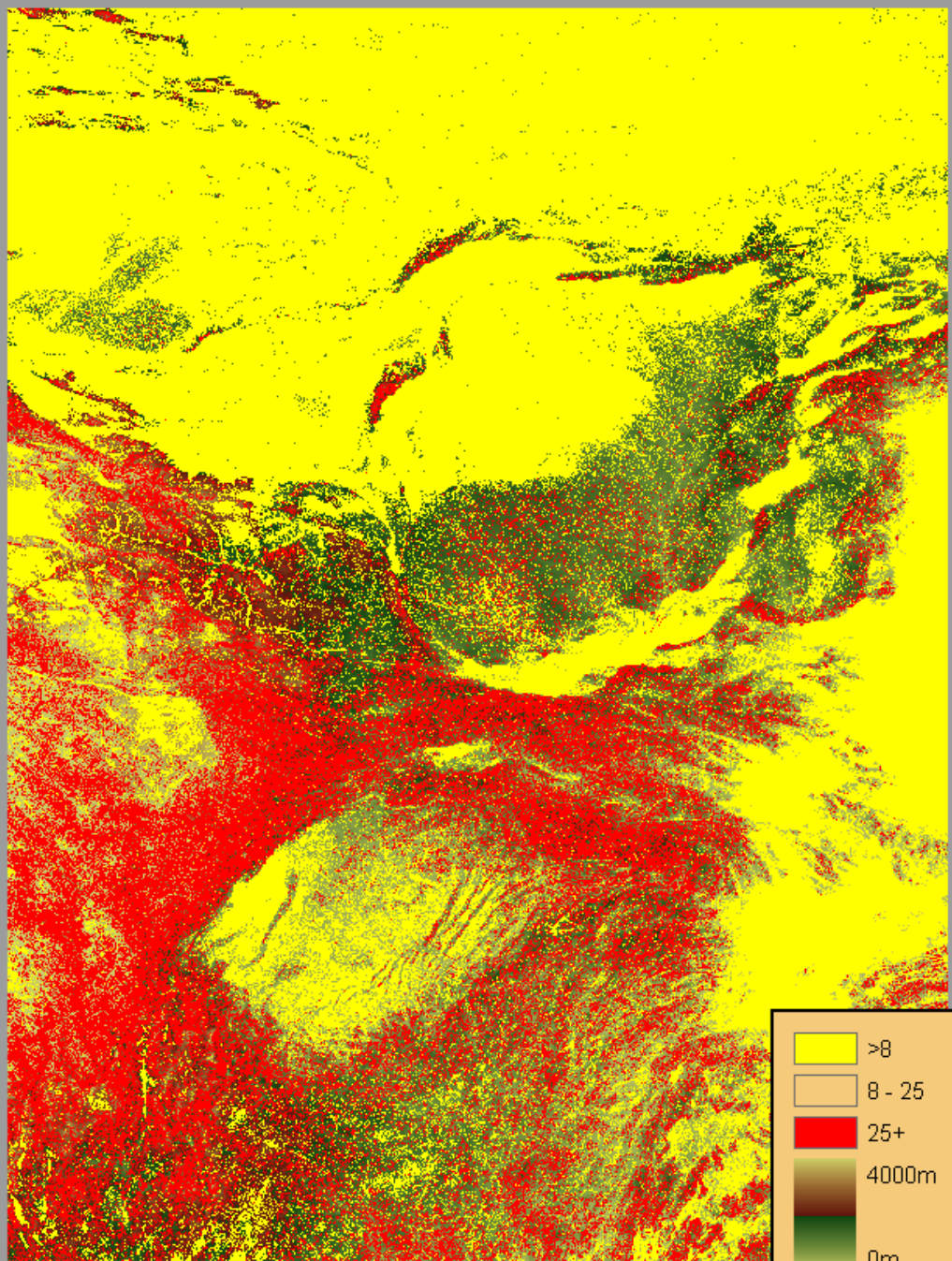
- *Zones (區域), not lines (界線)*
 - *Where state control is limited and authority fades away*
 - *Between or within empires and cultures*
 - *Which interpenetrate each other and co-evolve*
- *Membranes (薄膜) not barriers (阻礙)*
 - *Difficult but not impossible to traverse*
 - *Sparsely (but not un-) populated*
 - *Permeable to some people, carrying some things, using certain technologies.*
- *Places of ecological, cultural and political transition*
 - *Affected by small climate shifts*

Frontier Historical GIS



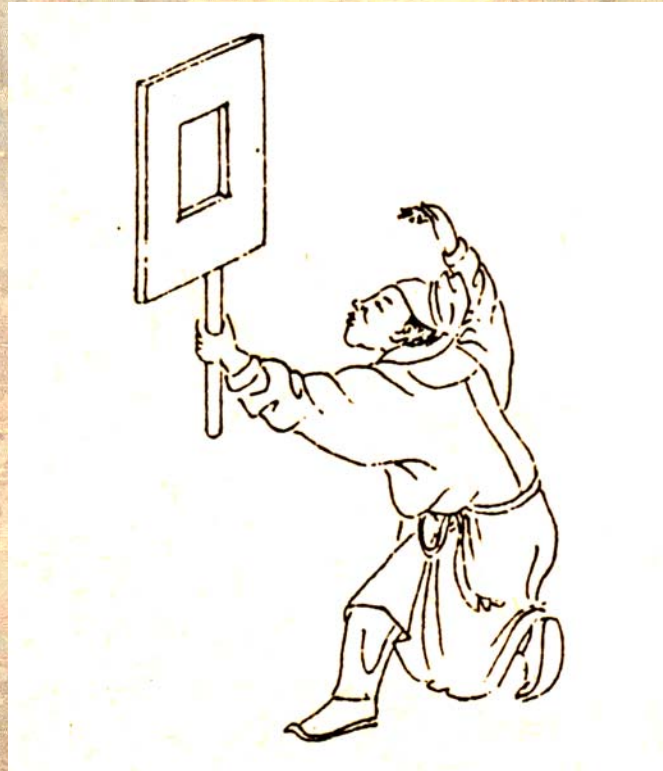
- *Frontier spatiality changes over time*
- *Is better visualized through networks than boundaries*
- *Can be modeled*

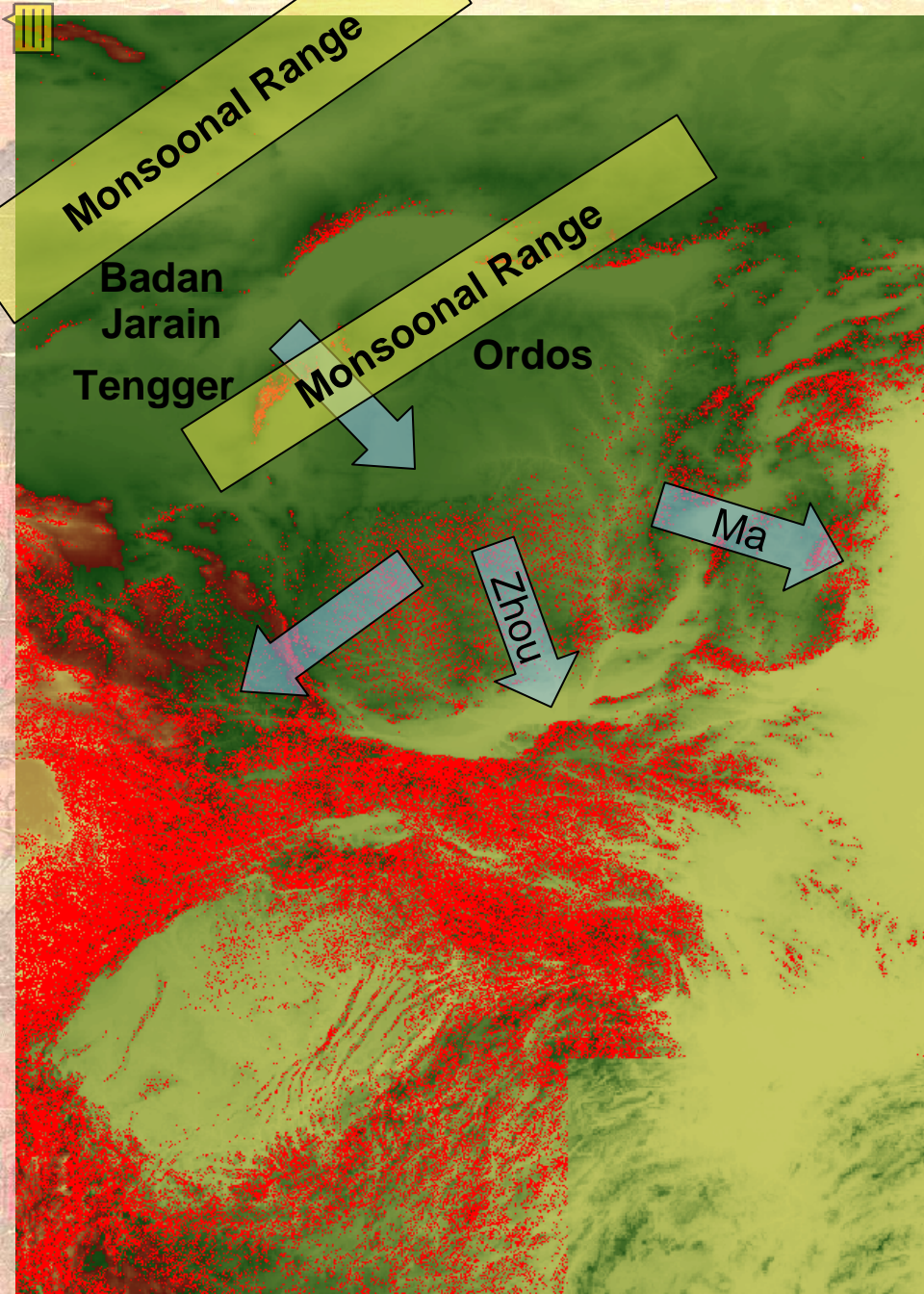




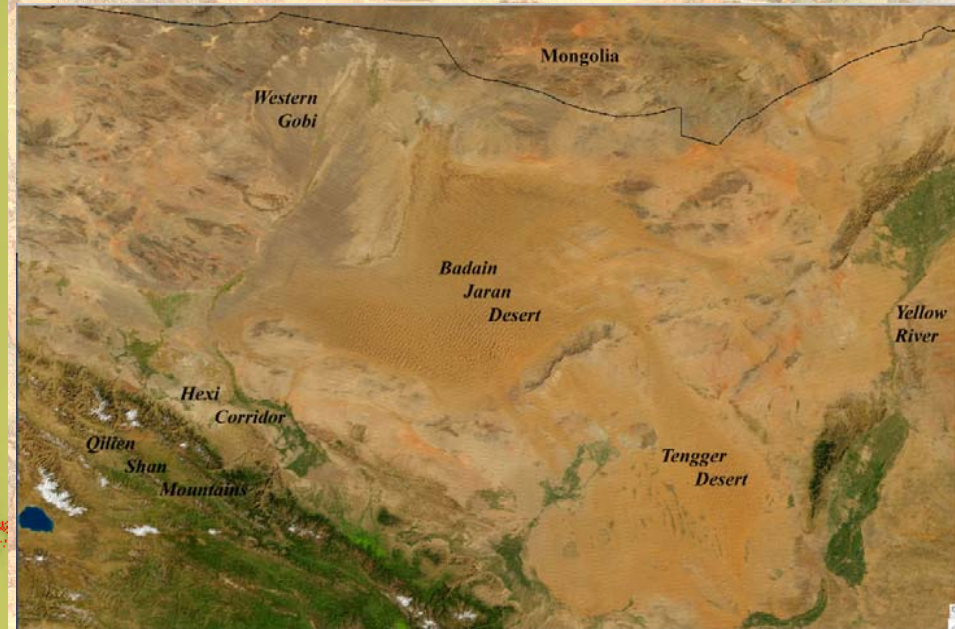
青係關山迥
時昨道訪長
宮人多往來行
李自周祥記
為名和利那
爾勞與忙年
陳夫姓氏北宋
道平庵
甲子年秋
尚勉

The Bronze Age 青銅時代



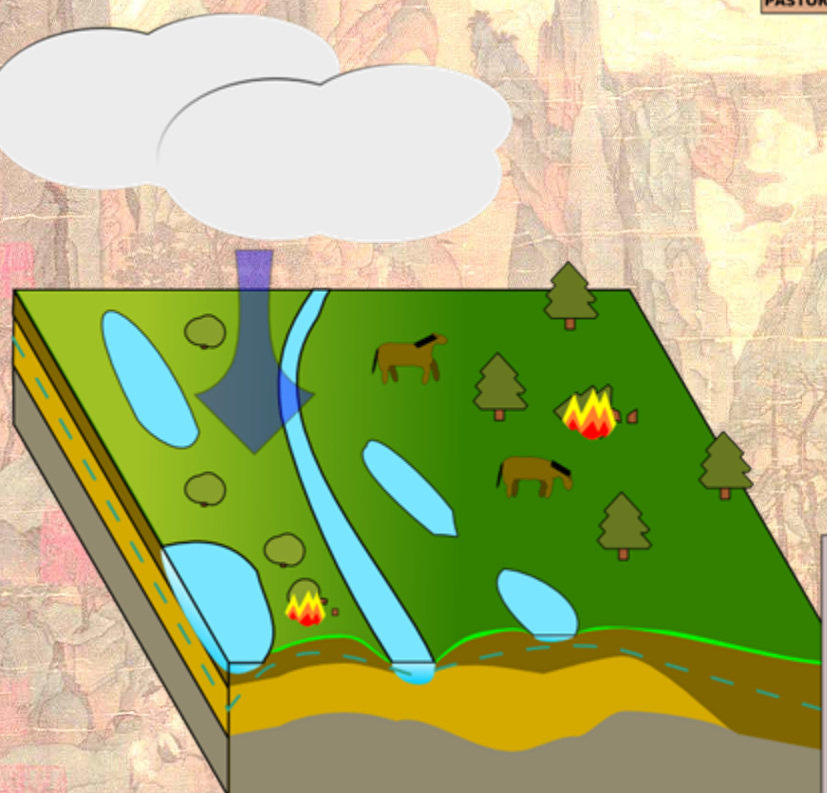
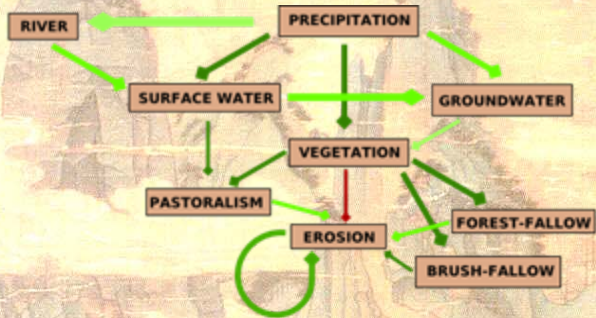


Climate Change and the Sandai 三代 Era

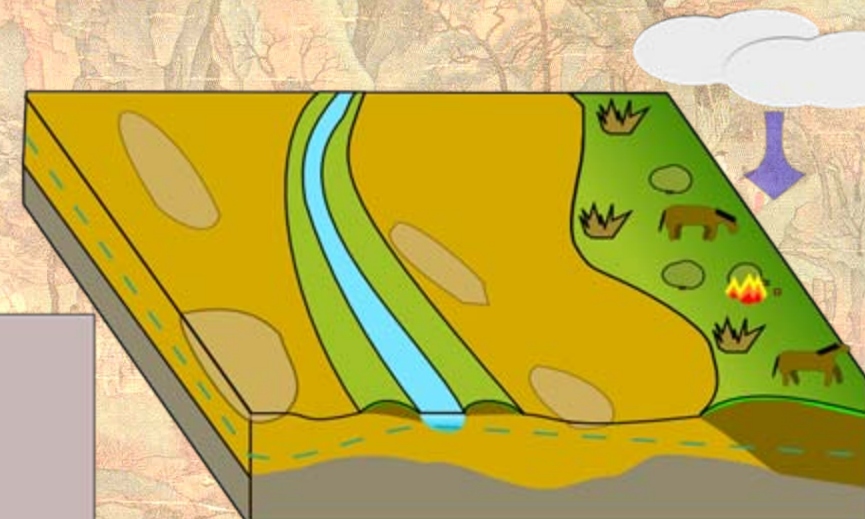
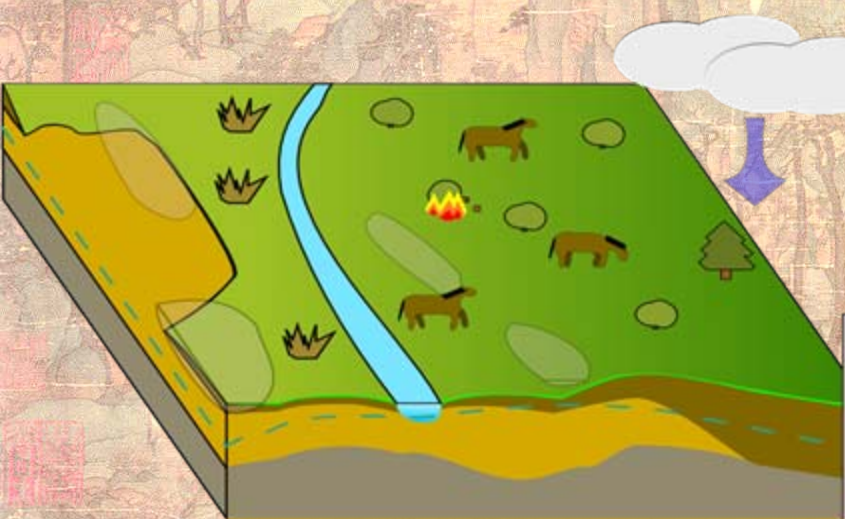
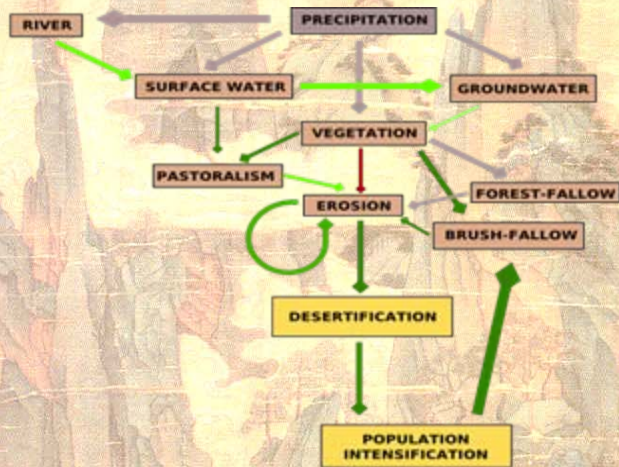


Shutdown of the Holocene Climatic Optimum: ca. 5000 BP

青係關山迥
時昨通路長
宮人多往來行
李自周祥記
為名和利那
爾芳典此年
陳夫姓氏北宗
迨辛癸
甲午年秋
尚勉

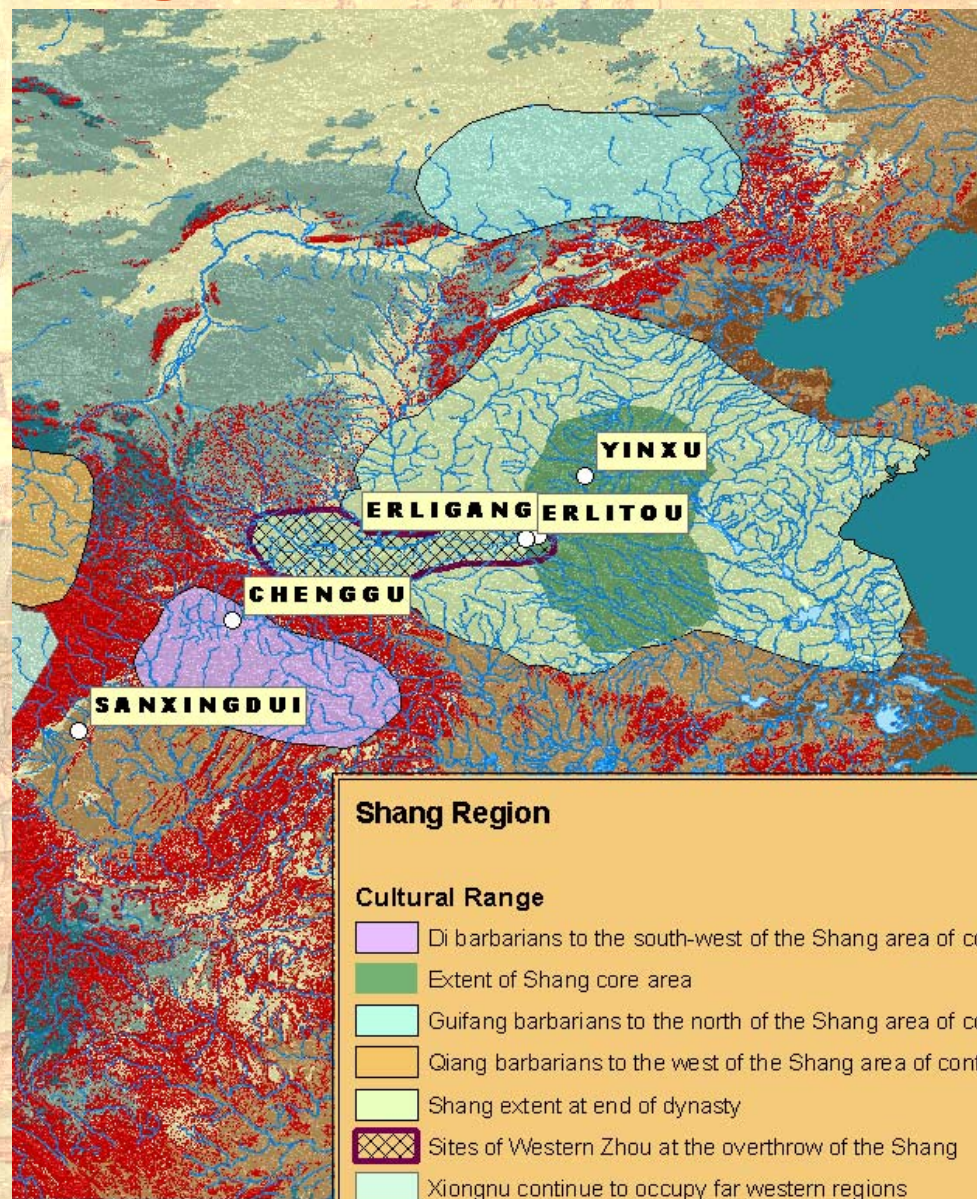


青係關山迥
 呼咗通防長
 官人多佳業行
 李自周祥記
 為名和利都
 噴芳典忙年
 陳夫姓氏社宗
 近幸詹
 甲午年秋
 尚勉



From Shang to Zhou

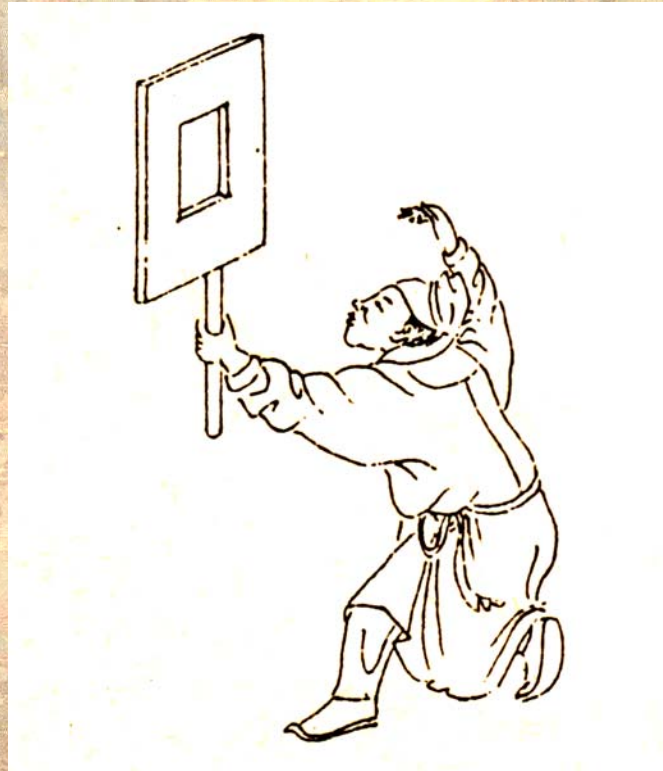
- *Early Shang ca. 1600-1250 BCE*
- *Late Shang ca. 1250-1050 BCE*
- *Pre-Dynastic Zhou up to ca. 1100 BCE*
- *Western Zhou 1050-771 BCE*
- *Zhou defeated at the Yangzi 971 BCE*
- *Zhou defeated by the Xianyan to the northwest 971 BCE*



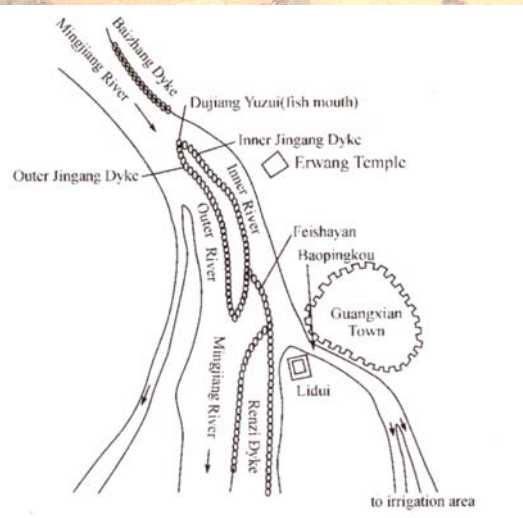
青係湖山迥
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Imperial Unification

帝國的統一



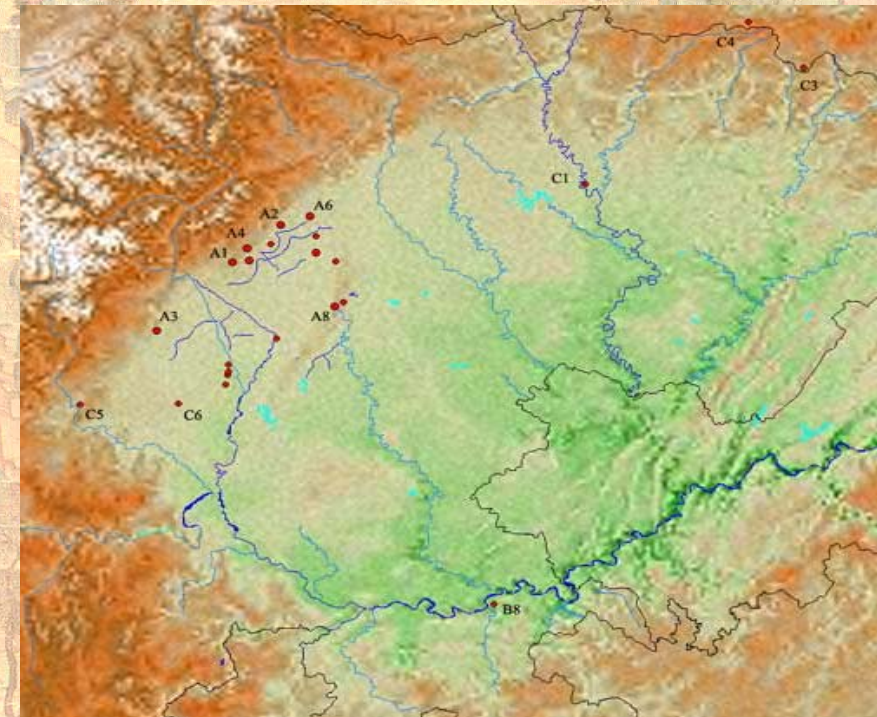
Dujiangyan 都江堰



“The Sichuan plain is one of the most densely populated agricultural regions in the world, thanks to the reliability and efficiency of Dujiangyan.” (1989)



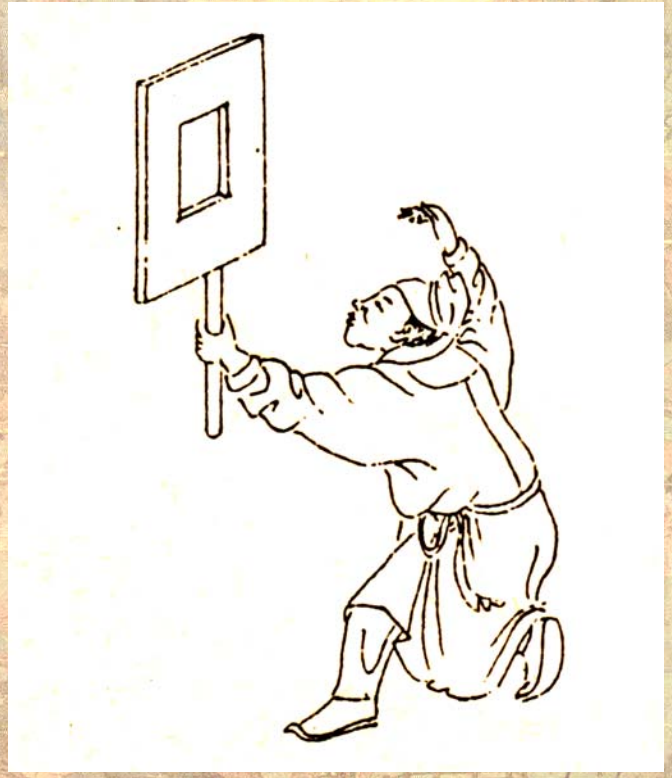
- 316 BCE: Qin conquers Chu in Sichuan.
- 285 : Qin governor Zhang Ruo pacifies Western Sichuan.
- 277: Li Bing becomes governor and begins Dujiangyan.
- 263: Dujiangyan completed. 100,000 Qin people resettled in Sichuan.
- 223: Qin defeats Chu.
- 221: Qin unifies the north.



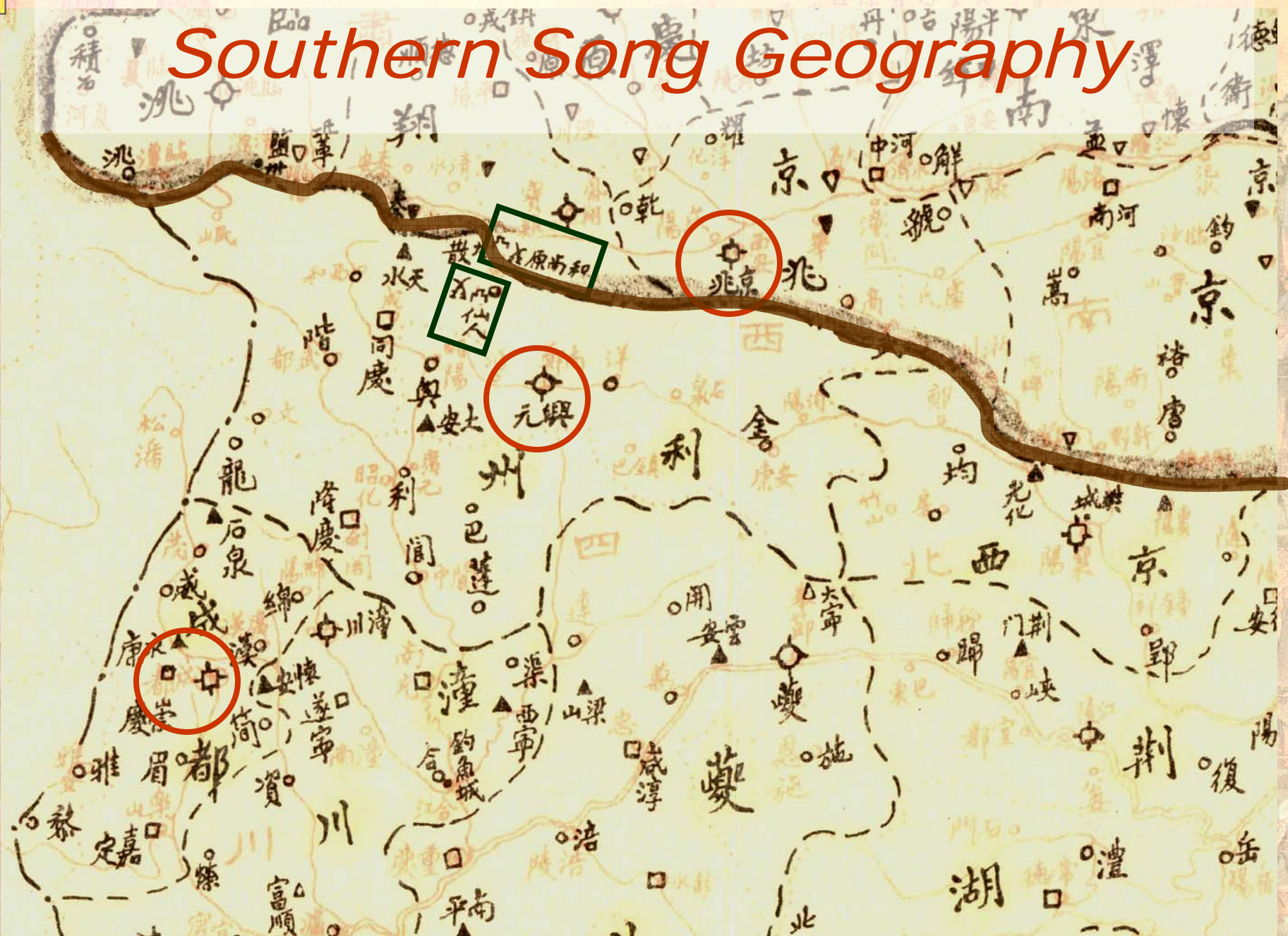
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有勞與忙年
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尚勉

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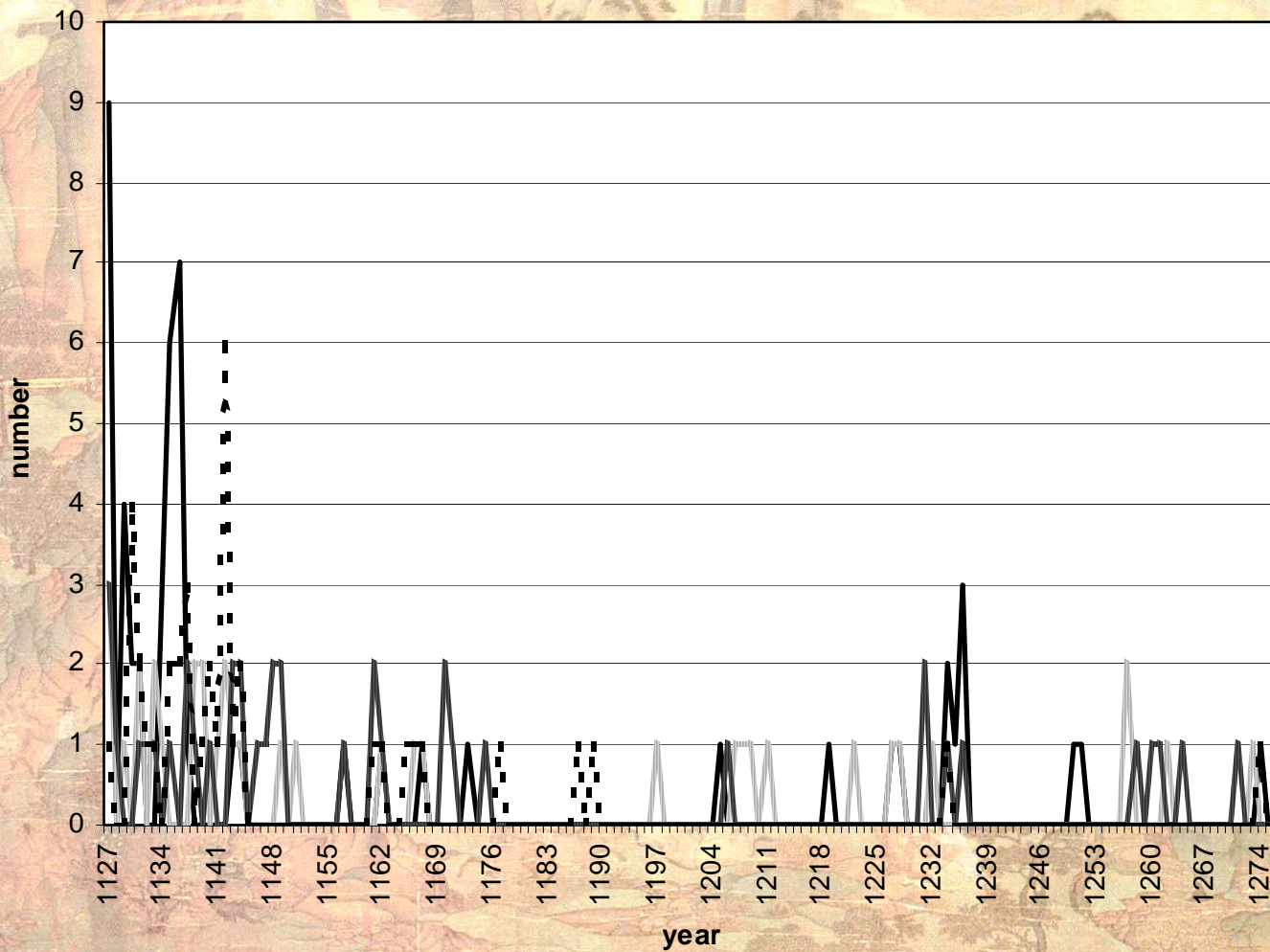
The Song-Jin Frontier 宋金邊疆

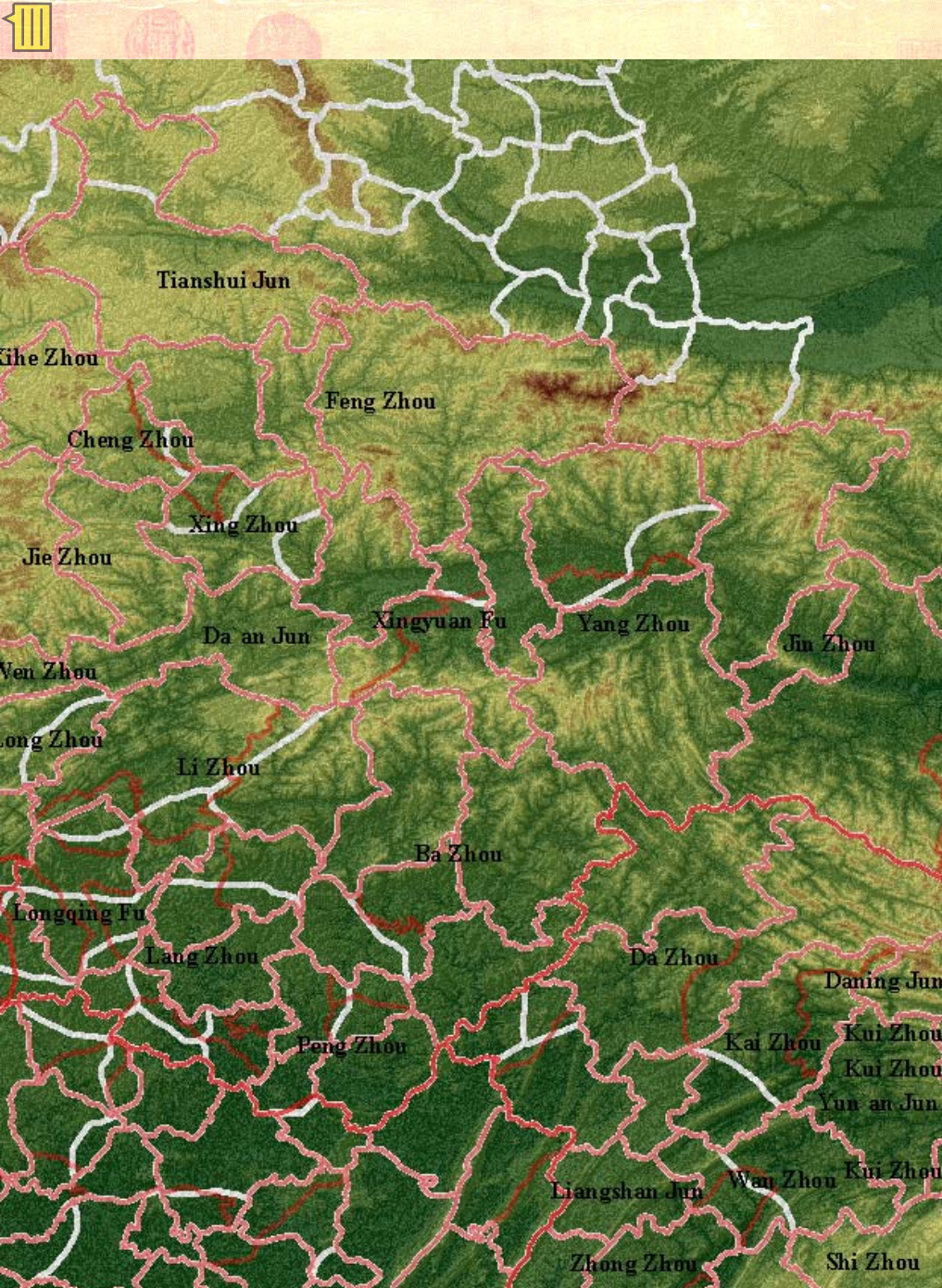


Southern Song Geography



Territory in the Southern Song





Lizhou Circuit:

- Tongxing, Xihe, Feng, Jie transferred from Qinfeng*
- Three counties and one prefecture established in the 1130s*
- Min and Cheng prefectures transferred from Qinfeng in the 1140s*
- Gui moved between Jinghu and Kuizhou five times!
Sometimes, its revenue supported Jinghu North*

1138, Pacification
Commissioner Wu Qie
recommended that
Daan Prefecture be re-
established to assist
with troop deployment:

*"A critically important
place, an important
crossroad for water and
land transportation, the
throat of Sichuan."*

水陸衡要四川喉襟要
害之地



*Tongshan County,
Da Prefecture 達州銅
山縣:*

*Provisionally
abolished during the
war when all of the
population fled the
fighting.*

*Re-established in
1137 after 800
households returned,
saving them a 300 li
trip to the county
seat.*



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時屹道防長
實人多往來行
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近幸府
甲午年秋
尚勉

Chengji 成紀縣 and Longcheng 隴城縣 counties and a number of cantons 鄉 were stranded after the 1131 loss of Qin 秦州 Prefecture.

Residents did not know where to file lawsuits and pay taxes.

They were merged into Tianshui county 天水縣 in Cheng prefecture 成州 in 1145. Tianshui was made into a prefecture in 1208.

