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## “Laughing on the Beacon Tower” Spring Festival Songs from Qinghai

### Abstract

This article presents the songs sung in the context of a series of singing and dancing performances done in March 1996 during the Chinese lunar New Year period in Xi Langqi Village, Huangzhong County, Qinghai Province. The context, Chinese characters, IPA transcription, and an English translation are given for the songs. The music for the songs is also presented and discussed.

**Key words:** *shehuo*—*yangge*—lunar New Year—Qinghai—folk music—folk dancing—ritual songs

Collections in Western-language translations of songs performed during the lunar New Year period in Chinese villages are rare. This is particularly true for such remote areas of China as the northwestern, multi-ethnic province of Qinghai.<sup>1</sup> Consequently, this paper is significant in presenting a collection of songs as originally sung during the lunar New Year in a single Qinghai Han village. This is accomplished by presenting the Chinese characters for the songs, an International Phonetic Alphabet (IPA) transcription, an English translation, a musical description of the songs, and the context in which the songs are performed. It should also be noted that in China the very numerous distinctive local Chinese dialects are rapidly waning in the face of schooling and media presentations in Modern Standard Chinese (*putonghua* 普通話). Therefore, this study is noteworthy in that it provides, for the first time, an enduring record in IPA of a distinctive, vanishing Chinese dialect in the context of endangered folk songs.<sup>2</sup>

#### *SHEHUO* 社火

*Shehuo* refers to a series of dancing and singing performances held during the Chinese lunar New Year period. FENG and STUART provide the only detailed, Western-language description of a Qinghai village-level *shehuo*. In reviewing related literature, they note (1994a, 35) that *shehuo* has been described as retaining archaic forms closely related to religious ritual in certain remote regions of China. An example of this is the exorcistic performances that occur during *shehuo*. They also remark that, in addition to exorcising evil and pleasing the deities so that they will send bumper harvests, *shehuo* has a number of other functions: it reminds a peasant population of the key importance of agricultural labor; it serves as a medium to enforce traditional concepts of filiation and Confucian values; it provides a time for the breaking of some traditional taboos; and it provides an opportunity for laughter and entertainment through *shehuo*'s humorous performances. Most of these functions are present in the village *shehuo* during which the songs of this paper are sung; however, this article focuses on the songs and not on the

actual performance.<sup>3</sup>

#### SETTING

These songs were collected by the first author in his home village of Xi Liangqi 西兩旗 (“West Two-Flags”), Xibu 西堡 (“West Blockhouse”) Township (*xiang* 鄉), Huangzhong 湟中 County (*xian* 縣), Qinghai 青海 Province, on 16 March 1996. South of Xibu Township lies Ganhetan 甘河灘 Township, to the west is Pojia 坡家 Township, and to the east is Lushaer Town 魯沙爾鎮. These adjoining townships are all located in Huangzhong County. To the north is Xining City 西寧市. Sku ‘bum (Kumbum, Taer 塔爾) Temple, the renowned birthplace of the founder of the Dge lugs pa (Gelupai 格魯派) Sect of Tibetan Buddhism, Tsong kha pa (1357–1419), is about ten kilometers south of Xi Liangqi.

Xi Liangqi lies in Shihuigou 實惠溝, the traditional name for what is today known as Xibu and Ganhetan townships. Elderly informants stated that, in the past, there were twelve military garrisons in Shihuigou and that Xi Liangqi Village was the site for one of these blockhouses. A board in the temple shared by the two villages of Dong Liangqi 東兩旗 (“East Two-Flags”) and Xi Liangqi relates that village ancestors came from Nanjing 南京 at the beginning of the Ming 明 Dynasty (1368–1644). In 1961, Liangqi Village was subdivided into the two separate villages just mentioned. Just prior to division, Liangqi Village had a total population of 380 households and 1,800 people. Presently, Xi Liangqi’s population is approximately 1,000 (200 households). All residents are Han 漢 Chinese and have a number of different surnames. Li 李, Wang 王, Meng 孟 and 蒙) and Bai 白 are the most common, while Dai 戴, Shen 沈, Zhao 趙, Wu 吳, Zhang 張, Wang 汪, and Chen 陳 are less common.

#### HOUSING, ECONOMY, AND EDUCATION

Residents dwell in one story rooms built around walled courtyards. Structures are made of adobe and wood. In courtyard centers there is a small raised plot (*huayuan* 花園) where flowers and vegetables are grown. Villagers are peasants cultivating wheat, potatoes, beans and, for edible oil, rape. There are about two *mu*<sup>4</sup> 畝 of farmland per village resident. Approximately half the cultivated land is irrigated. Annual per-person income is approximately 400 *renminbi* 人民幣. Poverty and limited employment opportunities in the immediate vicinity mean that, annually, a number of village males leave the village to look for gold in Haixi 海西 Mongolian and Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture in northern Qinghai, collect medicinal herbs, or do construction work in towns and cities. Village females stay at home throughout the year taking care of children and doing agricultural work and housework.

The village primary school has six grades and approximately ninety students. After graduation, students attend Xibu Middle School in Xibu Town, two kilometers away.

#### COLLECTION AND PERFORMANCE CONTEXT

Li Shengquan 李生全 (male, 1915–1999) and Li Shengying 李生英 (male, b. 1923) sang the songs presented here; these were recorded on cassette tape in the former's home and later transcribed by Dai Yanjing. Li Shengying sang the *yangge* 秧歌 songs and Li Shengquan sang the remaining songs. Later, Dai Yanjing visited Li Shengquan, who clarified portions of songs Dai had difficulty in transcribing.

The songs in this collection are vanishing. Only several aged males are able to sing them. Although a few females might be able to sing bits of the songs, it is doubtful a single village female could sing any of the songs in their entirety. The songs are performed during the Spring Festival, at weddings, and when men gather and drink liquor together. When the songs are performed at weddings, men sing them after drinking enough liquor to desire to sing. They are not performed in the ritualistic way that, for example, the Minhe Mangghuer observe during weddings (HU and STUART 1992). The only village-wide performance of the songs is during *shehuo*.

The *shehuo* songs in this paper fall into two general categories. The first is *yangge*, which refers to certain songs performed at the beginning of a Qinghai *shehuo* performance, although not always, as FENG and STUART (1994a) demonstrate in their study of *shehuo* in the Han village of Xiachuankou 下川口. During this *shehuo*, *yangge* songs are performed during the middle portion of the *shehuo* performance. The second category of songs presented here is that of the songs that are sung later during the *shehuo* by stilt walkers.

Each Spring Festival, the two villages celebrate *qingqiang* 秦腔 (opera)<sup>5</sup> from the third to the seventh day of the First Lunar Month and *shehuo* from the twelfth to the sixteenth day of the same lunar month.<sup>6</sup> *Shehuo* is performed by approximately fifty, mostly male, village residents ranging in age from about six (dancers only) to fifty-five. Previously females did not participate in *shehuo* as performers but recently a *shehuo* dance performance has been added that features approximately twenty females ranging in age from six to sixteen.<sup>7</sup>

#### YANGGE SONGS

*Shehuo* begins by performers assembling at the local Niangniang 娘娘 Temple, which is located in Xi Lianqi. Niangniang varies in importance among individual villagers. To the most devout, she is seen as capable of

helping them in every area of life. In the song “Niangniang Goddess,” for example, Niangniang is said to guarantee good crops each year, for she has the power to prevent wind and hail from damaging village crops.

At the temple, the *yangge* songs are first performed by one or two males on the evening of the eleventh day of the New Year to invite the Fire God. Later they are sung at the beginning of each *shehuo* performance. The singers stand in the Niangniang Temple courtyard surrounded by *shehuo* performers, who provide musical accompaniment on drums and cymbals. Village residents comprising the audience mingle with the performers. The content of “Fire God” appears to make it a song of exorcism. This song is always sung and it is always sung first. It resonates with a similar song reported by FENG and STUART (1994a, 49) in which the singers represent themselves as not coming “empty-handed but with many treasures” and going not “empty-handed but with harms and plagues.”<sup>8</sup>

火神  
xu ʂǎ  
Fire God

- <sup>1</sup>火神爺[啊]來,  
<sup>2</sup>火神爺[哈]來,  
<sup>3</sup>火神爺[哈]來了[著]空[吶]不[啊]來, 火神爺[啊]來了空[吶]不[啊]來,  
<sup>4</sup>金銀財貝[的]帶著[哎]來。

- <sup>1</sup>xu ʂǎ i [a] le,  
<sup>2</sup>xu ʂǎ i [xa] le,  
<sup>3</sup>xu ʂǎ i [xa] le liɔ [tʂɔ] k'uǎ [na] pv [a] le, xu ʂǎ i [a] le liɔ  
k'uǎ [na] pv [a] le,  
<sup>4</sup>tciǎ iǎ ts'ɛ pɔ [tsɿ] tɛ tʂɔ [ɛ] le.

- 1Fire God will come,  
2Fire God will come,  
3Fire God will not come empty-handed,  
4(Fire God will) come bearing treasures.

- <sup>5</sup>火神爺[哈]去,  
<sup>6</sup>火神爺[哈]去,  
<sup>7</sup>火神爺[哈]去了[哈]空[吶]不[啊]去, 火神爺[啊]去了空[吶]不去,  
<sup>8</sup>挖磨瑣碎帶著[哎]去。

- <sup>5</sup>xu ʂǎ i [xa] tɕ'j,  
<sup>6</sup>xu ʂǎ i [xa] tɕ'j,

<sup>7</sup>xu šǝ i [xa] tɕ'j liɔ [xa] k'uǝ[na] pv [a] tɕ'j, xu šǝ i [a] tɕ'j liɔ  
 k'uǝ [na] pv tɕ'j,  
<sup>8</sup>ua mɔ sɔ sui tɕɔ [ɛ] tɕ'j.

<sup>5</sup>Fire God will leave,

<sup>6</sup>Fire God will leave,

<sup>7</sup>Fire God will not leave empty-handed,

<sup>8</sup>(Fire God will) leave removing all human disasters.

Other songs that might be sung following the above selection are not performed in any particular order. Below are listed several songs that might be sung at this time. When they are sung, they are performed immediately following the above song with no pause.

“Niangniang Goddess” praises the deity to which the village temple is dedicated and, from the content, indicates Niangniang’s importance in assuring good harvests.

娘娘

niǝ niǝ

Niangniang Goddess

<sup>1</sup>娘娘[啊]廟兒[啊]修得[啊]高，

<sup>2</sup>娘娘身穿了大紅[啊]袍，

<sup>3</sup>大紅的[啊]袍兒上九條龍[哎]，

<sup>4</sup>娘娘保佑[著]莊稼兒成。

<sup>1</sup>niǝ niǝ [a] miɔ ɛ [a] ciu tsr [a] kɔ,

<sup>2</sup>niǝ niǝ šǝ tɕ'uǝ liɔ ta xuǝ [na] p'ɔ,

<sup>3</sup>ta xuǝ tsr [a] p'ɔ [ɛ] šǝ tɕiu t'io luǝ [ɛ],

<sup>4</sup>niǝ niǝ pɔ iu [tɕɔ] tɕuǝ tɕia ɛ tɕ'ǝ.

<sup>1</sup>Niangniang’s Temple is grandly built,

<sup>2</sup>Niangniang wears a bright red robe,

<sup>3</sup>The bright red robe is decorated with nine dragons,

<sup>4</sup>Niangniang will bless and protect the crops so that they will flourish.

Remaining *yangge* songs are ditties that, for example, praise the beauty of the village and advise listeners to refrain from gambling; they are all couched in clever rhyme schemes that make poetry out of the songs.

莊子  
tʂuʅ tsr  
The Village

<sup>1</sup>這個[哎]莊子[啊]四四[哎]方，  
<sup>2</sup>金盆養魚的好地[啊]方，  
<sup>3</sup>不[啊]丟[個]色[啊]兒不摸牌，  
<sup>4</sup>㒼圈的[個]元寶滾[著]進[吶]來。

<sup>1</sup>tʂɕ kɔ [ɛ] tʂuʅ tsr [a] sr sr [ɛ] fɔ,  
<sup>2</sup>tciə p'ə̃ iɔ y tsr xɔ tsr [a] fɔ,  
<sup>3</sup>pɯ [a] tiu [kɔ] si [a] ɛ pɯ ma p'ɛ,  
<sup>4</sup>xv lv tsr [kɔ] yā pɔ kuə̃ [tʂɔ] tciə [na] le.

<sup>1</sup>This village is very square,  
<sup>2</sup>Like a golden bowl for raising fish, it is a fine place,  
<sup>3</sup>Neither dice nor cards are played here,  
<sup>4</sup>Wonderful *yuanbao*<sup>9</sup> will roll into the village.

山上的櫻桃  
sā ʂɔ tsr iə t'ɔ  
Cherries on the Mountain

<sup>1</sup>東山[吶]高，西山[吶哈]高，  
<sup>2</sup>西山的[個]背後[哈]栽櫻[吶]桃，  
<sup>3</sup>櫻桃兒[啊]好吃[著]樹難栽，  
<sup>4</sup>秧歌好唱口難[哎]開。

<sup>1</sup>tuə̃ sā [na] kɔ, ɕj sā [na xa] kɔ,  
<sup>2</sup>ɕj sā tsr [kɔ] pɪ xu [xa] tse iə [na] t'ɔ,  
<sup>3</sup>iə t'ɔ ɛ [a] xɔ tʂ'ɕ [tʂɔ] fv nā tse,  
<sup>4</sup>iɔ kɔ xɔ tʂ'ɔ̃ k'u nā [ɛ] k'e.

<sup>1</sup>East Mountain is tall, West Mountain is taller,  
<sup>2</sup>Cherry trees are planted behind West Mountain,  
<sup>3</sup>Cherries are delicious but the trees are hard to plant,  
<sup>4</sup>*Yangge* is easy to sing but hard to start.

唱秧歌  
tɕ'ɔ̃ iʃ̃ kɔ̃  
Sing *Yangge*

<sup>1</sup>你打你們鑼[啊]，你打你們鼓[啊]，  
<sup>2</sup>聽我給你們唱秧[啊]歌，  
<sup>3</sup>唱得好了[哈]就說好，  
<sup>4</sup>唱得不好了擔待著。

<sup>1</sup>ni ta ni mǎ lu [a] ni ta ni mǎ kv [a]  
<sup>2</sup>t'iǎ nɔ̃ kɪ ni mǎ tɕ'ɔ̃ iʃ̃ [a] kɔ̃,  
<sup>3</sup>tɕ'ɔ̃ tsɹ xɔ̃ liɔ̃ [xa] tɕiɯ fɔ̃ xɔ̃,  
<sup>4</sup>tɕ'ɔ̃ tsɹ pɯ xɔ̃ liɔ̃ tǎ tɛ tɕɔ̃.

<sup>1</sup>You beat your gongs, you beat your drums,  
<sup>2</sup>Listen to me sing *yangge* for you,  
<sup>3</sup>If you feel it's good, say it's good,  
<sup>4</sup>If you feel it's bad, forgive me.

羊  
iʃ̃  
Sheep

<sup>1</sup>高山[吶]嶺上[啊]一伙[哎咳]羊，  
<sup>2</sup>口兒裏[哈]吃草[著]心兒裏慌，  
<sup>3</sup>前[嘛]怕刀子後怕狼，  
<sup>4</sup>兩股兒[哈]眼淚淚汪[哎咳]汪。

<sup>1</sup>kɔ̃ sǎ [na] liǎ ʃ̃ɔ̃ [a] j xu [ɛ xɛ] iʃ̃,  
<sup>2</sup>k'w ɛ l [xa] tɕ'ɛ ts'ɔ̃ [tɕɔ̃] ɕiǎ ɛ l xuǎ,  
<sup>3</sup>tɕ'iǎ [ma] p'a tɔ̃ tsɹ xɯ p'a lǎ,  
<sup>4</sup>liʃ̃ kv ɛ [xa] niǎ lui lui uʃ̃ [ɛ xɛ] uʃ̃.

<sup>1</sup>There is a sheep herd on the high mountain top,  
<sup>2</sup>Their mouths are full of grass and their hearts are full of fear,  
<sup>3</sup>They not only fear the knife but also the wolf,  
<sup>4</sup>Their eyes brim with tears.

This is followed by a ten-minute performance by stilt walkers, who are dressed up as various characters from Chinese history and myth—Cao Cao 曹操, Zhang Fei 張飛, Guan Yu 關羽, Liu Bei 劉備, the Monkey King (Sun Wukong 孫悟空), Sanzang 三藏, Pig (Zhu Bajie 豬八戒), Friar Sand (Shaseng 沙僧), White Snake and her husband, Black Snake—and as good-

looking young men and women. These historical and mythical characters also appear in the songs that later follow. The actual performance consists of moving about the courtyard in various movements that might, for example, consist of the stilt walkers forming two lines and walking about in various intersecting configurations.

Next, firecrackers are lit and the *shehuo* performers and the audience stroll to the next performance site. *Shehuo* is performed once on each of four days. The sites where performances occur are located about the village on threshing grounds. The specific site may change from year to year. Furthermore, during each year's *shehuo* performances, four different village locations are chosen as performance sites. Residents were divided into four groups during the period when village land was cultivated collectively (1958–1982). These divisions were made on the basis of how closely villagers lived together. The resulting four groups thus consisted of families who lived in close proximity. These work groups, or *dui* 隊, continue today to be a way for villagers to group themselves during *shehuo*. The groups are still known by their old names: First Dui, Second Dui, Third Dui, and Fourth Dui. The order of the *shehuo* performances, however, is not necessarily in that order and it may vary from year to year.

When *shehuo* group performers reach the designated performance area, they are met by representatives of the group, who welcome them with food and liquor. Next, performances are given, including the land boat, a dragon dance, other dances, and, finally, stilt walking. After the stilt walkers walk about in the manner described earlier, they assemble in the center of the performance area and sing. Other performers and audience members who know the songs may sing with them. Nowadays, because stilt walkers know only snippets of the songs given below, this singing portion of the *shehuo* lasts only about fifteen minutes. At the end of the singing, performers return to the temple and remove their costumes. This “complete performance” is again repeated three more times in the ensuing days. A whole performance requires approximately three hours.

#### ADDITIONAL SHEHUO SONGS

Eight songs are presented here in the following order: “Thirteen Lunar Months,” “The Twelve Lunar Months,” “Planting Flowers in the Twelfth Lunar Month,” “Ten Memorials to the Throne,” “Eight Cave-Dwelling Immortals,” “Ten Characters,” “Ten Lamps,” and “General Gao Leads Troops.”

#### THIRTEEN LUNAR MONTHS

Similar to the above song in terms of content and number of lines per stanza, this selection features thirteen stanzas. “Thirteen” is a possible reference

to the occasional addition of an extra month in the Chinese lunar calendar, which is normally twelve months long. This is done for the same reason that every fourth year in the Gregorian calendar is a leap year.

十三個月長一月  
 ʂɛ sã kɔ yu tɕ'ɔ̃ j yu  
 Thirteen Lunar Months

- <sup>1</sup>十三[的]個月[哎]長[啊]—[哎]月[啊哎]，  
<sup>2</sup>曹操[嘛]領兵[著]齣洛陽[啊][花兒嘛就點著開啊]，  
<sup>3</sup>不與[哎個]劉爺[倆]奪[啊]西[哎][吶]，  
<sup>4</sup>八十[個]三萬[著]下江南[啊][花兒嘛就點著開啊]。

- <sup>1</sup>ʂɛ sã [tsɿ] kɔ yu [ɛ] tɕ'ɔ̃ [a] j ɛ yu [ɛ],  
<sup>2</sup>ts'ɔ̃ ts'ɔ̃ [ma] liã piã [tɕɔ] tɕ'v lu iã [a] [xua ɛ ma tɕiu tiã tɕɔ k'ɛ a]  
<sup>3</sup>pv y [ɛ kɔ] liu i [lia] tu [a] ɕj [ɛ] tɕ'uã [na],  
<sup>4</sup>pa ʂɛ [kɔ] sã uã [tɕɔ] ɕia tɕiã nã [a] [xua ɛ ma tɕiu tiã tɕɔ k'ɛ a].

- <sup>1</sup>With the Thirteenth Month, the year has an extra month,  
<sup>2</sup>Cao Cao led his troops out of Luoyang,  
<sup>3</sup>Unwilling to fight with Liu Ye over Xichuan,<sup>10</sup>  
<sup>4</sup>His eight hundred and thirty thousand soldiers descended south of

- <sup>5</sup>十二[的]個月[啊]—[哎]年滿[吶啊]，  
<sup>6</sup>劉全敬瓜[著]皇宮園[啊][花兒嘛就點著開啊]，  
<sup>7</sup>把冬瓜[嘛就]敬到了森[吶]羅[的]殿[吶啊]，  
<sup>8</sup>借尸還魂的李[啊]翠蓮[啊][花兒嘛就點著開啊]。

the Yangtze.

- <sup>5</sup>ʂɛ ɛ [tsɿ] kɔ yu [a] j [ɛ] niã mã [na a],  
<sup>6</sup>liu ts'uã tɕiã kua [tɕɔ] xuã kuã yã [a] [xua ɛ ma tɕiu tiã tɕɔ k'ɛ a],  
<sup>7</sup>pa tuã kua [ma tɕiu] tɕiã tɔ liɔ sã [na] lu [tsɿ] tiã [na a],  
<sup>8</sup>tɕi ʂɛ xuã xuã tsɿ l [a] ts'ui liã [a] [xua ɛ ma tɕiu tiã tɕɔ k'ɛ a].

- <sup>5</sup>With the Twelfth Lunar Month the year approaches its end,  
<sup>6</sup>While in the imperial palace garden Liu Quan sent a wax gourd,  
<sup>7</sup>He sent it to the hall of Hell,  
<sup>8</sup>And the one who borrowed a corpse to return to life was Li Cuilian.<sup>11</sup>

- <sup>9</sup>十一月[嘛就]到了[著]好[啊]冷[哎]天[吶啊]，  
<sup>10</sup>王祥[哎]臥冰[著]求魚仙[吶][花兒嘛就點著開啊]，  
<sup>11</sup>小兒不違[個]娘[啊]的[哎]意[啊]，  
<sup>12</sup>月下[哎]仙魚[的]孝雙親[吶][花兒嘛就點著開啊]。

- <sup>9</sup>ʃɛ j yu [ma tɕiɯ] tɔ liɔ [tʃɔ] xɔ [a] lǎ [ɛ] t'iã [na a],  
<sup>10</sup>uǎ ciǎ [ɛ] v piǎ [tʃɔ] tɕ'iu y ciǎ [na] [xua ma tɕiɯ tiǎ tʃɔ k'e a],  
<sup>11</sup>ciǎ ɛ pv v [kɔ] niǎ [a] tsr [ɛ] j [a],  
<sup>12</sup>yu cia [ɛ] ciǎ y [tsr] ciǎ fǎ tɕ'iã [na] [xua ɛ ma tɕiɯ tiǎ tʃɔ k'e a].

<sup>9</sup>When the Eleventh Lunar Month approaches it is very cold,  
<sup>10</sup>Wang Xiang<sup>12</sup> lay on the ice and beseeched a fish fairy,  
<sup>11</sup>Because the son could not fulfill his mother's hopes,  
<sup>12</sup>Under the moonlight the fish fairy was filial to his parents.

- <sup>13</sup>十月裏[嘛就]到了[著]十[啊]月[哎]一[啊]，  
<sup>14</sup>孟姜女本是[個]范郎[的]妻[啊][花兒嘛就點著開啊]，  
<sup>15</sup>把范郎[嘛就]打在[個]長[啊]城[哎]裏[啊]，  
<sup>16</sup>孟姜女尋夫[著]哭倒[一個]長城[著]十萬裏。

- <sup>13</sup>ʃɛ yu l [ma tɕiɯ] tɔ liɔ [tʃɔ] ʃɛ [a] yu [ɛ] j [a],  
<sup>14</sup>mǎ tɕiǎ mj pǎ sr [kɔ] fǎ lǎ [tsr] tɕ'j [a] [xua ɛ ma tɕiɯ tiǎ tʃɔ  
 k'e a],  
<sup>15</sup>pǎ fǎ lǎ [ma tɕiɯ] ta tsɛ [kɔ] tʃ'ǎ [a] tʃ'ǎ [ɛ] l [a],  
<sup>16</sup>mǎ tɕiǎ mj ciǎ fv [tʃɔ] k'v tɔ [j kɔ] tʃ'ǎ tʃ'ǎ [tʃɔ] ʃɛ uǎ l.

<sup>13</sup>In the Tenth Lunar Month the first day is a festival,  
<sup>14</sup>Meng Jiagnü was Fan Lang's wife,  
<sup>15</sup>Fan Lang was buried in the Great Wall,  
<sup>16</sup>When looking for her husband her tears destroyed a 100,000 *li*<sup>13</sup>  
 length of the Great Wall.<sup>14</sup>

- <sup>17</sup>九月裏[啊就]到了[著]九[哎]重[哎]陽[啊]，  
<sup>18</sup>黃巢[哎]起首[著]滅大唐[啊][花兒嘛就點著開啊]，  
<sup>19</sup>暫丹[的]就和尚[哎]一命[啞]亡[啊]，  
<sup>20</sup>沙駝國搬兵的李靖王[啊][花兒嘛就點著開啊]。

- <sup>17</sup>tɕiɯ yu l [a tɕiɯ] tɔ liɔ [tʃɔ] tɕiɯ [ɛ] tʃ'uǎ [ɛ] iǎ [a],  
<sup>18</sup>xuǎ ts'ɔ [ɛ] tɕ'j ʃu [tʃɔ] mi ta t'ǎ [a] [xua ɛ ma tɕiɯ tiǎ tʃɔ k'e a],  
<sup>19</sup>tsǎ tǎ [tsr tɕiɯ] xu ʃǎ [ɛ] j miǎ [na] uǎ [a],  
<sup>20</sup>sa t'u kui pǎ piǎ tsr l tɕiǎ uǎ [a] [xua ɛ ma tɕiɯ tiǎ tʃɔ k'e a].

<sup>17</sup>In the Ninth Lunar Month is the Chongyang Festival,<sup>15</sup>  
<sup>18</sup>Huang Chao<sup>16</sup> led peasants to destroy the High Tang Dynasty,<sup>17</sup>  
<sup>19</sup>Zandan Monk lost his life,  
<sup>20</sup>He who moved troops from the Shatuo Empire was Minister Li Jin.

- <sup>21</sup>八月裏[啊就]到了[著]月兒圓[啞啊]，  
<sup>22</sup>秦瓊和敬德[倆]大戰米糧川[啊][花兒嘛就點著開啊]，  
<sup>23</sup>打三[哎]鞭還兩劍，  
<sup>24</sup>他二人唐王上保江山[啞][花兒嘛就點著開啊]。

- <sup>21</sup>pa yu l [a tɕiu] tɔ liɔ [tɕɔ] yu ɛ yā [na a],  
<sup>22</sup>tɕ' iə̃ tɕ' yə̃ tɛ tɕiə̃ ti [lia] ta tɕā mj liɔ tɕ' uā [a] [xua ɛ ma tɕiu  
 tiā tɕɔ k' ɛ a],  
<sup>23</sup>ta sā [ɛ] piā xuā liɔ tɕiā,  
<sup>24</sup>t' a ɛ zə̃ t' ɔ̃ uɔ̃ ɕɔ̃ pɔ̃ tɕiɔ̃ sā [na] [xua ɛ ma tɕiu tiā tɕɔ k' ɛ a].

- <sup>21</sup>In the Eighth Lunar Month the moon is fullest,  
<sup>22</sup>Qin Qiong fought with Jing De at Miliangchuan,  
<sup>23</sup>With three cracks of the whip and in return two blades of the sword,  
<sup>24</sup>Finally they both protected the empire for the Tang emperor.

- <sup>25</sup>七月裏[嘛就]到了[著]七[啊]月[哎]七[啊]，  
<sup>26</sup>天上的牛郎[啊]會織女[啊][花兒嘛就點著開啊]，  
<sup>27</sup>他二人[啞就]定下的下[啊]凡的意[啊]，  
<sup>28</sup>打在[個]天河的兩浪裏[啊][花兒嘛就點著開啊]。

- <sup>25</sup>tɕ' j yu l [ma tɕiu] tɔ liɔ [tɕɔ] tɕ' j [a] yu [ɛ] tɕ' j [a],  
<sup>26</sup>t' iā ɕɔ̃ tsr niu lɔ̃ [a] xui tɕɕ mj [a] [xua ɛ ma tɕiu tiā tɕɔ k' ɛ a],  
<sup>27</sup>t' a ɛ zə̃ [na tɕiu] tiə̃ xa tsr ɕia [a] fā tsr j [a],  
<sup>28</sup>ta tse [kɔ̃] t' iā xu tsr liɔ̃ lɔ̃ l [a] [xua ɛ ma tɕiu tiā tɕɔ k' ɛ a].

- <sup>25</sup>On the Seventh Lunar Month's seventh day,  
<sup>26</sup>The Cowherd in the sky met the Girl Weaver,<sup>18</sup>  
<sup>27</sup>The two decided to descend from Heaven,  
<sup>28</sup>But were forced to either side of the Milky Way.

- <sup>29</sup>六月裏[啊就]到了[著]熱[啊]暑[哎]天[啞啊]，  
<sup>30</sup>劉秀[嘛]十二走南陽[啊][花兒嘛就點著開啊]，  
<sup>31</sup>走到[個嘛就]中途[哎]迷了路[啊]，  
<sup>32</sup>碰見[個]神人[了]問端詳[啊][花兒嘛就點著開啊]。

- <sup>29</sup>liu yu l [a tɕiu] tɔ liɔ [tɕɔ] zɛ [a] fv [ɛ] t' iā [na a],  
<sup>30</sup>liu ɕiu [ma] ɕɛ ɛ tsu nā iɔ̃ [a] [xua ɛ ma tɕiu tiā tɕɔ k' ɛ a],  
<sup>31</sup>tsu tɔ [kɔ̃ ma tɕiu] tɕuɔ̃ t' v [ɛ] mj liɔ lv [a],

32 p'ə tciā [kɔ] s̄ə z̄ə [liɔ] uə tuā ciɔ̄ [a] [xua ε ma tciu tiā t̄ɔ k'ε a].

29 The Sixth Lunar Month approaches and it turns hot,

30 Liu Xiu<sup>19</sup> at the age of twelve went to Nanyang,

31 Half way there he lost his way,

32 He met an immortal and asked him the way.

33 五月裏[啊就]到了[著]五[啊]端[啞]陽[啊]，

34 關老爺保的是二皇娘[啊][花兒嘛就點著開啊]，

35 齣五關[啞就]連斬了六[啊]員[啞]將[啊]，

36 古城[的]壕邊[裏]斬蔡陽[啊][花兒嘛就點著開啊]。

33 v yu l [a tciu] tɔ liɔ [t̄ɔ] v [a] tuā [na] iɔ̄ [a],

34 kuā lɔ i pɔ tsr sr ε xuɔ̄ niɔ̄ [a] [xua ε ma tciu tiā t̄ɔ k'ε a],

35 t̄s'v v kuā [na tciu] liā tsā liɔ liu [a] yā [na] tciɔ̄ [a],

36 kv t̄s'ə [tsr] xɔ piā [l] tsā ts'ε iɔ̄ [a] [xua ε ma tciu tiā t̄ɔ k'ε a].

33 In the Fifth Lunar Month there is Dragon Boat Festival,<sup>20</sup>

34 Old Man Guan protected Queen Erhuang Niang,

35 He broke through five outposts and killed six generals,

36 By the castle moat he killed Cai Yang.

37 四月裏[嘛就]到了[著]四[啊]月[哎]八[啊]，

38 黎山[的]老母[啊]把山下[啊][花兒嘛就點著開啊]，

39 她下山[著]不為[個]別[呀]的[哎]事[啊]，

40 搭救[個]徒弟樊梨花[啊][花兒嘛就點著開啊]。

37 sr yu l [ma tciu] tɔ liɔ [t̄ɔ] sr [a] yu [ε] pa [a],

38 lv sã [tsr] lɔ mv [a] pa sã xa [a] [xua ε ma tciu tiā t̄ɔ k'ε a],

39 t'a xa sã [t̄ɔ] pv ui [kɔ] pj [ia] tsr [ε] sr [a],

40 ta tciu [kɔ] t'v tsr fã l xua [a] [xua ε ma tciu tiā t̄ɔ k'ε a].

37 The Fourth Lunar Month's eighth day is the next festival,<sup>21</sup>

38 The old lady on Li Mountain came down the mountain,

39 She came down the mountain to do nothing else but,

40 Save her disciple, Fan Lihua.

41 三月裏[啊就]到了[著]三[啞]清[啞]明[啊]，

42 馬五和岑彭[倆]奪狀元[啊][花兒嘛就點著開啊]，

43 馬五[嘛就]箭射了金[啞]錢[哎]眼[啊]，

44 岑彭[嘛]要奪[個]九連環[啊][花兒嘛就點著開啊]。

- 41 sã yu l [a tɕiu] tɔ liɔ [tɕɔ] sã [na] tɕ'ĩɔ̃ [na] miɔ̃ [a],  
 42 ma v te ts'ə̃ p'ə̃ [lia] tu tɕuɔ̃ yã [a] [xua ɛ ma tɕiu tiã tɕɔ k'ɛ a],  
 43 ma v [ma tɕiu] tɕiã ʃɛ liɔ tɕiɔ̃ [na] tɕ'ĩã [ɛ] niã [a],  
 44 ts'ə̃ p'ə̃ [ma] iɔ tu [kɔ] tɕiu liã xuã [a] [xua ɛ ma tɕiu tiã  
 tɕɔ k'ɛ a].

- 41 In the Third Lunar Month there is *Qingming*<sup>22</sup> Festival,  
 42 Ma Wu together with Cen Peng<sup>23</sup> vied for top honors,  
 43 Ma Wu shot an arrow through the eye of a coin,  
 44 Cen Peng tried to wrest the nine-linked hoops.<sup>24</sup>

- 45 二月裏[啊就]到了[著]龍[吶]抬頭[啊]，  
 46 孫臏[哎]下山[著]騎青牛[啊][花兒嘛就點著開啊]，  
 47 他下山[著]不為[個嘛就]別的事，  
 48 他和龐涓兩結冤仇[啊][花兒嘛就點著開啊]。

- 45 ɛ yu l [a tɕiu] tɔ liɔ [tɕɔ] luɔ̃ [na] t'ɛ t'u [a],  
 46 suã piã [ɛ] xa sã [tɕɔ] tɕ'j tɕ'ĩɔ̃ niu [a] [xua ɛ ma tɕiu tiã tɕɔ  
 k'ɛ a],  
 47 t'a xa sã [tɕɔ] pv ui [kɔ ma tɕiu] pj tɕr sr,  
 48 t'a xu p'ɔ̃ tɕyã lia tɕi yã tɕ'u [a] [xua ɛ ma tɕiu tiã tɕɔ k'ɛ a].

- 45 The Second Lunar Month arrives and dragons raise their heads,  
 46 Sun Bin<sup>25</sup> came down a mountain riding a black cow,  
 47 He came down the mountain to do nothing else but,  
 48 Settle the enmity between himself and Pang Juan.<sup>26</sup>

- 49 正月裏[嘛就]到了[著]是[哎]新[哎]年[啊]，  
 50 把曲兒唱成[個]顛倒顛[啊][花兒嘛就點著開啊]，  
 51 要知道[嘛就]曲兒的根[吶]故端[吶啊]，  
 52 這本是珍珠[嘛]倒卷帘[吶][花兒嘛就點著開啊]。

- 49 tɕɕ̃ yu l [ma tɕiu] tɔ liɔ [tɕɔ] sr [ɛ] ciã [ɛ] niã [a],  
 50 pa tɕ'y ɛ tɕ'ɔ̃ tɕ'ə̃ [kɔ] tiã tɔ tiã [a] [xua ɛ ma tɕiu tiã tɕɔ k'ɛ a],  
 51 iɔ tɕɛ tɔ [ma tɕiu] tɕ'y ɛ tɕr kɔ̃ [na] kv tuã [na a],  
 52 tɕɛ pɔ̃ sr tɕɕ̃ tɕv [ma] tɔ tɕyã liã [na] [xua ɛ ma tɕiu tiã tɕɔk'ɛa].

- 49 In the First Lunar Month is Spring Festival,  
 50 I sing the song in reverse order,  
 51 If you want to know the origin of the song,  
 52 It is “Roll Backwards the Pearl-Decorated Curtain.”

## THE TWELVE LUNAR MONTHS.

“The Twelve Lunar Months” bears much similarity to the foregoing song in its employment of references to Chinese myth and history, but the months are listed consecutively in chronological order rather than in reverse order.

十二個月

ʂɕ ɛ kɔ̃ yu

The Twelve Lunar Months

<sup>1</sup>正月裏[嘛]到了[著]是[啊]新[啲]年[嘍]，是新[啲]年[啲]，  
<sup>2</sup>費仲和尤渾[倆]把本兒參，  
<sup>3</sup>摘星樓[啊]修下得萬[啲]丈兒高[啊]，  
<sup>4</sup>殷紂王寵愛了妲[啲]己[著]不[啊]理[哎]朝，  
<sup>5</sup>滿朝的[個就]文武[啊]都害[啊]死。

<sup>1</sup>tʂɕ̌ yu l [ma] tɔ̃ liɔ̃ [tʂɔ̃] sr [a] ciə̃ [na] niã [nɛ], sr ciə̃ [na] niã [na]  
<sup>2</sup>fɪ tʂuə̃ tɛ iu xuə̃ [lia] pa pã ɛ ts'ã,  
<sup>3</sup>tʂɪ ciə̃ lv [a] ciu xa tsr uã [na] tʂɕ̌ ɛ kɔ̃ [a],  
<sup>4</sup>iə̃ tʂu uɔ̃ tʂ'uə̃ nɛ liɔ̃ tã [na] tɕj [tʂɔ̃] pv [a] l [ɛ] tʂ'ɔ̃,  
<sup>5</sup>mã tʂ'ɔ̃ tsr [kɔ̃ tɕiu] uɔ̃ v [a] tv xɛ [a] sr.

<sup>1</sup>In the First Lunar Month is Spring Festival,  
<sup>2</sup>Fei Zhong and You Hun sent memorials to the emperor,<sup>27</sup>  
<sup>3</sup>The plucking-star pavilion was ten thousand *zhang*<sup>28</sup> high,  
<sup>4</sup>Zhou King of Yin fell in love with Daji and ignored his court,  
<sup>5</sup>All his officials were persecuted to death.

<sup>6</sup>二月裏到了[著]龍[啲]抬[啊]頭[啊]，龍[啲]抬頭，  
<sup>7</sup>娘娘聽見[著]各夜[啊]愁，  
<sup>8</sup>搗亂[啲]天下的蘇妲己，蘇[啊]妲己，  
<sup>9</sup>殷紂王[啊]他把[一個]江山[著]坐[啊]不[哎]住。

<sup>6</sup>ɛ yu l tɔ̃ liɔ̃ [tʂɔ̃] luə̃ [na] t'ɛ [a] t'u [a] luə̃ [na] t'ɛ t'u  
<sup>7</sup>niə̃ niə̃ t'iə̃ tciã [tʂɔ̃] kɪ ɪ [a] ts'u,  
<sup>8</sup>tɔ̃ luã [na] t'iã cia tsr ɛy tã tɕj, ɛy [a] tã tɕj,  
<sup>9</sup>iə̃ tʂu uɔ̃ [a] t'a pa [j kɔ̃] tciə̃ sã [tʂɔ̃] tsu [a] pv [ɛ] tʂ'v.

<sup>6</sup>In the Second Lunar Month dragons raise their heads,  
<sup>7</sup>The empress was anxious when she listened all night,  
<sup>8</sup>Su Daji had disturbed the order of the world,  
<sup>9</sup>Zhou King of Yin would lose his position.

- <sup>10</sup>三月裏到了[著]三[啞]月三[啊]，三月三，  
<sup>11</sup>黃家的父[啊]子們齣五[哎]關，  
<sup>12</sup>黃貝[哎]太子[啊]廟前[哎]過[啊]，  
<sup>13</sup>五色[的個]神牛[著]保州[哎]川。

<sup>10</sup>sā yu l tɔ liɔ [tɕɔ] sā [na] yu sā [a], sā yu sā,  
<sup>11</sup>xuɔ̃ tɕia tsr fv [a] tsr mɔ̃ tɕ'v v [ɛ] kuā,  
<sup>12</sup>xuɔ̃ pɪ [ɛ] t'ɛ tsr [a] miɔ tɕ'iã [ɛ] ku [a],  
<sup>13</sup>v sr [tsr kɔ] ʂɔ̃ niu [tɕɔ] pɔ̃ tɕɯ [ɛ] tɕ'uã.

- <sup>10</sup>The Third Lunar Month's third day is the next festival [*Qingming*],  
<sup>11</sup>Father and son surnamed Huang went through five passes,  
<sup>12</sup>Crown prince, Huangbei, passed the front of a temple,  
<sup>13</sup>A five-colored spirit-ox defended Zhou Chuan.

- <sup>13</sup>四月裏[啊]到了[著]立[啊]夏[呀]天[啞]，立夏[呀]天[啞]，  
<sup>14</sup>哪吒齣世[著]陳塘[啊]關，  
<sup>15</sup>足踏火輪半天裏[啊]轉，  
<sup>16</sup>他本是周朝的先行[啞]官。

<sup>13</sup>sr yu l [a] tɔ liɔ [tɕɔ] l [a] ɕia [ia] t'iã [na], l ɕia [ia] t'iã [na],  
<sup>14</sup>nu tsa tɕ'v ʂɕ [tɕɔ] tɕ'ɔ̃ t'ɔ̃ [a] kuā,  
<sup>15</sup>tɕy t'a xu luɔ̃ pã t'iã l [a] tɕuã,  
<sup>16</sup>t'a pɔ̃ sr tɕɯ tɕ'ɔ̃ tsr ɕiã ɕiɔ̃ [na] kuā.

- <sup>13</sup>In the Fourth Lunar Month summer begins,  
<sup>14</sup>Nezha was born at Chengtang Castle,  
<sup>15</sup>He flew in the sky with two burning wheels under his feet,  
<sup>16</sup>He was a Zhou Dynasty pioneer official.<sup>29</sup>

- <sup>17</sup>五月裏到了[著]天氣[哎]紅[啞]，天氣[啊]紅，  
<sup>18</sup>楊二郎來到了高洲[哎]城，  
<sup>19</sup>懷抱[啊]雙劍兩面[哎]刀，  
<sup>20</sup>投奔西岐[著]走一[啊]遭。

<sup>17</sup>v yu l tɔ liɔ [tɕɔ] t'iã tɕ'j [ɛ] xuɔ̃ [na], t'iã tɕ'j [a] xuɔ̃,  
<sup>18</sup>iɔ̃ ɛ lɔ̃ le tɔ liɔ kɔ̃ tɕɯ [ɛ] tɕ'ɔ̃,  
<sup>19</sup>xue pɔ̃ [a] fɔ̃ tɕiã liɔ̃ miã [ɛ] tɔ̃,  
<sup>20</sup>t'm pɔ̃ ɕj tɕ'j [tɕɔ] tsu j [a] ts'ɔ̃.

- <sup>17</sup>In the Fifth Lunar Month the weather is good,

18 Yang Erlang came to Gaozhou Castle,  
19 Clutching two double-edged swords in his arms,  
20 He ran to Xiqi for shelter.

21 六月裏到了[著]熱[啊]暑[哎]天[曖]，熱暑[哎]天，  
22 姜子牙無事[著]站江[啊]邊，  
23 龍王爺[啊]他把手[啊]段顯，  
24 上告天庭[著]下告[一個]鬼門[啲]關。

21 liu yu l tɔ liɔ [tʂɔ] zɛ [a] fv [ɛ] t'iã [nɛ], zɛ fv [ɛ] t'iã,  
22 tciɔ tsr ia v sr [tʂɔ] tsã tciɔ [a] piã,  
23 luɔ uɔ i [a] t'a pa ʂu [a] tuã ciã,  
24 ʂɔ kɔ t'iã t'iã [tʂɔ] ciã kɔ [j kɔ] kui mǎ [na] kuã.

21 The weather is hot in the Sixth Lunar Month,  
22 Jiang Ziya<sup>30</sup> was free and stood by a river,  
23 The dragon leader demonstrated his enormous power,  
24 And charged him<sup>31</sup> in court in Heaven and Hell.

25 七月裏到了麥穗兒黃，  
26 姜子牙遇見了申[啲]公[啊]豹，  
27 巧言慢語地講得[啊]好，  
28 斬將[的]封神定不饒。

25 tɕ'j yu l tɔ liɔ mi sui ɛ xuɔ,  
26 tciɔ tsr ia y tciã liɔ ʂɔ [na] kuɔ [a] pɔ,  
27 tɕ'io iã mã y tsr tciɔ tsr [a] xɔ,  
28 tsã tciɔ [tsr] fǔ ʂɔ tiɔ pv zɔ.

25 In the Seventh Lunar Month wheat ripens,  
26 Jiang Ziya encountered Shen Gongbao,<sup>32</sup>  
27 Whose cunning speech was very eloquent,  
28 He was very strict punishing and commending the generals.

29 八月裏[啊]到了冷清清，  
30 王莽施計顯威[啊]靈，  
31 大將軍打死[個]桃花[呀]馬，  
32 大將軍不殺[個]馬下的[個]人。

29 pa yu l [a] tɔ liɔ lǔ tɕ'iɔ tɕ'iɔ,  
30 uã mã sr tɕj ciã ui [a] liɔ,

<sup>31</sup>ta tciō tcyō ta sr [kɔ] t'ɔ xua [ia] ma,  
<sup>32</sup>ta tciō tcyō pv sa [kɔ] ma cia tsr [kɔ] zō.

<sup>29</sup>In the Eighth Lunar Month it's very cool,  
<sup>30</sup>Wang Mang did a trick to demonstrate his power and cleverness,  
<sup>31</sup>Big General killed a peach colored horse,  
<sup>32</sup>He did not kill the person who fell off the horse.

<sup>33</sup>九月裏到了九重[吶]陽，九重陽，  
<sup>34</sup>三山關把的是鄧九[啊]公，  
<sup>35</sup>鄧嬋玉[來]土[啊]行孫，  
<sup>36</sup>他二人雙雙[嘛]成了[哎]親。

<sup>33</sup>tciu yu l tɔ liɔ tciu tʂ'uō [na] iō, tciu tʂ'uō iō,  
<sup>34</sup>sā sā kuā pa tsr sr tō tciu [a] kuō,  
<sup>35</sup>tō tʂ'ā y [lɛ] t'v [a] ciō suō,  
<sup>36</sup>t'a ɛ zō fō fō [ma] tʂ'ō liɔ [ɛ] tɛ'iō.

<sup>33</sup>In the Ninth Lunar Month is Chongyang Festival,  
<sup>34</sup>Deng Jiugong defended Three-Mountain Castle,  
<sup>35</sup>Deng Chanyu and Tuxin Sun,<sup>33</sup>  
<sup>36</sup>The both of them, each to the other, were married.

<sup>37</sup>十月裏[啊]到了好冷[吶]天，  
<sup>38</sup>姜子牙騎的四不[啊]象，  
<sup>39</sup>背子裏背的是封神[啊]榜，  
<sup>40</sup>朝歌[的]城前[著]擺戰場。

<sup>37</sup>sr yu l [a] l tɔ liɔ xɔ lō [na] t'iā,  
<sup>38</sup>tciō tsr ia tɛ'j tsr sr pv [a] ciō,  
<sup>39</sup>pi tsr l pi tsr sr fō šō [a] pō,  
<sup>40</sup>tʂɔ kɔ [tsr] tʂ'ō tɛ'iā [tʂɔ] pe tʂā tʂ'ō.

<sup>37</sup>In the Tenth Lunar Month it's very cold,  
<sup>38</sup>Jiang Ziya rode a David's deer,<sup>34</sup>  
<sup>39</sup>The God-Investiture Rod<sup>35</sup> was on his back,  
<sup>40</sup>In front of Zhaohe Castle he displayed his armies.

<sup>41</sup>十一月到了好冷天，  
<sup>42</sup>修造樓台的殷紂王，  
<sup>43</sup>敲骨驗髓又挖[哎]心[吶]，  
<sup>44</sup>苦壞了天下的好百[哎]姓。

41 ʂɛ j yu tɔ liɔ xɔ lə t'ia,  
 42 ɕiuw tsɔ lv t'e tsr iə tʂu uɔ,  
 43 tɕ'io kv iã sui iuw ua [ɛ] ɕiə [na],  
 44 k'v xue liɔ t'ia ɕia tsr xɔ pɪ [ɛ] ɕiə.

41 In the Eleventh Lunar Month it's very cold,  
 42 It was Zhou King of Yin who built a pavilion,  
 43 And broke bones to look at their marrow and dug out hearts,  
 44 The good, common people of the world suffered from his cruelties.

45 十二月到了一年滿，  
 46 殷紂王峨眉山把兵[啞]搬，  
 47 搬來的公明[著]殺[呀]樊勇，  
 48 不知道野人[個]陸壓下了山。

45 ʂɛ ɛ yu tɔ liɔ j niã mã,  
 46 iə tʂu uɔ nɔ mi sã pa piə [na] pã,  
 47 pã le tsr kuə miə [tʂɔ] sa [ia] fã yã,  
 48 pv tʂɛ tɔ i zə [kɔ] lv ia xa liɔ sã.

45 In the Twelfth Lunar Month one year ends,  
 46 Zhou King of Yin asked troops from Emei Mountain,  
 47 Gongming who was asked fought Fan Yong,<sup>36</sup>  
 48 He didn't know the hermit, Immortal Lu Ya, descended the mountain.

49 父老們，要知道曲兒的根故傳，  
 50 這本是殷紂王傳上的一段[啞]段。

49 fɩ lɔ mã io tʂɛ tɔ tɕ'y ɛ tsr kə kv tʂuã,  
 50 tʂɛ pə sr iə tʂu uɔ tʂuã ʂɔ tsr j tuã [na] tuã.

49 My listeners, if you want to know the origin of this song,  
 50 This is just a portion of "Zhou King of Yin."

*PLANTING FLOWERS IN THE TWELVE LUNAR MONTHS*

This song, like two of the previous songs, uses the Chinese lunar calendar to provide a beginning and end and also has stanzas of four lines.

十二個月栽花

ʂɪ ɛ kɔ yu tʂɛ xua

Planting Flowers in the Twelve Lunar Months

<sup>1</sup>正月裏到了[著]雪花兒[著]雪[啊]打[呀]燈[啞]，  
<sup>2</sup>柳金花來到了木[啊]場[哎]中，

<sup>3</sup>來到了木場[著嘛就]三[吶]更[吶]后[哎]，  
<sup>4</sup>觀[吶]見[嘛的]仁貴[的]白[啊]虎[哎]星。

<sup>1</sup>tʂə̃ yu l tɔ liɔ [tʂɔ] ɕyɯ xua ɛ [tʂɔ] ɕyɯ [a] ta [ia] tʂ [na],  
<sup>2</sup>liu tciə̃ xua lɛ tɔ liɔ mv [a] tʂ'ɔ̃ [ɛ] tʂuə̃,  
<sup>3</sup>lɛ tɔ liɔ mv tʂ'ɔ̃ [tʂɔ ma tciɯ] sã [na] kʂ [na] xu [ɛ],  
<sup>4</sup>kuã [na] tciã [ma tsɿ] zə̃ kui [tsɿ] pɿ [a] xv [ɛ] ciə̃.

<sup>1</sup>The First Lunar Month arrives and snowflakes fall on the lanterns,  
<sup>2</sup>Liu Jinhua arrived at the place where boards were stored,  
<sup>3</sup>She arrived at midnight,  
<sup>4</sup>And she noticed Rengui, White Tiger Star.<sup>37</sup>

<sup>5</sup>二月裏[啊]開的[是個]傳子[啊]蓮[哎]，  
<sup>6</sup>藍[吶]橋[嘛就]相會[著]藍玉[哎]蓮，  
<sup>7</sup>萬樣的[啊]景致[著]無[啊]心[吶]觀[哎]，  
<sup>8</sup>上[啊]河裏觀見了藍[吶]玉[哎]蓮。

<sup>5</sup>ɛ yu l [a] k'ɛ tsɿ [sr kɔ] tʂ'uã tsɿ [a] liã [ɛ],  
<sup>6</sup>lã [na] tɕ'iɔ [ma tciɯ] ciə̃ xui [tʂɔ] lã y [ɛ] liã,  
<sup>7</sup>uã iə̃ tsɿ [a] tciə̃ tsɿ [tʂɔ] v [a] ciə̃ [na] kuã [ɛ],  
<sup>8</sup>ʂɔ̃ [a] xu l kuã tciã liɔ lã [na] y [ɛ] liã,

<sup>5</sup>Dahlias bloom in the Second Lunar Month,  
<sup>6</sup>It was Lan Yulian who made an appointment at Blue Bridge,  
<sup>7</sup>He was not interested in viewing varied scenery,  
<sup>8</sup>Lan Yulian was seen at the upper side of the river.<sup>38</sup>

<sup>9</sup>三月裏[啊]開的是桃花兒[著]開清[吶]明[哎]，  
<sup>10</sup>北[啊]國[嘛]和[啊]番的陳[吶]杏[哎]圓，  
<sup>11</sup>梅良玉[啊]坐在[一個]春[吶]臺[哎]上[哎]，  
<sup>12</sup>哭[啊]壞了[個]夫妻[嘛]連[吶]心[哎]疼。

<sup>9</sup>sã yu l [a] k'ɛ tsɿ sr t'ɔ̃ xua ɛ [tʂɔ] k'ɛ tɕ'iə̃ [na] miə̃ [ɛ],  
<sup>10</sup>pɿ [a] kui [ma] xu [a] fã tsɿ tʂ'ə̃ [na] xə̃ [ɛ] yã,  
<sup>11</sup>mɿ liə̃ y [a] tsu tɕɛ [j kɔ] tʂ'uə̃ [na] t'ɛ [ɛ] ʂɔ̃ [ɛ],  
<sup>12</sup>k'v [a] xuɛ liɔ [kɔ] fv tɕ'j [ma] liã [na] ciə̃ [ɛ] t'ə̃.

<sup>9</sup>In the Third Lunar Month peach blossoms bloom during *Qingming*,  
<sup>10</sup>It was Chen Xingyuan who pacified the minority in North Country,  
<sup>11</sup>Mei Liangyu was sitting at Chuntai,  
<sup>12</sup>And they cried from the pain of their separation.<sup>39</sup>

- <sup>13</sup>四月裏沙燕兒[嘛]穿[吶]花[呀]亭[哎]，  
<sup>14</sup>上[啊]京[哎]考[啊]舉的高[啊]學[哎]生，  
<sup>15</sup>高文學他把[一個就]良[啊]心[吶]喪[哎]，  
<sup>16</sup>花園裏哭[啊]壞了張[啊]美[哎]英。

<sup>13</sup>sr yu l sa iã ε [ma] tʂ'uã [na] xua [ia] t'iõ [ε],  
<sup>14</sup>ʂõ [a] tciã [ε] k'ɔ [a] tcy tsr kɔ [a] cyu [ε] sã,  
<sup>15</sup>kɔ uõ tcy t'a pa [kɔ tciw] liõ [a] ciõ [na] sõ [ε],  
<sup>16</sup>xua yã l k'v [a] xue liɔ tʂõ [a] mi [ε] iõ.

- <sup>13</sup>In the Fourth Lunar Month swallows fly through a flower pavilion,  
<sup>14</sup>Student Gao went to the capital to take the scholar examinations,  
<sup>15</sup>Gao Wenju lost his morality,<sup>40</sup>  
<sup>16</sup>And in the garden Zhang Meiyong cried painfully.

- <sup>17</sup>五月裏[啊]開的是[個]白[啊]牡[哎]丹[噯]，  
<sup>18</sup>高打了[個]繡[啊]球的王[啊]寶[哎]釧，  
<sup>19</sup>下了[個]西涼的[個就]薛[啊]平[吶]責[哎]，  
<sup>20</sup>鴻[吶]雁[嘛就]捎[啊]書[的]轉[吶]歸還。

<sup>17</sup>v yu l [a] k'ε tsr sr [kɔ] pɪ [a] mv [ε] tã [nε],  
<sup>18</sup>kɔ ta liɔ [kɔ] ciw [a] tɕ'iu tsr uõ [a] pɔ [ε] tʂ'uã,  
<sup>19</sup>cia liɔ [kɔ] cɟ liõ tsr [kɔ tciw] cyu [a] p'iõ [na] kui [ε],  
<sup>20</sup>xuã [na] iã [ma tciw] sɔ [a] fv [tsr] tʂuã [na] kui xuã.

- <sup>17</sup>In the Fifth Lunar Month white peonies bloom,  
<sup>18</sup>It was Wang Baochuan who tossed high her silk ball,  
<sup>19</sup>It was Xue Pinggui who went down to West Liang,  
<sup>20</sup>And used a swan to send a letter home.

- <sup>21</sup>六月裏[啊]川草花黃[啊]似[啊]金[哎]，  
<sup>22</sup>繡[啊]閣裏[個]哭壞了黃[啊]桂英，  
<sup>23</sup>血[哎]手拍[哎]門的林[吶]公[吶]子[哎]，  
<sup>24</sup>蒼蠅[吶]救駕[著]也有[哎]恩。

<sup>21</sup>liu yu l [a] tʂ'uã ts'ɔ xua xuõ [a] sr [a] tciã [ε],  
<sup>22</sup>ciw [a] ku l [kɔ] k'v xue liɔ xuõ [a] kui iã,  
<sup>23</sup>ci [ε] ʂu p'i [ε] mã tsr liõ [na] kuõ [na] tsr [ε],  
<sup>24</sup>ts'õ iã [na] tciw tciã [tʂɔ] i iu [ε] nã.

- <sup>21</sup>In the Sixth Lunar Month the plains-grass resemble gold,

- 22 Huang Guiying cried painfully in her brocaded chambers,  
 23 Mr. Ling knocked on the door with a bloody hand,  
 24 Flies also had merit for saving his life.

- 25 七月裏芍藥花[就]滿堂[吶啊]紅[哎]，  
 26 南[啊]京[嘛就]生下的王[啊]金[哎]龍，  
 27 西[啊]涼[嘛]生下的玉堂[哎]春，  
 28 蘇[啊]三[嘛]審錄[著]要[啊]成[哎]親。

- 25 tɕ'j yu l fɔ iɔ xua [tɕiɯ] mā t'ã [na a] xuã [ɛ],  
 26 nã [a] tciã [ma tciɯ] sã xa tsr uõ [a] tciã [ɛ] luã,  
 27 ɕj [a] liã [ma] sã xa tsr y t'õ [ɛ] tʂ'uã,  
 28 ɕy [a] sã [ma] ʂã lv [tsɔ] iɔ [a] tʂ'ã [ɛ] tɕ'iã.

- 25 In the Seventh Lunar Month herbaceous peonies fill rooms with red,  
 26 Wang Jinlong was born in Nanjing,  
 27 Yu Tangchun was born in West Liang,  
 28 Su San interrogated her trial and then married.

- 29 八月裏金蓮花[哎]杆[吶哎]青[吶]，  
 30 雙殺[個]四門的劉[啊]金[哎]定，  
 31 金定[哎]小將[的個]金[吶]龍喪[哎]，  
 32 夫[啊]妻[嘛]二人[著]闖英[哎]雄。

- 29 pa yu l tciã liã xua [ɛ] kā [na ɛ] tɕ'iã [na],  
 30 fã sa [kɔ] sr mã tsr liu [a] tciã [ɛ] tiã,  
 31 tciã tiã [ɛ] ciɔ tciã [tsr kɔ] tciã [na] luã sã [ɛ],  
 32 fv [a] tɕ'j [ma] ɛ zã [tsɔ] tʂ'uã iã [ɛ] ciã.

- 29 In the Eight Lunar Month nasturtium bushes are green,  
 30 Liu Jinding fought enemies at four castle gates,  
 31 Young General Jinding lost his golden-dragon,  
 32 He and his wife both fought to break a new path.

- 33 九月裏菊花兒[嘛]開韃[吶]層[吶哎]，  
 34 打[呀]開[了]天[吶]門的穆[啊]桂[哎]英，  
 35 宗保[哎]小將生得[啊]俊[啊]，  
 36 小和[個]王[啊]爺[著]要主[哎]婚。<sup>41</sup>

- 33 tciɯ yu l tɕy xua ɛ [ma] k'e tɕ'iã [na] ts'õ [na ɛ],  
 34 ta [ia] k'e [liɔ] t'iã [na] mã tsr mv [a] kui [ɛ] iã,

35 tsuã pɔ [ɛ] ciɔ tciɔ̃ sã tsr [a] tsuã [a],  
 36 ciɔ xu [kɔ] uɔ̃ [a] i [tʂɔ] iɔ tʂv [ɛ] xuã.

33 In the Ninth Lunar Month chrysanthemums bloom,  
 34 Mu Guiying broke through the heaven-gate battle formation,  
 35 Young General Zongbao had grown quite handsome,  
 36 Minister Xiaohe would supervise the wedding.<sup>42</sup>

37 十月裏[啊]雪[啊]花兒飄[哎]，  
 38 鬥牛宮招親的薛丁[吶]山，  
 39 寶仙童小姐[嘛就]生[吶]得[啊]俊[哎]，  
 40 三[吶]請[嘛]梨花[著]要成[哎]親。

37 ʂr yu l [a] cyu [a] xua ɛ p'io [ɛ],  
 38 tu niu kuã tʂɔ tɛ'iõ tsr cyu tiã [na] sã,  
 39 tu ciã t'uã ciɔ tci [ma tciw] sã [na] tsr [a] tsuã [ɛ],  
 40 sã [na] tɛ'iõ [ma] l xua [tʂɔ] iɔ tʂ'õ [ɛ] tɛ'iõ.

37 In the Tenth Lunar Month snowflakes fall,  
 38 Douniu Palace is where Xue Dingshan married,  
 39 Miss Dou Xiantong had grown quite beautiful,  
 40 Lihua was thrice invited to marry.

41 十一月到了[著]冬青的葉兒青[吶]，  
 42 船[吶]艙[嘛]引見真[哎]許[哎]人，  
 43 黑白[啊]二蛇[的個著]神[吶]通大[呀]，  
 44 船艙[嘛]內邊裏 要成[哎]親。

41 ʂɛ j yu tɔ liɔ [tʂɔ] tuã tɛ'iõ tsr i i ɛ tɛ'iõ [na],  
 42 tʂ'uã [na] ts'õ [ma] iɔ tciã tʂõ [ɛ] cy [ɛ] zõ,  
 43 xɪ pi [a] ɛ ʂɛ [tsr kɔ tʂɔ] ʂõ [na] t'uã ta [ia],  
 44 tʂ'uã ts'õ [ma] nui piã l iɔ tʂ'õ [ɛ] tɛ'iõ.

41 In the Eleventh Lunar Month Chinese ilex leaves are green,  
 42 The real Mr. Xu was led to a meeting in a boat cabin,  
 43 Black Snake and White Snake were infinitely resourceful,  
 44 They prepared a wedding in the cabin.

45 十二月開的是[個]長壽[啊]花[哎]，  
 46 湘子[嘛]齣門[著]整[吶]十[哎]八，  
 47 來到了家中[著]去操[啊]府[哎]，  
 48 又[啊]渡了林英[著]又操[哎]家。

45 ʃɛ ɛ yu k'ɛ tsr sr [kɔ] tʃ'ɔ̃ ʃu [a] xua [ɛ],  
 46 ɕiɔ̃ tsr [ma] tʃ'v mǎ [tʃɔ] tʃ'ɔ̃ [na] ʃɛ [ɛ] pa,  
 47 lɛ tɔ liɔ tɕia tʃuǎ [tʃɔ] tɕ'y ts'ɔ̃ [a] fv [ɛ],  
 48 iu [a] tv liɔ liǎ iǎ [tʃɔ] iu ts'ɔ̃ [ɛ] tɕia.

45 In the Twelfth Lunar Month longevity flowers bloom,  
 46 Xiangzi left his family when he was just eighteen,  
 47 He went back home to pick up his family to take to Heaven,  
 48 Both leading Lin Ying and his family to Heaven.<sup>43</sup>

49 父老們要知道曲兒的根[吶]故傳[吶]，

50 這本是十二月栽花的一[啊]段段。

49 fv lɔ mǎ iɔ tʃɛ tɔ tɕ'y ɛ tsr kǎ [na] kv tʃuǎ [na],  
 50 tʃɛ pǎ sr ʃɛ ɛ yu tɕɛ xua tsr j [a] tuǎ tuǎ.

49 My listeners, if you want to know the basis of this song,  
 50 It is a part of the story “Planting Flowers in the Twelve Lunar Months.”

#### TEN MEMORIALS TO THE THRONE

These unevenly-numbered stanzas are associated with the theme of a loyal subject advising his sovereign by citing examples from the past of rulers who had strayed from the paths of righteousness and other examples of filiation and loyalty.

十道本

ʃɛ tɔ pǎ

Ten Memorials to the Throne

1 褚遂良修本章十分[嘛就]繁[吶]忙，  
 2 修就了[嘛就]十道本[著]去見君[吶]王，  
 3 我主人[吶]準了[一個]臣的[啊]本[吶]，  
 4 君是[個就]君來[著]臣是[啊]臣，  
 5 我主人[吶]不準[一個]臣[吶]的[哎]本，  
 6 推齣[了個]午門[著]問斬[吶]刑。

1 tʃ'v sui liǎ ɕiu pǎ tʃɔ ʃɛ fǎ [ma tɕiu] fǎ [na] mǎ,  
 2 ɕiu tɕiu liɔ [ma tɕiu] ʃɛ tɔ pǎ [tʃɔ] tɕ'y tɕiǎ tɕyǎ [na] uǎ,  
 3 nɔ tʃv zǎ [na] tʃuǎ liɔ [j kɔ] tʃ'ǎ tsr [a] pǎ [na],  
 4 tɕyǎ sr [kɔ tɕiu] tɕyǎ lɛ [tʃɔ] tʃ'ǎ sr [a] tʃ'ǎ,  
 5 nɔ tʃv zǎ [na] pv tʃuǎ [j kɔ] tʃ'ǎ [na] tsr [ɛ] pǎ,

6<sup>t</sup>ui tʂ'v [liɔ kɔ] v mǎ [tʂɔ] uǎ tsǎ [na] ciǎ.

1<sup>1</sup>Chu Suiliang<sup>14</sup> was busy preparing ten memorials,

2<sup>2</sup>Upon finishing them he presented memorials to the emperor,

3<sup>3</sup>My lord, if you agree with my memorials, [he said to the emperor]

4<sup>4</sup>You will be my master and I will be an official,

5<sup>5</sup>If you, my lord, do not agree with my memorials,

6<sup>6</sup>You can kill me outside the gate.

7<sup>nv</sup> tʂ'uǎ tʂ'uǎ [na tɕiu] tʂǎ k'ɛ j tɔ [tsr kɔ] pǎ,

7<sup>怒</sup>沖沖[吶就]展開一道[的個]本，

8<sup>一道[的]本[哎]上[就]往下[哎]明，</sup>

9<sup>三皇的世五帝[哎]傳[吶]，</sup>

10<sup>三皇和五帝[倆]相接[啊]連。</sup>

8<sup>j</sup> tɔ [tsr] pǎ [ɛ] ʂɔ [tɕiu] uǎ xa [ɛ] miǎ,

9<sup>sǎ</sup> xuǎ tsr ʂɛ v tsr [ɛ] tʂ'uǎ [na],

10<sup>sǎ</sup> xuǎ tɛ v tsr [lia] ciǎ tɕi [a] liǎ.

7<sup>7</sup>The emperor angrily opened the first memorial,

8<sup>8</sup>The first memorial said,

9<sup>9</sup>The Five Emperors would inherit the Three Emperors' positions,

10<sup>10</sup>They would be closely related and influence each other.

11<sup>怒</sup>沖[哎]沖摔掉了[個]一道[的個]本，

12<sup>展開了二道[就]往下[哎]明，</sup>

13<sup>堯王[哎]的世舜[吶]王坐[啊]，</sup>

14<sup>禹王[哎]治水[著]功勞重，</sup>

15<sup>三過其門[著]他[呀]不[啊]進，</sup>

16<sup>軒轅[的]皇帝嘗百草[著]留了[一個]五穀[的]根。</sup>

11<sup>nv</sup> tʂ'uǎ [ɛ] tʂ'uǎ fɛ tiɔ liɔ [kɔ] j tɔ [tsr kɔ] pǎ,

12<sup>tʂǎ</sup> k'ɛ liɔ ɛ tɔ [tɕiu] uǎ xa [ɛ] miǎ,

13<sup>iɔ</sup> uǎ [ɛ] tsr ʂɛ fǎ [na] uǎ tsu [a],

14<sup>y</sup> uǎ [ɛ] tʂɛ fi [tʂɔ] kuǎ lɔ tʂuǎ,

15<sup>sǎ</sup> ku tɕ'j mǎ [tʂɔ] t'a [ia] pɿ [a] tɕiǎ,

16<sup>cyǎ</sup> yǎ [tsr] xuǎ tsr ʂɔ pi ts'ɔ [tʂɔ] liu liɔ [j kɔ] v kv [tsr] kǎ.

11<sup>11</sup>The emperor angrily threw down the first memorial,

12<sup>12</sup>And opened the second memorial that said,

13<sup>13</sup>Yao Emperor's position would be taken by Shun Emperor,

- 14 Yu Emperor achieved much in taming the waters,  
 15 He passed by his home thrice but did not visit,  
 16 Emperor Xuanyuan<sup>45</sup> discovered the five cereals<sup>46</sup> by tasting hundreds  
 of grasses.

- 17 怒沖沖[啊]摔掉了[個]兩道[啊]本，  
 18 展開了[個]三道[著就]往下[哎]明，  
 19 昔日[哎]有一個[就]殷[吶]紂王，  
 20 女媧的[個就]宮裏[們就]去降[哎]香，  
 21 風吹竹蓮露神[吶]像[啊]，  
 22 把詩[哈吶]題在了[個]粉[吶]壁[的個]牆。

- 17 nv tʂ'uə̃ tʂ'uə̃ [a] fɛ tiə liə [kə] liə tə [a] pə̃,  
 18 tʂā k'ɛ liə [kə] sā tə [tʂə tciu] uə̃ xa [ɛ] miə̃,  
 19 ɕj zɕ [ɛ] iu j kə [tciu] iə̃ [na] tʂu uə̃,  
 20 mj ua tsr [kə tciu] kuə̃ l [mə̃ tciu] tɕ'j tciā [ɛ] ciə̃,  
 21 fə̃ tʂ'ui tʂv liā lv ʂə̃ [na] ciə̃ [a],  
 22 pa ʂɕ [xa na] t'i tɕɛ liə [kə] fə̃ [na] pj [tsr kə] tɕ'iə̃.

- 17 The emperor angrily threw down the second memorial,  
 18 And opened the third memorial that said,  
 19 In the past there was Zhou, king of Yin,  
 20 Who went to Nüwa's<sup>47</sup> palace to burn incense,  
 21 Wind had blown the bamboo curtain revealing the goddess's picture,  
 22 He wrote a poem on the chalk-white wall.<sup>48</sup>

- 23 怒沖沖[吶]摔掉了[個]三道[的個]本[吶]，  
 24 展開了[個]四道[著就]往下[哎]明，  
 25 昔日[啊]有一個周幽[啊]王[啊]，  
 26 寵愛了梅喜著時刻上，<sup>49</sup>  
 27 纒金[吶]一笑她[呀]不笑[啊]，  
 28 煙火的[個]墩兒上放火[啊]光，  
 29 天下的[啊]諸侯們[吶]齊[啊]來[啊]到[啊]，  
 30 他二人在臺上[就]哈哈[呀]笑，  
 31 從此把幽王的[個]江山[就]失掉[哎]了。

- 23 nv tʂ'uə̃ tʂ'uə̃ [na] fɛ tiə liə [kə] sā tə [tsr kə] pə̃ [na],  
 24 tʂā k'ɛ liə [kə] sr tə [tʂə tciu] uə̃ xa [ɛ] miə̃,  
 25 ɕj zɕ [a] iu j kə tʂu iu [a] uə̃ [a]  
 26 tʂ'uə̃ nɛ liə mɪ ɕj tʂə ʂɕ k'ə̃ ʂə̃,  
 27 tɕ'iā tciə̃ [na] j ciə̃ t'a [ia] pv ciə̃ [a],

28<sub>i</sub>ã xu tsr [kɔ] tuã ε şõ fõ xu [a] kuõ,  
 29<sub>t</sub>'iã cia tsr [a] tşv xw mã [na] tç'j [a] le [a] tɔ [a],  
 30<sub>t</sub>'a ε zã tse t'ε şõ [tçiuw] xa xa [ia] ciɔ,  
 31<sub>ts</sub>'uã ts'r pa iuw uõ tsr [kɔ] tçiõ sã [tçiuw] şç tiɔ [ε] liɔ.

23<sup>23</sup>The emperor angrily threw down the third memorial,  
 24<sup>24</sup>And opened the fourth memorial that said,  
 25<sup>25</sup>In the past there was the You King of Zhou,<sup>50</sup>  
 26<sup>26</sup>Who spoiled a concubine named Meixi,  
 27<sup>27</sup>Even for a thousand pieces of gold no one could make her smile,  
 28<sup>28</sup>A fire on the beacon tower sent forth its glow,  
 29<sup>29</sup>And all the marquises came from their important postings,  
 30<sup>30</sup>The emperor and the girl sat laughing on the beacon tower,  
 31<sup>31</sup>And from this, King You lost his territory.

32<sup>32</sup>怒冲冲摔掉了[個]四[啊]道本，  
 33<sup>33</sup>展開了五道[就]往下[哎]明，  
 34<sup>34</sup>昔日有一個夏桀[啊]王[啊]，  
 35<sup>35</sup>寵愛了梅喜[著]時刻[啊]上，  
 36<sup>36</sup>滿朝的文武們齊[啊]動本[吶]，  
 37<sup>37</sup>他不準[吶]文武們的半毫[啊]分，  
 38<sup>38</sup>酒醉後[啊]殺掉了[個]親[吶]生子[啊]，  
 39<sup>39</sup>醉醒了[哈]後悔[著就]悔不及[啊]。

32<sub>nv</sub> tş'uã tş'uã fe tiɔ liɔ [kɔ] sr [a] tɔ pã,  
 33<sub>tşã</sub> k'ε liɔ v tɔ [tçiuw] uõ xa [ε] miã,  
 34<sub>çj</sub> zç iuw j kɔ cia tçj [a] uõ [a],  
 35<sub>tş</sub>'uã ne liɔ mɪ çj [tşɔ] şç k'ɔ [a] şõ,  
 36<sub>mã</sub> tş'ɔ tsr uã v mã tç'j [a] tuã pã [na],  
 37<sub>t</sub>'a pv tşuã [na] uã v mã tsr pã xɔ [a] fã,  
 38<sub>tçiuw</sub> tsui xw [a] sa tiɔ liɔ [kɔ] tç'iã [na] sã tsr [a],  
 39<sub>tsui</sub> çiã liɔ [xa] xw xui [tşɔ tçiuw] xui pv tçj [a].

32<sup>32</sup>The emperor angrily threw down the fourth memorial,  
 33<sup>33</sup>And opened the fifth one that said,  
 34<sup>34</sup>In the past there was Jiu King of Xia,<sup>51</sup>  
 35<sup>35</sup>Who spoiled a concubine named Meixi,  
 36<sup>36</sup>All his officials advised him to stop the affair,  
 37<sup>37</sup>He paid his officials no mind,  
 38<sup>38</sup>After a bout of drinking he killed his son,  
 39<sup>39</sup>After he awoke he was full of regret.

40 怒冲冲摔掉了[個]五[啊]道[的]本[呐]，  
 41 展開了六道[著]往下[哎]明，  
 42 昔日有一個楚[啊]平王[啊]，  
 43 親親的子妻[哈]發昭陽。  
 44 伍老[啊]丞相動一[哎]本[呐]，  
 45 他把伍老丞相滿門家眷[就]下獄[啊]牢，  
 46 伍尚進京[呐]盡忠[呐]孝[啊]，  
 47 伍員[呐]逃國[著]走遠方，  
 48 有[的]哎]一日[著]兵臨到[啊]，  
 49 楚國的[個]君臣們[就]受災殃。

40 nv tʂ'uõ tʂ'uõ fe tiõ liõ [kõ] v [a] tõ [tsr] pã [na],  
 41 tʂã k'ε liõ liu tõ [tʂõ] uõ xa [ε] miã,  
 42 ɕj zɕ iu j kõ tʂ'v [a] p'iõ uõ [a],  
 43 tɕ'iõ tɕ'iõ tsr tsr tɕ'j [xa] fa tʂõ iõ,  
 44 v lõ [a] tʂ'ã ciõ tuõ j [ε] pã [na],  
 45 t'a pa v lõ tʂ'ã ciõ mã mã tcia tɕyã [tciu] cia y [a] lõ,  
 46 v ʂõ tciõ tciõ [na] tciõ tʂuõ [na] ciõ [a],  
 47 v yã [na] t'õ kui [tʂõ] tsu yã fõ,  
 48 iu [tsr ε] j zɕ [tʂõ] piõ liõ tõ [a],  
 49 tʂ'v kui tsr [kõ] tɕ'yõ tʂ'ã mã [tciu] ʂu tɕε iõ.

40 The emperor angrily threw down the fifth memorial,  
 41 And opened the sixth one that said,  
 42 In the past there was Ping King of Chu,<sup>52</sup>  
 43 Who took his son's wife to Zhao Yang's palace,  
 44 Minister Wu criticized him,  
 45 He imprisoned Minister Wu and his whole family,<sup>53</sup>  
 46 Wu Shang entered the capital to show his loyalty and filiality,  
 47 Wu Yuan escaped from the country going far away,  
 48 One day when enemies arrived,  
 49 The emperor and his officials suffered terrible misfortune.

50 怒冲冲摔掉了[個]六道[的]本，  
 51 展開了七道往下[哎]明，  
 52 昔日有一個[就]東漢王，  
 53 油鍋裏[啊]炸掉了[個]岑彭[啊]將，  
 54 午門上碰死的馬子[啊]章，  
 55 三天斬掉了八員[呐]將，  
 56 纔屬[啊]光武爺[著]坐洛陽。

50<sub>nv</sub> tɕ'ũ tɕ'ũ fɛ tiɔ liɔ [kɔ] liu tɔ [tsr] pǎ,  
 51<sub>tɕ</sub>ã k'ɛ liɔ tɕ'j tɔ uɔ xa [ɛ] miǎ,  
 52<sub>ɕj</sub> zɕ iu j kɔ [tɕiu] tuǎ xã uɔ,  
 53<sub>iu</sub> ku l [a] tsa tiɔ liɔ [kɔ] ts'ǎ p'ǎ [na] tɕiǎ,  
 54<sub>v</sub> mǎ ʂɔ p'ǎ sr tsr ma tsr [a] tɕǎ,  
 55<sub>sã</sub> t'iǎ tsã tiɔ liɔ pa yã [na] tɕiǎ,  
 56<sub>ts'</sub>ɛ fv [a] kuǎ v i [tɕɔ] tsu lu iǎ.

50 The emperor angrily threw down the sixth memorial,  
 51 And opened the seventh one that said,  
 52 In the past there was a Duke of Eastern Han,  
 53 Who fried General Cen Peng in a pot of oil,  
 54 And forced Ma Zizhang to beat his head on the gate till he died,  
 55 He killed eight generals in three days,  
 56 And then became Guangwu Emperor residing in Luoyang.<sup>54</sup>

57 怒沖沖摔掉了七道[啊]本，  
 58 展開了八道[著]往下[呀]明，  
 59 昔日[啊]有一個三齊[啊]王，  
 60 青龍的背上活埋母[啊]，  
 61 短了我的青春[著]一八年，  
 62 雞毛分并[吶]害哥嫂[啊]，  
 63 短了[個就]青春[著就]二八年，  
 64 陳倉道裏[啊]殺樵夫[啊]，  
 65 短掉了[個]青春[著]三八[啊]年，  
 66 烏江岸上逼霸王，  
 67 短了[個就]青春[著就]四八[呀]年，  
 68 高皇拜他[著]十八[呀]拜，  
 69 短掉了青春[著就]五八[呀]年，  
 70 有[的哎]一日[著]韓[吶]信喪，  
 71 後宮裏轉齣了女[啊]陳倉，  
 72 大將軍死在[一個]陰人的手[啊]，  
 73 九月十三[著]韓信[吶]亡。

57<sub>nv</sub> tɕ'ũ tɕ'ũ fɛ tiɔ liɔ tɕ'j tɔ [a] pǎ,  
 58<sub>tɕ</sub>ã k'ɛ liɔ pa tɔ [tɕɔ] uɔ xa [ia] miǎ,  
 59<sub>ɕj</sub> zɕ [a] iu j kɔ sã tɕ'j [a] uɔ,  
 60<sub>tɕ'</sub>iǎ luǎ tsr pɪ ʂɔ xu mɛ mv [a],  
 61<sub>tuã</sub> liɔ nɔ tsr tɕ'iǎ tɕ'ũ [tɕɔ] j pa niǎ,  
 62<sub>tɕj</sub> mɔ fǔ tɕiǎ [na] xɛ kɔ sɔ [a],  
 63<sub>tuã</sub> liɔ [kɔ tɕiu] tɕ'iǎ tɕ'ũ [tɕɔ tɕiu] ɛ pa niǎ,

64 tɕ'ə ts'ɔ̄ tɔ̄ l [a] sa tɕ'iō fv [a],  
 65 tuā tiɔ̄ liɔ̄ [kɔ̄] tɕ'iō tɕ'uə̄ [tɕɔ̄] sã pa [a] niã,  
 66<sub>v</sub> tciɔ̄ nã ʂɔ̄ pj pa uɔ̄,  
 67 tuā liɔ̄ [kɔ̄ tɕiu] tɕ'iō tɕ'uə̄ [tɕɔ̄ tɕiu] sr pa [ia] niã,  
 68 kɔ̄ xuɔ̄ pɛ t'a [tɕɔ̄] ʂɛ pa [ia] pɛ,  
 69 tuā tiɔ̄ liɔ̄ tɕ'iō tɕ'uə̄ [tɕɔ̄ tɕiu] v pa [ia] niã,  
 70 iu [tsr ɛ] j zɛ [tɕɔ̄] xã [na] ciɔ̄ sɔ̄,  
 71 xw kuə̄ l tɕuā tɕ'v liɔ̄ mj [a] tɕ'ə ts'ɔ̄,  
 72 ta tciɔ̄ tɕyɔ̄ sr tɕɛ [j kɔ̄] iə̄ zɔ̄ tsr ʂw [a],  
 73 tɕiu yu ʂɛ sã [tɕɔ̄] xã ciɔ̄ [na] uɔ̄.

57 The emperor angrily threw down the seventh memorial,  
 58 And opened the eighth one that said,  
 59 In the past there was the Sanqi King,<sup>55</sup>  
 60 Who buried his mother alive at Qinglong Mountain,<sup>56</sup>  
 61 It shortened his life eight years,  
 62 He divided a well with a chicken feather to torment his brother and  
     his sister-in-law,<sup>57</sup>  
 63 It shortened his life another eight years,  
 64 At Chencang path he killed the firewood collector,  
 65 It shortened his life another eight years,  
 66 On the Wu River he forced Hegemon<sup>58</sup> to kill himself,  
 67 It shortened his life another eight years,  
 68 The emperor kowtowed to him eighteen times,  
 69 It shortened his life another eight years,  
 70 There came a day when Han Xin had to die,  
 71 In a rear palace a reincarnation of Chen Cang became a woman,<sup>59</sup>  
 72 The general lost his life in a woman's hands,  
 73 Han Xin died on the thirteenth day of the Ninth Lunar Month.

74 怒沖沖摔掉了[個]八道[的]本[吶]，  
 75 展開了[個]九道[著]往下[哎]明[吶]，  
 76 昔日有一個賊楊廣[啊]，  
 77 藥酒[倆]毒死了[個]親兄長[啊]，  
 78 親親的[個]嫂子[哈就]發昭陽。  
 79 天下的[啊]美女們[啊]齊選上，  
 80 拉繮拉到[一個]揚州[啊]城[吶]，  
 81 揚州[的]城[哎]裏開花[啊]會[啊]，  
 82 亂棒打死了隋煬君[吶]。

74<sub>nv</sub> tɕ'uõ tɕ'uõ fɛ tiõ liõ [kõ] pa tõ [tsr] pã [na],  
 75<sub>tɕã</sub> k'ɛ liõ [kõ] tɕiũ tõ [tɕõ] uõ xa [ɛ] miã [na],  
 76<sub>ɕj</sub> zɕ iũ j kõ tsr iõ kuõ [a],  
 77<sub>yu</sub> tɕiũ [lia] tv sr liõ [kõ] tɕ'iã ɕiã tɕõ [a].  
 78<sub>tɕ'iã</sub> tɕ'iã tsr [kõ] sõ [xa tɕiũ] fa tɕõ iõ,  
 79<sub>t'iã</sub> ɕia tsr [a] mɪ mj mã [a] tɕ'j ɕyã ɕõ,  
 80<sub>la</sub> ɕiã la tõ [j kõ] iõ tɕu [a] tɕ'ã [na],  
 81<sub>iã</sub> tɕu [tsr] tɕ'ã [ɛ] l k'ɛ xua [a] xui [a],  
 82<sub>luã</sub> põ ta sr liõ sui iõ tɕyã [na].

74<sup>74</sup>The emperor angrily threw down the eighth memorial,  
 75<sup>75</sup>And opened the ninth one that said,  
 76<sup>76</sup>In the past there was an evil person named Yang Guang,<sup>60</sup>  
 77<sup>77</sup>Who killed his own brother with poisoned wine.  
 78<sup>78</sup>And took his sister-in-law to Zhao Yang's palace.  
 79<sup>79</sup>He chose beauties from all over the country,  
 80<sup>80</sup>And got them to drag his boat to Yangzhou,  
 81<sup>81</sup>In the city of Yangzhou a flower exhibition was held,  
 82<sup>82</sup>In a frenzy of clubs Yang Lord of Sui was beaten to death.

83<sup>83</sup>怒沖沖摔掉了[個]九道本，  
 84<sup>84</sup>展開了[個]十道[就]往下[呀]明，  
 85<sup>85</sup>十道本是高祖李淵君[吶]，  
 86<sup>86</sup>東擋西殺的是唐[啊]通。

83<sub>nv</sub> tɕ'uõ tɕ'uõ fɛ tiõ liõ [kõ] tɕiũ tõ pã,  
 84<sub>tɕã</sub> k'ɛ liõ [kõ] ɕɛ tõ [tɕiũ] uõ xa [ia] miã,  
 85<sub>ɕɛ</sub> tõ pã sr kõ tɕy l yã tɕyã [na],  
 86<sub>tuã</sub> tõ ɕj sa tsr sr t'õ [a] t'uõ.

83<sup>83</sup>The emperor angrily threw down the ninth memorial,  
 84<sup>84</sup>And opened the tenth one that said,  
 85<sup>85</sup>The tenth memorial was for the founding emperor Li Yuan,<sup>61</sup>  
 86<sup>86</sup>The bravest general is Tang Tong.<sup>62</sup>

87<sup>87</sup>今日你的本章奏得好[啊]，  
 88<sup>88</sup>險些兒殺害我的小王[啊]李世民[吶]，  
 89<sup>89</sup>爲王封你[啊]一支[啊]陪駕[呀]王，  
 90<sup>90</sup>有事了上殿動本刑[吶]，  
 91<sup>91</sup>無事了皇宮內院享福[啊]盡[吶]。

- 87 tciã zç ni tsr pã tšõ tsu tsr xõ [a],  
 88 ciã ci ε sa xε nõ tsr ciõ uõ [a] l šç miõ [na],  
 89 ui uõ fã ni [a] j tsr [a] p'j tciã [ia] uõ,  
 90 iu sr liõ šõ tiã tuã pã ciõ [na],  
 91 v sr liõ xuõ kuõ nui yã ciõ fv [a] tciã [na].

- 87 If not for your memorials so well presented, [the emperor said]  
 88 My son Li Shiming would have been killed,  
 89 As your king I appoint you to my general staff,  
 90 You advise me if something goes wrong,  
 91 Otherwise, enjoy yourself in the palace's inner courtyard.

- 92 父老們要知道曲兒的[個]根故[啊]傳[吶]，  
 93 這本是遂良上本的一段段。

- 92 fv lõ mõ iõ tšç tõ tç'y ε tsr [kõ] kã kv tšua [na],  
 93 tšç pã sr sui liõ šõ pã tsr j tuã tuã.

- 92 Listeners, if you want to know the origin of the song,  
 93 This is one part of the story "Suiliang Composed Memorials."

#### *EIGHT CAVE-DWELLING IMMORTALS*

"Eight Cave-Dwelling Immortals" tells of the appearance of the Eight Immortals. In Chinese Daoist mythology, there were eight beings who, as mortals, followed the Dao and eventually became enlightened spirits. The first immortal is Han Zhongli. "Han" refers to the Han Dynasty, because he was successful during this time. His surname is Zhongli, his given name is Quan 權. The second immortal is Lü Chongyang, whose historical name is Lü Yang 呂陽. He is also known as Lü Dongbin 呂洞賓. His native place is a matter of debate, but he is generally recognized to have lived during the Tang Dynasty. The third is Cao Guojiu, whose given name approximates "imperial uncle." He was believed to be the brother of a Song Dynasty empress dowager. The fourth is Zhang Guolao, whose real name is Zhang Guo 張果. He is said to have been very successful in the Tang Dynasty. He is reputed to have originally been a white bat that later assumed human form. He rode a white donkey that could daily walk several hundred *li*. The fifth is Tie Guaili, or Iron-Crutch Li. His real name is Li Xuan 李玄. The sixth is Lan Caihe, who was born in the Tang period. The seventh is He Xiangu, the only female immortal. It is probable that she was born in the Tang Dynasty in Guangdong 廣東 Province. The eighth is Han Xiangzi, about whom see note 43.

## 八洞神仙

pa tuō sǎ ciā

Eight Cave-Dwelling Immortals

- <sup>1</sup>頭洞[ 的 ]神仙漢[ 的 ]鐘[ 哎 ]離，  
<sup>2</sup>赤[ 啊 ]紅[ 的 ]面紅[ 的 ]撒[ 呀 ]胸[ 啊 ]前，<sup>63</sup>  
<sup>3</sup>手兒裏[ 啊 ]拿的[ 個就 ]龍[ 的 ]戲[ 哎 ]扇，  
<sup>4</sup>一搵上[ 嘛 ]富貴[ 著就 ]萬萬[ 哎 ]年。

<sup>1</sup>t'u tuō [na tsr] sǎ ciā xā [na] tʂuō [ɛ] l,  
<sup>2</sup>tʂ'c [a] xuō [na] miā xuō [na] sa cyō [a] tɕ'iā,  
<sup>3</sup>ʂu ɛ l [a] na tsr [kɔ tɕiu] luō [na] cɿ [ɛ] šā,  
<sup>4</sup>j šā sǎ [ma] fv kui [tʂɔ tɕiu] uā uā [ɛ] niā,

- <sup>1</sup>The first immortal is Han Zhongli,  
<sup>2</sup>With a red face and a long beard spread before his breast,  
<sup>3</sup>Holding a dragon-decorated fan in his hand,  
<sup>4</sup>Fanning once means wealth for thousands of years.

- <sup>5</sup>二洞[ 的 ]神仙[ 的 ]呂[ 啊 ]純[ 的 ]陽，  
<sup>6</sup>身穿[ 的 ]絲帶[ 著就 ]身穿[ 的 ]黃，  
<sup>7</sup>袖兒裏筒的[ 個 ]陰[ 的 ]陽[ 哎 ]闖[ 的 ]，  
<sup>8</sup>酒席[ 的 ]宴前[ 哎著 ]顯手[ 啊 ]段。

<sup>5</sup>ɛ tuō [na] sǎ ciā [na] l [a] tʂ'uō [na] iō,  
<sup>6</sup>sǎ tʂ'uā [na] sr te [tʂɔ tɕiu] sǎ tʂ'uā [na] xuō,  
<sup>7</sup>ciu ɛ l t'uō tsr [kɔ] iō [na] iō [ɛ] pā [na],  
<sup>8</sup>tɕim cɿ [tsr] iā tɕ'iā [ɛ tʂɔ] ciā ʂu [a] tuā.

- <sup>5</sup>The second immortal is Lü Chongyang,  
<sup>6</sup>A sash around the waist and dressed in yellow,  
<sup>7</sup>A *yinyang* board inside his sleeves,

- <sup>9</sup>三洞[ 的 ]神仙曹國[ 哎 ]舅，  
<sup>10</sup>身[ 的 ]穿[ 的 ]雙龍[ 著 ]八卦[ 哎 ]袖，  
<sup>11</sup>柳樹精不渡長贊[ 的 ]嘆，<sup>65</sup>  
<sup>12</sup>二龍[ 的 ]寶劍[ 裏著 ]放火[ 啊 ]光。

<sup>8</sup>Demonstrates his power at a banquet.  
<sup>9</sup>sā tuō [tsr] sǎ ciā ts'ɔ kui [ɛ] tɕiu,  
<sup>10</sup>sǎ [na] tʂ'uā [na] fō luō [tʂɔ] pa kua [ɛ] ciu,  
<sup>11</sup>liu fv tciō pv tv tʂ'ō tsā [na] t'ā,

<sup>12</sup><sub>ε</sub> luã [tsr a] pɔ tciã [li tʂɔ] fǝ xu [a] kuǝ.

<sup>9</sup>The third immortal is Cao Guojiu,

<sup>10</sup>Wearing a double-dragon, eight-trigram<sup>66</sup> coat,

<sup>11</sup>The willow spirit<sup>67</sup> not crossing to Heaven, sighed in self-praise,

<sup>12</sup>The two-dragon bejeweled sword shone brilliantly.

<sup>13</sup>四[啊]洞[呐]神仙張果[哎]老[啊]，

<sup>14</sup>騎[啊]驢[啊]要過[個]趙州[啊]橋，

<sup>15</sup>魚鼓[哎]諫闕[呐]懷中抱[啊]，

<sup>16</sup>四大[的個]名山[著]驢後[啊]捎。

<sup>13</sup><sub>sr</sub> [a] tuã [na] ʂǝ ciã tʂǝ kv [ε] lɔ [a],

<sup>14</sup>tɕ'j [a] l<sup>w</sup> [a] iɔ ku [kɔ] tʂɔ tʂu [a] tɕ'io,

<sup>15</sup>y kv [ε] tciã pã [na] xui tʂuã pɔ [a],

<sup>16</sup><sub>sr</sub> ta [tsr kɔ] miǝ sã [tʂɔ] l<sup>w</sup> xu [a] sɔ.

<sup>13</sup>The fourth immortal is Zhang Guolao,

<sup>14</sup>Crossed Zhaozhou Bridge on a donkey,

<sup>15</sup>A fish-drum and a memorial board to the emperor clutched to his chest,

<sup>16</sup>The donkey crossed a bridge bearing four famous mountains.<sup>68</sup>

<sup>17</sup>五[啊]洞[呐]神仙鐵李[啊]拐[啊]，

<sup>18</sup>披髮拖著穿皂[啊]衣，<sup>69</sup>

<sup>19</sup>身背[哎]葫蘆[著]騰[哎]空[哎]去[啊]，

<sup>20</sup>五福[啊]福壽[的]各自宜。<sup>70</sup>

<sup>17</sup><sub>v</sub> [a] tuã [na] ʂǝ ciã t'i l [a] kue [a],

<sup>18</sup>p'j fa ʂɔ tʂɔ tʂ'uã tɔ [a] j,

<sup>19</sup>ʂǝ pɪ [ε] xv lv [tʂɔ] t'ǝ [ε] k'uǝ [ε] tɕ'j [a],

<sup>20</sup><sub>v</sub> fv [a] fv ʂu [tsr] kɔ tsr j.

<sup>17</sup>The fifth one is Iron-Crutch Li,

<sup>18</sup>With untied hair, a black beard and wearing a smock,

<sup>19</sup>Flies into the sky with a bottle gourd on his back,

<sup>20</sup>Five different fates come to people one by one.

<sup>21</sup>六洞[呐]神仙藍采[啊]和[啊]，

<sup>22</sup>頭上的[個就]鬚髻兒笑呵[啊]呵[啊]，

<sup>23</sup><sub>71</sub>

<sup>24</sup>王母[啊]面前唱道[啊]情[呐]。

21|liu tuō [na] s̄ō ciā lā ts'e [na] xu [a],  
 22|t'u s̄ō tsr [kɔ tciw] t̄sua t̄cyu ɛ ciɔ xu [a] xu [a],  
 23  
 24|uō mv [a] miā t̄c'iā t̄s'ō tɔ [a] t̄c'iō [na].

21|The sixth immortal is Lan Caihe,  
 22|Hair plaits on his head happily tremble,  
 23  
 24|Singing a *daoqing* before the Queen Mother.<sup>72</sup>

25|七洞神仙何[啊]仙[吶]姑[啊]，  
 26|頭上的[那個]青絲[們就]永不[啊]梳，  
 27|手兒裏拿的[個]鐵笊[啊]籬[啊]，  
 28|裏[啊]發金光[吶]外發[哎]光。

25|t̄c'j tuō s̄ō ciā xu [a] ciā [na] kv [a],  
 26|t'u s̄ō tsr [na kɔ] t̄c'iō sr [mō tciw] yō pv [a] f̄y,  
 27|s̄w ɛ l na tsr [kɔ] t'i t̄sɔ [a] l [a],  
 28| [a] fa t̄ciō kuō [na] uɛ fa [ɛ] kuō.

25|The seventh immortal is He Xiangu,  
 26|A head full of never-combed black thread-hair,  
 27|In her hand she holds an iron strainer,<sup>73</sup>  
 28|Which beams gold light inside and glows on the outside.

29|八洞[的]神仙本姓[吶]韓[吶]，  
 30|手兒裏提的[個]玉花[呀]藍，  
 31|花藍本是王母[哎]賜[啊]，  
 32|一年[哎]四季地開牡[哎]丹。

29|pa tuō [tsr] s̄ō ciā pō ciō [na] xā [na],  
 30|s̄w ɛ l ts'r tsr [kɔ] y xua [ia] lā,  
 31|xua lā pō sr uō mv [ɛ] ts'r [a],  
 32|j niā [ɛ] sr t̄cj tsr k'e mv [ɛ] tā.

29|The eighth immortal is surnamed Han,  
 30|In his hands he holds a jade flower-basket,  
 31|The basket was bequeathed by the Queen Mother,  
 32|And in it peonies bloom all year round.

#### TEN CHARACTERS

Featuring ten, four-lined stanzas, "Ten Characters" is filled with references

to various personages from Chinese history, myth, and literature. Attempting to read the entire song as a single unified text is challenging. Furthermore, it is unlikely most villagers hearing this song would be able to identify the characters and time periods alluded to.

十個字

ʂɛ kɔ tsɿ

Ten Characters

- <sup>1</sup>一個[ 哎 ]字兒—[ 啊 ]首[ 啊 ]詩[ 啊 ]，  
<sup>2</sup>聞太師領兵[ 著 ]整十[ 哎 ]七，  
<sup>3</sup>殷紂王寵愛了蘇[ 啊 ]妲己[ 啊 ]，  
<sup>4</sup>滿朝的文武們都[ 啊 ]害死。

<sup>1</sup>j kɔ [ɛ] tsɿ ɛ j [a] ʂu [a] sr [a],  
<sup>2</sup>uə t'ɛ sr liə piə [tʂɔ] tʂə ʂɛ [ɛ] tɛ'j,  
<sup>3</sup>iə tʂu uə tʂ'uə ne liə ɕy [a] tã tɛj [a],  
<sup>4</sup>mã tʂ'ɔ tsɿ uə v mə tv [a] xɛ sr.

- <sup>1</sup>One character, one poem,  
<sup>2</sup>Wen Taishi<sup>74</sup> led an army when he was just seventeen,  
<sup>3</sup>King Zhou of Yin loved Su Daji,<sup>75</sup>  
<sup>4</sup>And all the ministers of the court met death.

- <sup>5</sup>兩個[ 哎 ]字兒兩座[ 啊 ]山[ 吶 ]，  
<sup>6</sup>西門慶[ 嘛 ]愛的是潘金[ 吶 ]蓮，  
<sup>7</sup>武大郎吃藥[ 著 ]壽命[ 吶 ]短[ 吶 ]，  
<sup>8</sup>武松殺嫂[ 著 ]仇報冤。

<sup>5</sup>liə kɔ [ɛ] tsɿ ɛ liə tsu [a] ʂã [na],  
<sup>6</sup>ɕj mə tɛ'iə [ma] ne tsɿ sr p'ã tɛiə [na] liã,  
<sup>7</sup>v ta lə tʂ'ɛ yu [tʂɔ] ʂu miə [na] tuã [na],  
<sup>8</sup>v suə sa sɔ [tʂɔ] tʂ'u pɔ yã.

- <sup>5</sup>Two characters, two mountains,  
<sup>6</sup>Ximen Qing loved Pan Jinlian,  
<sup>7</sup>Wu Dalang having swallowed poison came to an early end,  
<sup>8</sup>Wu Song killed his sister-in-law to avenge the enmity.<sup>76</sup>

- <sup>9</sup>三個字兒三座山，  
<sup>10</sup>三戰呂布[ 的 ]虎[ 啊 ]牢關，  
<sup>11</sup>呂布的英名[ 嘛 ]齣天下[ 呀 ]，  
<sup>12</sup>張爺鞭打了紫金冠。

<sup>9</sup>sā kɔ tsr ε sã tsu sã,  
<sup>10</sup>sã tʂã l pv [tsr] xv [a] lɔ kuã,  
<sup>11</sup>l pv tsr iə miə [ma] tʂ'v t'iã cia [ia],  
<sup>12</sup>tʂʂ i piã ta liɔ tsr tciə kuã.

<sup>9</sup>Three characters, three mountains,  
<sup>10</sup>In three bouts Lübu fought at Tiger-Prison Pass,  
<sup>11</sup>His heroic name was known throughout the world,  
<sup>12</sup>Zhang Ye whipped his purple-gold crown.<sup>77</sup>

<sup>13</sup>四個[啊]字兒四四方，  
<sup>14</sup>磨房裏受罪的李三娘，  
<sup>15</sup>一天[嘛]擔水[著]五十[哎]擔[吶]，  
<sup>16</sup>到晚間推磨[著]三更天。

<sup>13</sup>sr kɔ [a] tsr ε sr sr fɔ̃,  
<sup>14</sup>mɔ fɔ̃ l ʂu tsui tsr l sã niɔ̃,  
<sup>15</sup>j t'iã [ma] tã fi [tʂɔ] v ʂɛ [ɛ] tã [na],  
<sup>16</sup>tɔ uã tciã t'ui mɔ [tʂɔ] sã kə̃ t'iã.

<sup>13</sup>Four characters, four squares,  
<sup>14</sup>Li Sanniang<sup>78</sup> who endured hardships in a mill,  
<sup>15</sup>Daily carried fifty pairs of water pails,  
<sup>16</sup>And in the evening, she worked in the mill till midnight.

<sup>17</sup>五個[哎]字兒五[啊]福[啊]堂，  
<sup>18</sup>蘇州失散的劉關[吶]張，  
<sup>19</sup>把關老爺圍著[個]土[啊]山上[啊]，  
<sup>20</sup>張文元口巧舌辯的能[吶]搬上。

<sup>17</sup>v kɔ [ɛ] tsr ε v [a] fv [a] t'ɔ̃,  
<sup>18</sup>ɛy tʂu ʂɛ sã tsr liu kuã [na] tʂʂ,  
<sup>19</sup>pa kuã lɔ i ui tʂɔ [kɔ] t'v [a] sã ʂʂ [a],  
<sup>20</sup>tʂʂ uə̃ yã k'w tɛ'io ʂɛ piã tsr nã [na] pã ʂʂ.

<sup>17</sup>Five characters, five good fates,  
<sup>18</sup>In Suzhou, Liu, Guan, and Zhang were defeated and scattered,<sup>79</sup>  
<sup>19</sup>Old Man Guan<sup>80</sup> became surrounded on a dirt mountain,  
<sup>20</sup>Zhang Wenyan<sup>81</sup> with a quick tongue was able to talk him out of danger.

- <sup>21</sup>六個字兒六座山，  
<sup>22</sup>宋王的大兵[哈]到邊關，  
<sup>23</sup>把守三關的楊六郎[啊]，  
<sup>24</sup>焦贊和孟良[倆]緊跟上。

<sup>21</sup>liu kɔ tsr ɛ liu tsu sã,  
<sup>22</sup>suõ uõ tsr ta piõ [xa] tɔ piã kuã,  
<sup>23</sup>pa ʃu sã kuã tsr iõ liu lõ [a],  
<sup>24</sup>tciɔ tsã te mõ liõ [lia] tciõ kã ʃõ.

- <sup>21</sup>Six characters, six mountains,  
<sup>22</sup>The Song emperor's army reached a strategic pass,  
<sup>23</sup>Yang Liulang, who defended the three passes,  
<sup>24</sup>Was quickly followed by Jiao Zan and Meng Liang.<sup>82</sup>

- <sup>25</sup>七個字兒七[啊]座山，  
<sup>26</sup>七郎領兵[著]到邊關，  
<sup>27</sup>兩狼山前打一[啊]仗[啊]，  
<sup>28</sup>亂箭傷身[著]—[啊]命亡。

<sup>25</sup>tɕ'j kɔ tsr ɛ tɕ'j [a] tsu sã,  
<sup>26</sup>tɕ'j lõ liõ piõ [tɕɔ] tɔ piã kuã,  
<sup>27</sup>liõ lõ sã tɕ'iã ta j [a] tɕõ [a],  
<sup>28</sup>luã tciã ʃõ ʃõ [tɕɔ] j [a] miõ uõ.

- <sup>25</sup>Seven characters, seven mountains,  
<sup>26</sup>Qilang led an army to the strategic pass,  
<sup>27</sup>A battle was fought in front of Two-Wolf Mountain,  
<sup>28</sup>In a hail of arrows, his body was wounded and his life was lost.<sup>83</sup>

- <sup>29</sup>八個字兒八座山，  
<sup>30</sup>楊八郎外國[哈]認娘親，  
<sup>31</sup>董家嶺上來赴宴[訥]，  
<sup>32</sup>八賢王遇見了蕭[啊]銀宗。

<sup>29</sup>pa kɔ tsr ɛ pa tsu sã,  
<sup>30</sup>iõ pa lõ ue kui [xa] zõ niõ tɕ'iõ,  
<sup>31</sup>tuõ tciã liõ ʃõ le p'v iã [na],  
<sup>32</sup>pa ciã uõ y tciã liɔ ciɔ [a] iõ tsuõ.

- <sup>29</sup>Eight characters, eight mountains,

- 30 Yang Balang in an enemy's land married a girl,  
 31 When coming to Dongjia Hill for the banquet,  
 32 Baxian Prince encountered Xiao Yinzong.<sup>84</sup>

- 33 九個字兒九朵蓮，  
 34 九裏山前擺戰場，  
 35 九人九馬[的]九杆槍，  
 36 立逼[的]霸王赴烏江。

- 33 tɕiɯ kɔ tsɿ ɛ tɕiɯ tu liã,  
 34 tɕiɯ l sã tɕ'iã pɛ tɕã tɕ'õ,  
 35 tɕiɯ zə̃ tɕiɯ ma [tsɿ] tɕiɯ kã tɕ'iõ,  
 36 l pj [tsɿ] pa uõ p'v v tɕiõ.

- 33 Nine characters, nine lotus flowers,  
 34 Before Nine Li Mountain a battlefield was laid out,  
 35 Nine men, nine horses, nine spears,  
 36 The Hegemon was forced to Wu River.<sup>85</sup>

- 37 十個字兒十朵蓮，  
 38 十絕[啊]陣裏顯手段，  
 39 洪均老祖[啊]化三清[吶]，  
 40 要和衆仙見高峰。

- 37 ɕɛ kɔ tɕɛ ɛ ɕɛ tu liã,  
 38 ɕɛ tɕy [a] tɕõ l ciã ɕɯ tuã,  
 39 xuõ tɕyõ lɔ tɕy [a] xua sã tɕ'iõ [na],  
 40 iɔ xu tɕuõ ciã tɕiã kɔ fõ.

- 37 Ten characters, ten lotus flowers,  
 38 Within a ten-death battle formation,<sup>86</sup> abilities were displayed,  
 39 The Daoist priest Hongjun divided all the immortals into three  
 Qing palaces,  
 40 To contend with other immortals for the highest spot.

#### TEN LAMPS

The number “ten” furnishes a vehicle, as do the months of the year in previous songs, to recount various episodes from Chinese history and literature in verses of four lines.

十盞燈  
 ʂɛ tsã tǝ  
 Ten Lamps

- <sup>1</sup>一盞[ 哎 ]燈來甚[ 啊 ]麼[ 呀 ]燈[ 啲 ]?  
<sup>2</sup>月[ 啊 ]牙橋[ 啊 ]前的呂[ 啊 ]洞[ 哎 ]賓，  
<sup>3</sup>洞賓[ 啲 ]想吃上[ 了 ]個[ 獻 ]月的[ 個 ]酒，  
<sup>4</sup>連吃上[ 個 ]三[ 啲 ]杯著醉醺[ 哎 ]醺。

- <sup>1</sup>j tsã [ɛ] tǝ le ʂɛ [a] ma [ia] tǝ [na a] ?  
<sup>2</sup>yu [a] ia tɕ'io [a] tɕ'iã tsr l [a] tuǝ [ɛ] piǝ,  
<sup>3</sup>tuǝ piǝ [na] ciǝ tɕ'ɕ ɕǝ [liɔ kɔ] ciã yu tsr [kɔ] tɕiu,  
<sup>4</sup>liã tɕ'ɕ ɕǝ [kɔ] sã [na] pi tɕɔ tsui cyǝ [ɛ] cyǝ.

- <sup>1</sup>What is the first lamp?  
<sup>2</sup>It is Lü Dongbin<sup>87</sup> in front of a crescent moon bridge,  
<sup>3</sup>Dongbin wanted to drink presented-to-the-moon liquor,  
<sup>4</sup>He was tipsy after drinking three cups.

- <sup>5</sup>兩盞[ 哎 ]燈來什[ 啊 ]麼[ 呀 ]燈?  
<sup>6</sup>二郎[ 啊 ]擔[ 啲 ]山在空中，  
<sup>7</sup>南山的[ 啊 ]背後[ 把 ]就[ 太 ]陽壓，  
<sup>8</sup>這是[ 個 ]就[ 二 ]郎[ 的 ]就[ 顯 ]啲[ 神 ]恩。

- <sup>5</sup>liǝ tsã [ɛ] tǝ le ʂɛ [a] ma [ia] tǝ?  
<sup>6</sup>ɛ lǝ [a] tã [na] sã tse k'uǝ tɕuǝ,  
<sup>7</sup>nã sã tsr [a] pi xuu [pa tɕiu] t'e iǝ nia,  
<sup>8</sup>tɕɕ sr [kɔ tɕiu] ɛ lǝ [tsr tɕiu] ciã [na] ɕǝ nã.

- <sup>5</sup>What is the second lamp?  
<sup>6</sup>It is Erlang<sup>88</sup> carrying mountains in the sky,  
<sup>7</sup>He covered the sun with mountains behind South Mountain,  
<sup>8</sup>This was Erlang's demonstration of spiritual favor.<sup>89</sup>

- <sup>9</sup>三盞燈來[ 著 ]什[ 啊 ]麼[ 呀 ]燈?  
<sup>10</sup>弟兄三人哭活了[ 個 ]紫[ 啊 ]荆[ 啲 ]樹，  
<sup>11</sup>  
<sup>12</sup>枯木上[ 就 ]開花[ 著 ]綠[ 啊 ]葉[ 哎 ]青。

- <sup>9</sup>sã tsã tǝ le [tɕɔ] ʂɛ [a] ma [ia] tǝ?

10<sub>c</sub>yǎ tsr sã zǎ k'v xu liǒ [kǒ] tsr [a] tǎiǎ [na] fv,  
11

12<sub>k</sub>'v mv şǒ [tǎiu] k'ε xua [tşǒ] lv [a] i [ε] tǎ'iǎ.

9What is the third lamp?

10Three brothers cry for lilacs and their laments brought the lilacs  
back to life,<sup>90</sup>

11

12On bitter wood, flowers bloomed and leaves turned green.

13四[啊]盞燈來什麼[啊]燈？

14四郎探母在宋營，

15蕭銀宗[吶]擺下的[個]天門陣，

16要和宋軍見高[啊]峰。

13<sub>sr</sub> [a] tsã tǎ le şc ma [a] tǎ?

14<sub>sr</sub> lǒ t'ã mv tse suǎ iǎ,

15<sub>ciǒ</sub> iǎ tsuǎ [na] pε xa tsr [kǒ] t'iǎ mǎ tşǎ,

16<sub>ic</sub> xu suǎ tcyǎ tciǎ kǒ [a] fǎ.

13What is the fourth lamp?

14Silang calls on his mother in the Song barracks,

15Xiao Yingzong made a heaven-gate battle formation,

16To vie with the Song army for top position.<sup>91</sup>

17五盞[吶]燈來什麼[呀]燈？

18五郎齣家在[啊]山中，

19齣家潦倒[的]去[啊]修行，

20念經阿彌陀總是[個]空。

17<sub>v</sub> tsã [na] tǎ le şc ma [ia] tǎ?

18<sub>v</sub> lǒ tş'v tǎia tse [a] sã tşuǎ,

19<sub>tş'v</sub> tǎia liǒ tǒ [tsr] tǎ'j [a] ciu ciǎ,

20<sub>niǎ</sub> tǎiǎ a mj t'u tsuǎ sr [kǒ] k'uǎ.

17What is the fifth lamp?

18Wulang left home to become a monk on a mountain,

19He became an aimless monk,

20Recited Buddhist scriptures and worshipped Buddha daily, empty  
all along.<sup>92</sup>

- 21 六盞燈來什麼燈？  
 22 宋王的大兵[著]到[啊]邊境，  
 23 把守[啊]三關的楊六[啊]郎，  
 24 焦贊和孟良倆緊[啊]跟上。

- 21 liu tsā t̃ le ʂ ma t̃?  
 22 suā uō tsr ta piō [t̃ɔ] tō [a] piā t̃iō,  
 23 pa ʂu [a] sā kuā tsr iō liu [a] lō,  
 24 t̃iō tsā mō liō [lia] t̃iō [na] kō ʂō.

- 21 What is the sixth lamp?  
 22 The Song army reached the border pavilion,  
 23 Yang Liulang defended the strategic pass,  
 24 And was quickly followed by Jiao Zan and Meng Liang.<sup>93</sup>

- 25 七[啊]盞燈來什麼[啊]燈？  
 26 七郎領兵到邊境，  
 27 兩狼[的]山前[著]打[呀]—[啊]仗，  
 28 亂箭傷身[著]—[啊]命亡。

- 25 t̃'j [a] tsā t̃ le ʂ ma [a] t̃?  
 26 t̃'j lō liō piō tō piā t̃iō,  
 27 liō lō [tsr] sā t̃'iā [t̃ɔ] ta [ia] j [a] t̃ō,  
 28 luā t̃iā ʂō ʂō [t̃ɔ] j [a] miō uō.

- 25 What is the seventh lamp?  
 26 Qilang led the army to a strategic pass,  
 27 Fought in front of Two-Wolf Mountain,  
 28 He was killed by a hail of arrows.

- 29 八盞燈來什[啊]麼燈？  
 30 楊八郎外國認娘親，  
 31 董家[的]嶺上[著]來[啊]赴宴，  
 32 八賢王遇見了蕭[啊]銀宗。

- 29 pa tsā t̃ le ʂ [a] ma t̃?  
 30 iō pa lō ue kui zō niō t̃'iō,  
 31 tuō t̃ia [tsr] liō ʂō [t̃ɔ] le [a] p'v iā,  
 32 pa ciā uō y t̃iā liō ciō [a] iō tsuō.

- 29 What is the eighth lamp?

- 30 Yang Balang accepted a mother's request to marry her daughter in  
an enemy land,  
31 On Dongjia Ridge they came for a banquet,  
32 Baxian Prince met with Xiao Yinzong.

- 33 九盞燈來什麼燈？  
34 九裏[的]山前擺戰場，  
35 九人九馬九杆槍，  
36 立逼[的]霸王赴烏[啊]江。

- 33 tɕiu tsā tō le ʂɛ ma tō?  
34 tɕiu l [tsr] sā tɕ'ia̯ pe tʂā tʂ'ō,  
35 tɕiu zō tɕiu ma tɕiu kã tɕ'iō,  
36 l pj [tsr] pa uō p'v v [a] tɕiō.

- 33 What is the ninth lamp?  
34 There was a battleground in front of Nine-Li mountain,  
35 Nine people, nine horses, nine spears,  
36 The Hegemon was forced to go to Wu River.

- 37 十盞燈來什麼燈？  
38 十絕陣裏[啊]現高峰，  
39 珠[啊]仙陣[來]紅沙陣，  
40 陣陣不離[個]九女星。

- 37 ʂɛ tsā tō le ʂɛ ma tō?  
38 ʂɛ tɕy tʂō l [a] ciã kɔ fō,  
39 tʂv [a] ciã tʂō [lɛ] xuō sa tʂō,  
40 tʂō tʂō pv l [kɔ] tɕiu mj ciō.

- 37 What is the tenth lamp?  
38 Within the Ten-Death battle formation they vie for top position,  
39 Pearled-immortal battle formation, red-sand battle formation,  
40 Every battle formation has a nine-female star.<sup>94</sup>

#### GENERAL GAO LEADS TROOPS

Of all the songs presented here, this one most closely approaches a narrative. It tells the story of General Gao, or Gao Tianxi 高天喜, who led troops to the present Xinjiang 新疆 Uygur Autonomous Region to suppress a Muslim rebellion during the Qing Dynasty (1644–1911). He was born in Xining and local people sing this song to commemorate him.

高大人領兵  
kə ta zə liǎ piǎ  
General Gao Leads Troops

<sup>1</sup>正月裏到了是新[哎]年[吶],  
<sup>2</sup>纏頭的回回們[來]造了[啊]反[吶],  
<sup>3</sup>韃裏的[啊]路兒上來封[哎]信[吶],  
<sup>4</sup>四面[哎]八方地發大[哎]兵[吶]。

<sup>1</sup>tʂə̌ yu l tɔ liɔ sr ciǎ [ɛ] niǎ [na],  
<sup>2</sup>tʂ'ã t'ɪ tɪ tɪ xui xui mǎ [lɛ] tɔ liɔ [a] fã [na],  
<sup>3</sup>tɛ'ia l tɪ [a] lv ɛ ʂə̌ le fǎ [ɛ] ciǎ [na],  
<sup>4</sup>sr miǎ [ɛ] pa fǎ tɪ fa ta [ɛ] piǎ [na].

<sup>1</sup>In the First Lunar Month is Spring Festival,  
<sup>2</sup>The turbaned Huihui rebelled,  
<sup>3</sup>A message came from more than a thousand *li* away,  
<sup>4</sup>Armies started off from every direction.

<sup>5</sup>二月裏[啊]到了綠蔭[哎]蔭[哎],  
<sup>6</sup>領兵[哎]挂帥的高大[哎]人[吶],  
<sup>7</sup>每人[哈]賞給了四兩[哎]銀[吶],  
<sup>8</sup>怀揣上鋼刀[著]殺人的心[吶]。

<sup>5</sup>ɛ yu l [a] tɔ liɔ lv iǎ [ɛ] iǎ [ɛ],  
<sup>6</sup>liǎ piǎ [ɛ] kua fɛ tɪ kə ta [ɛ] zə̌ [na],  
<sup>7</sup>ɪ zə̌ [xa] ʂə̌ kɪ liɔ sr liǎ [ɛ] iǎ [na],  
<sup>8</sup>xue tʂ'ue ʂə̌ kǎ tɔ [tɕɔ] sa zə̌ tɪ ciǎ [na].

<sup>5</sup>In the Second Lunar Month all is darkly green,  
<sup>6</sup>Leading the troops with the rank of field marshal was General Gao,  
<sup>7</sup>Each soldier received four *liang*<sup>95</sup> of silver,  
<sup>8</sup>Steel swords were clutched to their breasts and killing filled their hearts.

<sup>9</sup>三月裏[啊]到了三清[哎]明[吶],  
<sup>10</sup>高大人領兵[著]哈密[的]城[吶],  
<sup>11</sup>哈密[的]城兒上扎營[哎]盤[吶],  
<sup>12</sup>長槍[哎]抬[著]個肩膀[啊]疼[吶]。

- <sup>9</sup>sǎ yu l [a] tɔ liɔ sǎ tɕ'ĩǎ [ɛ] miǎ [na],  
<sup>10</sup>kɔ ta zǎ liǎ piǎ [tɕɔ] xa mj [tsr] tɕ'ǎ [na],  
<sup>11</sup>xa mj [tsr a] tɕ'ǎ ɛ ʂǎ tsa iǎ [ɛ] p'ǎ [na],  
<sup>12</sup>tɕ'ǎ tɕ'ĩǎ [ɛ] t'ɛ [tɕɔ kɔ] tciǎ pǎ [a] t'ǎ [na].

- <sup>9</sup>In the Third Lunar Month is *Qingming*,  
<sup>10</sup>General Gao led the troops to Hami,<sup>96</sup>  
<sup>11</sup>By Hami City they set up encampments,  
<sup>12</sup>And their shoulders ached from toting long spears.

- <sup>13</sup>四月裏[啊]到了四月[哎]八[呀]，  
<sup>14</sup>高大人[吶]吩咐[著]沒騎給[個]馬[呀]，  
<sup>15</sup>一夜[哎]走給了百七[哎]八[呀]，  
<sup>16</sup>沒喝上涼水[著]渴沙[哎]沙[呀]。

- <sup>13</sup>sr yu l [a] tɔ liɔ sr yu [ɛ] pa [ia],  
<sup>14</sup>kɔ ta zǎ [na] fǎ fv [tɕɔ] mɔ tɕ'j kɪ [kɔ] ma [ia],  
<sup>15</sup>j i [ɛ] tsw kɪ liɔ pɪ tɕ'j [ɛ] pa [ia],  
<sup>16</sup>mɔ xu ʂǎ liǎ fi [tɕɔ] k'ǎ sa [ɛ] sa [ia],

- <sup>13</sup>The Fourth Lunar Month's eighth day is a festival,  
<sup>14</sup>General Gao ordered that horses were not to be ridden,  
<sup>15</sup>In one night they marched about two hundred *li*,

- <sup>17</sup>五月裏到了五端[哎]陽[啊]，  
<sup>18</sup>伊犁[的]城兒上搬口[啊]糧[啊]，  
<sup>19</sup>這一會[的]口糧沒搬[哎]上[啊]，  
<sup>20</sup>苦苦菜的芽芽兒[倆]接口[啊]糧[啊]。

- <sup>16</sup>With no cool water to drink they were as very thirsty.  
<sup>17</sup>v yu l tɔ liɔ v tuǎ [ɛ] iǎ [a],  
<sup>18</sup>j l [tsr] tɕ'ǎ ɛ ʂǎ pǎ k'w [a] liǎ [a],  
<sup>19</sup>tɕɛ j xui [tsr] k'w liǎ mɔ pǎ [ɛ] ʂǎ [a],  
<sup>20</sup>k'v k'v ts'ɛ tsr ia ia ɛ [lia] tci k'w [a] liǎ [a].

- <sup>17</sup>In the Fifth Lunar Month is Dragon Boat Festival,  
<sup>18</sup>They tried to move supplies from Yili City,  
<sup>19</sup>At this time they were unable to transport the supplies,  
<sup>20</sup>They used endive sprouts for their rations.

- 21 六月裏到了熱難[ 哎 ]擋[ 啊 ]，  
 22 吃糧的哥哥們也孽[ 哎 ]障[ 啊 ]，  
 23 頭戴上草帽[ 哎 ]涼颯[ 哎 ]颯[ 呀 ]，  
 24 哪一日回到[ 個 ]我的[ 哎 ]家[ 呀 ]？

21 |iu yu l tɔ liɔ zɛ nã [ɛ] tɔ̃ [a],  
 22 |ʂ'ɛ liɔ̃ tsr kɔ̃ kɔ̃ mǎ i ni [ɛ] tɕɔ̃ [a],  
 23 |t'w tɛ̃ ɕɔ̃ ts'ɔ̃ mɔ̃ [ɛ] liɔ̃ sa [ɛ] sa [ia],  
 24 |j zɛ xui tɔ̃ [kɔ̃] nɔ̃ tsr [ɛ] tɕia [ia]?

- 21 The Sixth Lunar Month's heat is hard to bear,  
 22 The soldiers had a miserable life,  
 23 Only by wearing grass hats did they find comfort,  
 24 When shall we [the soldiers wondered] return home?

- 25 七月裏[ 啊 ]到了[ 著 ]七月[ 哎 ]七[ 啊 ]，  
 26 七個人打給了二斤[ 哎 ]米[ 啊 ]，  
 27 吃不上吃的難扎[ 哎 ]掙[ 吶 ]，  
 28 吃糧的[ 啊 ]哥哥們偷跑[ 哎 ]營[ 吶 ]。

25 |tɕ'j yu l [a] tɔ̃ liɔ̃ [tɕɔ̃] tɕ'j yu [ɛ] tɕ'j [a],  
 26 |tɕ'j kɔ̃ zǎ ta kɪ liɔ̃ ɛ tɕiǎ [ɛ] mj [a],  
 27 |ʂ'ɛ pv ɕɔ̃ ʂ'ɛ tsr nã tsa [ɛ] tsǎ [na],  
 28 |ʂ'ɛ liɔ̃ tsr [a] kɔ̃ kɔ̃ mǎ t'w p'ɔ̃ [ɛ] iǎ [na].

- 25 The Seventh Lunar Month's seventh day is a festival,  
 26 Seven people got only two *jīn* of rice,  
 27 Unable to eat food it was difficult to carry on,  
 28 Many soldiers secretly fled.

- 29 八月裏[ 啊 ]到了月兒[ 啊 ]圓[ 吶 ]，  
 30 領兵[ 吶 ]掛帥的高大[ 哎 ]人[ 吶 ]，  
 31 伊犁[ 的 ]城兒上打一[ 哎 ]仗[ 啊 ]，  
 32 兩頭兒圍下的很孽[ 哎 ]障[ 啊 ]。

29 |pa yu l [a] tɔ̃ liɔ̃ yu ɛ [a] yã [na],  
 30 |liǎ piǎ [na] kua fɛ tsr kɔ̃ ta [ɛ] zǎ [na],  
 31 |j l [tsr] tɕ'ǎ ɛ ɕɔ̃ ta j [ɛ] tɕɔ̃ [a],  
 32 |liǎ t'w ɛ ui xa tsr xǎ ni [ɛ] tɕɔ̃ [a].

- 29 In the Eighth Lunar Month the moon is fullest,

- 30 Leading the troops, as field marshal, was General Gao,  
 31 To Yili City where the battle was fought,  
 32 Surrounded on both sides, Gao's troops were most pitiful.

- 33 九月裏到了九月[哎]九[哎]，  
 34 黃河的沿兒上挑壕[哎]溝[啊]，  
 35 壕溝[哎]挑下得萬丈[哎]深[吶]，  
 36 吃糧的哥哥們要小[哎]心[吶]。

- 33 tciw yu l tɔ liɔ tciw yu [ɛ] tciw [ɛ],  
 34 xuɔ xu tsr iã sɔ t'io xɔ [ɛ] km [a],  
 35 xɔ km [ɛ] t'io xa tsr uã tɕɔ [ɛ] sɔ [na],  
 36 tɕ'ɛ liɔ tsr kɔ kɔ mɔ io cio [ɛ] ciɔ [na].

- 33 The Ninth Lunar Month's ninth day is a festival,  
 34 They dug a trench alongside the Yellow River,  
 35 The trench they dug was incredibly deep,  
 36 The soldiers should be careful of danger.

- 37 十月裏到了好冷[哎]天[吶]，  
 38 吃糧的[個]哥哥們沒鋪給[個]氈[吶]，  
 39<sup>97</sup>

- 40 娘老子聽見[著]心[吶]疼[哎]酸[吶]。

- 37 ɕɛ yu l tɔ liɔ xɔ lɔ [ɛ] t'iã [na],  
 38 tɕ'ɛ liɔ tsr [kɔ] kɔ kɔ mɔ p'ɥ kɪ [kɔ] tɕã [na],  
 39  
 40 niɔ lɔ tsr t'io tciã [tɕɔ] ciɔ [na] t'ɔ [ɛ] suã [na].

- 37 In the Tenth Lunar Month it turns cold,  
 38 Under the soldiers' bodies there were no felt pads to place,  
 39  
 40 How painful if their parents had heard of it.

- 41 十一[哎]臘月一年[噯]滿[吶]，  
 42 高大人回來[著]把兵[哎]點[吶]，  
 43 大兵[哈]折給了[個]兩三[噯]萬[吶]，  
 44 小兵[哈]折下的數不[哎]完[啊]。

- 41 ɕɛ j [ɛ] la yu j niã [nɛ] mǎ [na],

- 42 kɔ ta zə xui le [tʂɔ] pa piə [ɛ] tiã [na],  
 43 ta piə [xa] ʂɛ ki liɔ [kɔ] liə sã [nɛ] uã [ia],  
 44 ciɔ piə [xa] ʂɛ xa tsr fv pv [ɛ] uã [a].

41 The Eleventh and Twelfth lunar months follow and are the year's end,

42 General Gao returned and counted his troops,

43 More than twenty thousand officers were dead,

44 And countless soldiers were lost.

45 父老們要知道曲兒的根故[啊]傳[吶]，

46 這本是高大人領兵的一段[哎]段[吶]。

45 fv lɔ mã iɔ tʂɛ tɔ tɕ'y ɛ tsr kã kv [a] tʂuã [na],

46 tʂɛ pã sr kɔ ta zə liə piə tsr j tuã [ɛ] tuã [na].

45 My listeners, if you want to know the basis of this song,

46 It is a part of the story "General Gao Leading Troops."

#### MUSIC

LUO Yaonan's (1993) presentation of *shehuo* melodies and lyrics merits comment because of the few published studies of Xining-area songs performed during Spring Festival. Luo focuses on *shehuo* melodies in Huangzhong and Xining and divides his material into two parts. Part 1 provides a general introduction followed by various selections prefaced with the time, form, and performance site. Footnotes explicate certain dialectical and literary references. In an effort to "perfect" the selections, Luo states he changed lines and added certain stanzas. Five of Luo's selections ("Eight Cave-Dwelling Immortals," "Ten Lamps," "General Gao Leads Troops," "Twelve Lunar Months," "Ten Characters") have names identical to five songs in this paper, but there is limited similarity in the texts.<sup>98</sup>

Part 2 of Luo's collection has the musical notation for nineteen songs taken from Part 1. It appears that Luo secured the services of two professional folksong performers to sing most of the nineteen songs.<sup>99</sup> The resulting musical notation seems to be based on these renditions. Music presented in this study differs substantially from that in Luo's collection.

The first stanzas are generally the main ones for the songs presented in this paper. Subsequent stanzas develop from the main stanzas and are written under the main stanza so as to expedite comparison.

Almost all the lines of music for the songs discussed in this study are presented. This is because we find that the music slowly changes in each

song and this change finally produces alteration that constitutes a stanza with substantially different music. In addition, the lyrics of each song combine with the music in intriguing ways; the presentation of the lyrics with the music also aids in analyzing the songs.

### YANGGE SONGS

In the six yangge songs (“Fire God,” “Niangniang Goddess,” “The Village,” “Cherries on the Mountain,” “Sing Yangge,” “Sheep”), each stanza is very similar, although there is variation in the first line of each stanza, which matches the lyrics and adds vividness.

#### A Comparison of Six Stanzas of “Yangge Songs”

#### A Comparison of Line 1 of the Six Stanzas of “Yangge Songs”

1  
1: Yangge Song 火 神 爺 啊 來 火 神 爺 哈 來, —

2  
2: Yangge Song 娘 娘 啊 廟 兒 呀 修 得 啊 高, —

3  
3: Yangge Song 這 個 一 哎 莊 子 啊 四 四 哎 方, —

4  
4: Yangge Song 東 山 啊 高 西 山 啊 哈 高, —

5  
5: Yangge Song 你 打 你 們 鑼 一 啊 你 打 你 們 鼓 啊, —

6  
6: Yangge Song 高 山 啊 廟 上 啊 一 伙 哎 咳 羊, —

## A Comparison of Line 2 of the Six Stanzas of "Yangge Songs"

5

1. Yangge Song 1 火神爺哈來 了著 空啲不啲來。 火神爺啊

2. Yangge Song 2 娘 娘 身 穿 了 大 紅 啲 袍。 大 紅 的 啊

3. Yangge Song 3 金 盆 養 魚 的 好 地 啊 方。 不 啲 丟 個

4. Yangge Song 4 西 山 的 個 背 後 哈 栽 櫻 啲 桃。 櫻 桃 兒 啊

5. Yangge Song 5 聽 我 給 你 們 唱 秧 啲 歌。 唱 得

6. Yangge Song 6 口 兒 里 哈 吃 草 著 心 兒 裏 慌。 前 嘛 怕

## A Comparison of Line 3 of the Six Stanzas of "Yangge Songs"

1. Yangge Song 1 來 了 空 啲 不 啲 來。 金 銀 財 貝 的

2. Yangge Song 2 袍 兒 上 九 條 龍 啲 紋。 娘 娘 保 佑 著

3. Yangge Song 3 色 啲 兒 不 摸 牌。 個 個 的 個 元 寶

A Comparison of Line 4 of the Six Stanzas of "Yangge Songs"

Song 1: Yangge  
来。

Song 2: Yangge  
班 班 梭 梭 成 兒 成。

Song 3: Yangge  
地 唱 来。

Song 4: Yangge  
口 離 吹 開。

Song 5: Yangge  
播 待 着。

Song 6: Yangge  
深 在 吹 在 在。

Song 4: Yangge  
好 吃 着 的 一 羅 呢， 一 梭 歌 好 唱。

Song 5: Yangge  
好 了 哈 就 說 好， 唱 播 不 好 了。

Song 6: Yangge  
子 後 一 怕 來， 兩 股 兒 哈 眼 淚。

## SHEHUO SONGS

“Thirteen Lunar Months” Theme.<sup>100</sup> There are four lines of lyrics in each stanza of “Thirteen Lunar Months.” Each stanza contains two different music parts. Each stanza’s Part 1 is the same as Part 1 of stanza 1. The only difference is in the beginning of line 3 in Part 2 of each stanza. Stanza 1 is the theme. In the four lines of this stanza, line 2 develops from line 1. Line 3 contains new material. Line 4, which contains sound words, concludes. The last note of line 2 is *zhi* 徵 and the end note of line 4 is *shang* 商 of the Chinese pentatonic scale. These two notes strongly structure Part 1.

Part 2 develops from Part 1. Bars 1 and 2 use the same contour of bars 1 and 2 of line 2 of Part 1, but have a different rhythm. Although there is significant change in Part 2, bars 1 and 2 of line 1, and bars 3 and 4 of lines 3 and 4 remain the same as the corresponding bars in Part 1. Moreover, the most important characteristics of Part 1, which are the cadences, are retained in Part 2. Stanza 1 is used as an example.

## “Thirteen Lunar Months” Theme

1  
十 三 的 個 月 哎， 長 啊 一 哎

7  
月 啊 哎， 曹 操 嘛 領 兵 著 關 洛 陽 啊

13  
花 兒 嘛 就 點 著 開 啊， 不 與 哎 個

19  
劉 爺 倆 嘛 毒 啊 西 吹 川 啊

25  
八 十 個 三 萬 著 下 江 南 啊

29  
花 兒 嘛 就 點 著 開 啊

“Blowing Kite” (*Fang Feng Zheng* 放風爭) is a popular song in the Xining vicinity (WENHUA BU WENXUE YISHU YANJIU YUAN YINYUE YANJIU SUO 1980, 261).<sup>101</sup> The first part of stanza 1 of “Thirteen Lunar Months” is very similar to the single stanza of “Blowing Kite” reported in the reference just cited. There are five lines. Line 2 develops from line 1. Line 3 contains new material. Line 4 concludes. Bars 1 and 2 in line 5 are supplemental bars using materials from line 4 and they complete the song.

“Blowing Kite”

1  
三 月 哟 里 来 呀 是 啊 清

7  
明 哪 哎 哟 姊 妹 人 去 踏 青 哪 随 带 着

14  
放 风 箏 哎 哟 随 带 着

20  
放 风 箏

“Blowing Kite” and “Thirteen Lunar Months” Compared. The key of “Blowing Kite” and the key of “Thirteen Lunar Months” differ. However, in order to facilitate comparison, the same key is used in this paper to record the two songs. The music of “Blowing Kite” is longer than that of stanza 1 of “Thirteen Lunar Months.” There are two different supplemental bars in Line 5 of “Blowing Kite” that make the line a little different from lines 3 and 4 of “Thirteen Lunar Months.” There are two main lines in “Blowing Kite.” Line 5 only supports the song’s cadence. Similarities and differences are obvious when the two main lines of “Blowing Kite” are compared to Part 1, stanza 1 of “Thirteen Lunar Months.” A leap of four staves is present, which is an important characteristic of *hua'er*.<sup>102</sup> Although “Blowing Kite” is called *xiaodiao*,<sup>103</sup> this characteristic is present.

*“Blowing Kite” and “Thirteen Lunar Months” Compared*

*“Twelve Lunar Months” Theme.* Stanza 1 will be used for comparative purposes. There are two basic lines of music in stanza 1. Line 1 is:

In line 1, bars 5 and 6 are supplemental. In the following stanzas, the first line of each stanza develops from the above line of music. There are variations in supplemental bars in stanzas 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, and 9 in accordance with varying lyrics and emotional content. (Only stanza 1 is shown in this paper.) In stanzas 7 and 10, the supplemental bars appear at the end of line 2. Furthermore, bar 2 always retains the rhythm  $\underline{x} \ x \ \underline{x}$  or  $xx \ xx$ . The other basic line is the cadence line:

It usually appears at the final line of each stanza. However, it is line 2 in stanzas 7 and 8. In stanzas 2 and 3 it is:

This develops from the basic cadence. The last line of stanza 12 is very different:



The syncopation in bars 2 and 3 does not appear in other stanzas. These changes allow the line to impart a sense of completion to the song.

*“Twelve Lunar Months”* Theme



*“Planting Flowers in the Twelve Lunar Months”* Theme. Each stanza uses material of stanza 1. There are four lines in stanza 1. Each line has four bars. Line 2 develops from line 1. In line 3, new material appears in bars 1 and 2. Next, bars 3 and 4 of line 1 are repeated. Line 4 is a variation of line 2, stanza 1.

Stanzas 2 and 3 are similar (only stanza 1 is shown). Line 2 of stanza 2 and line 2 of stanza 3 are similar and differ from line 2 in stanza 1. They develop from line 4 of stanza 1. Stanzas 2 and 3 are similar to stanza 1, but

the order of the lines is 3, 4, 1, 2.

Stanzas 4, 5, 6, 8, 9, 10, 11, and 12 have new materials in the beginning two bars of lines 1 and 3. The new material follow



Only after stanza 10, which displays little development, does the new material not follow. Line 2 of each stanza develops from, or is similar to, lines 2 and 4 of stanza 1. Line 4 of each stanza usually repeats or is similar to line 2 of stanza 1. In stanza 7, line 4 is the same as line 3.

*“Planting Flowers in the Twelve Lunar Months” Theme*

1  
正 月 裏 到 了 著 雪 花 兒 著 雪 啊 打 呀

4  
燈 吶, 柳 金 花 來 到 了

7  
木 啊 場 哎 中, 來 到 了 木 場 著 嘛 就

11  
三 吶 更 吶 後 哎, 觀 吶 兒 哪 的

14  
仁 興 的 白 啊 虎 哎 星

*“Ten Memorials to the Throne” Overture.* “Ten Memorials to the Throne” may be divided into two parts. One is an overture, which is the only music we give in this paper. The other is the following ten stanzas that use overture materials. There are six lines in the overture. Line 2 develops from line 1. Line 3 uses materials of lines 1 and 2. Line 4 concludes the above three lines. The following two lines change key from C major to G major and materials in the above four lines are used in lines 5 and 6. Line 5 develops from line 3. Line 6 develops from line 4. Finally, the key returns to C major in bars 3 and 4.

Each of the following ten stanzas has two lines of opening bars. Each of the second lines of opening bars has four bars. The first and second bars in each stanza in this second line differ. Bars 3 and 4 of this second line are the same in each stanza, providing a sense of conclusion. Lines 3 and 4 of each stanza are melody variations of the opening bars of that particular stanza. There are new materials and lines in each stanza, yet many lines contain variations of material from the overture.

*"Ten Memorials to the Throne" Overture*

1  
 堵 遂 限 您 本 章 十 分 嘛 就

4  
 繁 响 忙 修 就 了 嘛 就 十 道 本 香 去 見 君 响

8  
 王 我 主 人 响 準 了 一 個 臣 的 响 本 响

13  
 君 是 個 就 君 來 著 臣 是 响 臣

17  
 我 主 人 响 不 準 一 個 臣 响 的 哎 本

21  
 推 响 了 個 午 門 著 開 新 响 刑

*"Eight Cave-Dwelling Immortals."* Two melodies characterize "Eight Cave-Dwelling Immortals." One is the melody of "Niangniang," which is presented below.

1  
 頭 洞 响 神 仙 响 漢 响 鐘 哎 離 赤 紅 面 响 撒 胸 响

8  
前, 手兒里啊 拿 的 個 就 龍 戲 扇, 一 擱

14  
上 嘛 就 富 貴 萬 萬 年.

In the second melody, stanza 1 (the only stanza given in this paper) is the theme with two lines. Line 2 develops from line 1.

“Eight Cave-Dwelling Immortals” Theme.

1  
頭 河. 响 的 神 仙

2  
漢 响 鐘 哎 離.

3  
弄 响 紅 响 面 紅 响 撒 呀 胸 啊 前.

5  
手 兒 裏 啊 拿 的 個 就 龍 响 戲 哎 扇.

7  
一 擱 上 嘛 富 貴 與 著 就 萬 萬 哎 年.

The melody variations retain the thematic characteristics that are subsequently displayed. However, line 2, stanza 6 becomes two bars. Bar 1 is the rhythm. Bar 2 usually appears before every ending bar of the other stanzas. There are also many repeated variations of bars and turns. Two bars that exemplify this slight variation are:

This pattern helps retain the characteristics of the above theme. Moreover, the key of stanza 7 slowly changes in Line 4 and then in Stanza 8 the key changes from A-flat to C-sharp.

“*Ten Characters*.” In this song, stanza 2 is the theme and stanza 1 is the prelude of all the stanzas.

1  
個兒 字兒

2  
啊 首 啊 詩 啊 聞 太 師 領 兵 著

4  
整 十 叟 七 殷 紂 主 纜 變 了 蘇 啊 己 啊

7  
滿 朝 的 文 武 們 啊 害 死

There are two lines in stanza 1. Bars 1 and 2 of line 2 use materials of line 1. These two bars, or variations, are repeated at the end of each of the subsequent stanzas.

“*Ten Characters*” Theme. Compared to stanza 1, new materials are in line 1, stanza 2. Line 2 is a development of line 1. The subsequent stanzas are melody variations of stanza 2.

“*Ten Characters*” Theme

1  
兩 個 叟 兒 兩 座 啊 山 啊 西 門 慶 變 的 是

4  
潘 金 啊 蓮 武 大 郎 吃 藥 著 壽 命 啊 短 啊

7  
武 松 殺 瘦 著 仇 報 冤

“*Ten Lamps.*” Stanza 1 is the theme and has four lines. Line 2 develops from line 1. Line 3 uses materials in the first two lines. Line 4 develops from line 1.

“*Ten Lamps*” Theme

1  
一 盞 燈 燈 來 什 麼 呀 燈 呢 啊?

5  
月 啊 牙 橋 啊 前 的 呂 啊 洞 哎 賣,

9  
洞 賣 呢 想 吃 上 了 個 歡 月 的 個

12  
酒, 連 吃 上 個 三 呢 杯 著 醉 醺 哎 醺.

“*General Guo Leads Troops*” Theme. Stanza 1, the only stanza presented in this paper for this song, is the basic theme. The other stanzas are all variations of stanza 1, but stanzas 2, 3, and 4 exhibit the greatest similarity.

Lines 1 and 4 of stanza 1 appear in stanza 5 as lines 1 and 2. Line 3 develops from Line 2.

There is new material in bar 1 of stanza 6, but it does not develop. Bars 2, 3, and 5 develop from line 1 of stanza 1. Line 2 develops from line 2 of stanza 1. Line 3 condenses lines 1 and 2. Line 4 develops from line 2.

Following stanza 6, certain materials of stanza 6 reappear, e.g., stanzas 7, 8, and 9. In stanza 7, line 1 is similar to line 1 of stanza 1, but the third beat in bar 1, line 1, stanza 1 appears in the first beat of the next bar. This is again evident in bar 4, line 1, stanza 7. Line 3 develops from stanza 6. Line 4 develops from stanza 6 in line 4.

In stanza 8, line 1 develops from line 1 of stanza 1. Lines 2 and 4 are nearly identical, and they are similar to line 4, stanza 6.

In stanza 9, line 1 develops from line 1, stanza 1. Line 2 is similar to line 2, stanza 6. Line 3 develops from line 4, stanza 6.

There are three lines in stanza 10. Line 1 uses materials of stanzas 1 and 6. Line 2 develops from line 4, stanza 6. However, there are new materials in bar 1, line 3 that do not develop in the following lines. Line 3 develops from line 2.

In line 1 of stanza 11, stanza 6 materials are used. Line 2 develops from line 2, stanza 1. Line 3 uses materials of lines 1 and 2. Line 4 is the ending line both of stanza 11 and “General Guo Leads Troops.” There is no distinctive difference other than a different rhythm that provides an ineffective conclusion to the song.

*“General Guo Leads Troops” Theme*

1  
正月裏到了是新年哪,

5  
燒頭的回回們來造了啊反哪, 糖裏的啊,

10  
路兒上來封哎信哪, 四面哎八方哪,

15  
發大哎兵哪

CONCLUSION

Every category is usually a melody variation, but each category’s musical characteristics are not apparent except for musical style. Although there is a different rhythm in each category, the rhythm is clearly expressed. There is no free rhythm. Furthermore, each song is sung without a pause until the end of the song.

However, as these songs were collected only once and the singers are old, certain materials might appear differently if recorded several times and then studied. For example, in stanza 7 of “Eight Cave-Dwelling Immortals,” bars 3 and 4, line 2 show very different notes beyond the key of the other songs of the group. This characteristic is also evident in “Ten Memorials to the Throne” and in certain other songs. This may be because the singer is advanced in years and his voice might have been tired after a long period of singing.

NOTES

1. Stuart and his colleagues have provided general introductions to Qinghai in recent

publications (e.g., ZHU et al. 1997), and the information provided in those articles will not be repeated here. For a lengthy, earlier introduction to Qinghai, see SCIRAM's (1954, 1957, 1961) three-part study of the Monguor (Tu 土). For a more recent study, see BARNETT 1993.

2. One of several benefits of recording songs in IPA is that rhyme schemes are evident, which may not be the case if the Chinese characters are transliterated into Modern Standard Chinese pinyin. The transcription system used in this paper is that of ZHANG and ZHU (1987) with slight modifications. The dialect has four monosyllabic tones: *yīnpíng* 陰平 (ˊ), *yángpíng* 陽平 (ˊ), *shàngshēng* 上聲 (ˇ), and *qùshēng* 去聲 (ˋ). However, we do not indicate tones in the transcription system, because they are determined by the music.

3. Similar words in the songs classified in this paper as *shehuo* were, in the past, also sung by blind singers who occasionally performed in the village in order to earn money. However, the tunes were different. These songs were called *qu'er* 曲兒 by villagers.

4. One *mu* = 0.0667 hectares.

5. Shaanxi 陝西 Opera.

6. However, *shehuo* is not celebrated on the thirteenth day. This day is a time for remembering the death of Yang Jiye 楊繼業 (?–986), who, according to local accounts, was a military hero who died in attempting to stave off an attack from invaders during the Northern Song 宋 Dynasty.

7. Other songs sung in the village are *hua'er* 花兒, which are sung by males and females of varying ages, and popular songs sung by young people. *Hua'er*, often translated as “flower songs,” a folksong genre common in certain areas of northwest China performed by Monguor, Tibetans, Hui (Chinese Muslims), Salar 撒拉爾, Baoan 保安, Dongxiang 東鄉 and Han. For a review of the literature on *hua'er* see FENG and STUART (1994b).

8. A similar theme can be found in wedding songs of the Minhe Mangghuer. When the bride-takers are about to leave the bride's home with the bride for the journey to the groom's home, they exit the main room, where they have been entertained, and return three times. When they enter, they may sing that they are bringing in gold, silver, treasures, grains, and livestock. And when they exit the room, they may sing that they are taking away illnesses, pains, calamities, quarrels, ghosts, and evils (HU and STUART 1992, 119). This suggests that songs with the theme of exorcism in Qinghai are not confined to *shehuo*.

9. A shoe-shaped gold or silver ingot used as money in old China.

10. Liu Ye is Liu Bei. Xichuan likely refers to Sichuan 四川, where Liu Bei ruled.

11. Liu Quan's wife, Li Cuilian, committed suicide and all his property was burned. He and his two children became beggars. One day, he heard that the leader of Hell wanted a wax gourd, so Liu Quan took a gourd to Hell with him to visit his wife. The couple sadly wept when they saw each other. The leader of Hell was so moved that he allowed Li Cuilian to return to the earth with him. (This information was furnished by Li Sengquan.)

12. This is one of the “Twenty-Four Examples of Filial Piety” (*ershi si xiao* 二十四孝): Wang Xiang (185–269) lay naked on an ice-covered pond until his body heat melted a hole, out from which leapt two carps. He then took them to his stepmother, who wished to eat fish.

13. One *li* is half a kilometer.

14. This stanza recounts the story of Meng Jiangnü. Her husband was forced to work on the construction of the Great Wall. When he did not return for a long time, she went to look for him and found that he had died and was buried in the wall.

15. Chongyang Festival is also named Chongjiu 重九 Festival or Jiuyuejiu 九月九 (the ninth day of the Ninth Lunar Month). Beginning during the Han 漢 Dynasty, it is held on the ninth day of the Ninth Lunar Month. People climb hills and mountains, drink liquor, and enjoy chrysanthemums that are in bloom. Residents of Xining take sticks, liquor, and food to climb mountains on the eve of this festival. South Xining residents climb South Mountain

(Phoenix Mountain 鳳凰山), while residents in the north of the city climb North Mountain. They burn the sticks and dance around the fire. Older participants toss sacred yellow paper featuring images of horses and deer into the air. Afterwards, people sit around the fire drinking, playing flutes, and singing until daybreak. If the next year proves unlucky, it is thought it may be due to the deer and horse experiencing difficulties. Consequently, on the next Chongyang Festival, these activities are repeated (YAN and WANG 1994, 965).

We thank Chen Qiang 陳強 for providing us with the translation of this information.

16. Huang Chao died in 884; his year of birth is unknown.

17. The Tang 唐 Dynasty reached its most glorious period in the eighth century, which is commonly referred to as the High Tang.

18. A farmer, with the help of his ox, married a fairy, the Girl Weaver. However, their marriage angered the Queen Mother of the West, who banished them to either side of the Milky Way. Annually, on the seventh day of the Seventh Lunar Month, magpies fly far up into the sky and make a bridge over the Milky Way so the two lovers can meet for a time.

19. Liu Xiu (6 BC–57 AD) later became the first emperor of the Eastern Han Dynasty (25–220).

20. Qu Yuan 屈原 (340–278 BC) is remembered as the great lyrical poet in the period of the Warring States 戰國時期 (475–221 BC). Unable to bear official corruption and intrigue, of which he was a victim, he drowned himself in Miluo 汨羅 River on the fifth day of the Fifth Lunar Month. Dragon Boat Festival commemorates his demise.

21. In certain neighboring villages during this time, *fashi* 法師 (religious practitioners) perform in temples to delight the resident deities. This is not done presently, however, in Xi Liangqi.

22. A day to remember the dead. Relatives visit family graves, burn paper symbolizing money, and offer sacrifices of food and drink.

23. ?–35 AD.

24. A martial arts weapon.

25. Sun Bin was a commander of the Wei King of Qi 齊威王 during the Warring States period. Sun Bin's legs were cut off by Pang Juan.

26. Pang Juan was a commander of the Hui King of Wei 魏惠王 in the Warring States period. He was jealous of Sun Bin, his fellow, and consequently injured him. Finally, he was killed by Sun Bin.

27. Fei Zhong and You Hun were King Zhou's court favorites.

28. A unit of measure equal to three and one-third meters.

29. "Pioneer official" refers to Nezha serving as an official at the time of the founding of the Zhou 周 Dynasty. Nezha was a son of Li Jing, who had devoted himself to Daoism since childhood. After conceiving Nezha, his mother did not give birth to him for three years and six months.

30. A mythical figure who purportedly lived around 1100 BC.

31. A reference to Nezha.

32. Shen Gongbao aided King Zhou of Yin and was Jiang Ziya's fellow disciple at Jade Emptiness Palace.

33. Tuxin Sun, or Earth Traveler Sun, was an ugly and unimposing man. Deng Chanyu was his wife. They rebelled against King Zhou of Yin. Deng Jiugong, a commander of King Zhou, rebelled after failing in battle.

34. The story says that Jiang Ziya rode a *sibuxiang*, which in reality is a David's deer. In this story, however, it may refer to an imaginary animal with the head of a unicorn, the tail of a leopard, and the body of a dragon.

35. The rod was a tool used by Jiang Ziya to keep a tally of generals' and soldiers' deeds,

in order to decide if they deserved to become gods.

36. Zhao Gongming, a Daoist, lived in Lufu Cave on Emei Mountain in Sichuan. He helped Jiang Ziya defeat the King of Yin.

37. “White Tiger Star” is Xue Rengui’s constellation. A second suggestion is that Rengui was sleeping and was in the form of a white tiger.

38. Lan Yulian was to meet her lover, named Wei Langbao 魏郎保, on Blue Bridge at three o’clock in the morning. Wei waited for her until four o’clock. Because she did not come, he beat his head on the bridge until he died. When Lan Yulian came and saw Wei’s corpse, she was so overcome with grief that she jumped into the river to drown herself.

39. The story goes that Chen Xingyuan and Mei Liangyu were to be married but instead the emperor gave her as a gift to a foreign ruler.

40. He was no longer faithful to his first wife, Zhang Meiyang.

41. This line was told to Dai in a subsequent session by the singer. It was not sung. The line Li Shengquan sang was the same as line 40 in this song.

42. This stanza recounts an episode from the novel *Yang Jia Jiang* 楊家將 (The Yang Family Generals), in which the Northern Song 北宋 Dynasty (960–1127) fought invaders from the north.

43. Han Xiangzi was said to be the nephew of Han Yu 韓愈 (768–824), a famous Tang Dynasty statesman and writer, although this is probably a pious fiction. Han Xiangzi became a Daoist Immortal and, as this stanza relates, tried to bring his family with him to Heaven.

44. Chu Suiliang (596–658) was an important official and a famous calligrapher during the Tang Dynasty.

45. Yao, Shun, Yu, and Xuanyuan are mythic rulers.

46. The five cereals/grains are rice, two kinds of millet, wheat, and beans.

47. Nüwa was a sister of a mythic ruler in China, Fu Xi 伏羲. She is said to have created human beings and repaired the heavens.

48. The story relates that King Zhou wrote the poem to express his admiration and love for the goddess. However, the poem infuriates her and she causes the end of his dynasty.

49. Meixi 梅喜 was a favorite concubine of Xia Jie 夏桀. More probably, this line would have said that Baosi was a favorite concubine of the You King of Zhou.

50. You King of Zhou was the last ruler of Western Zhou Dynasty.

51. Jie of Xia was the last ruler of the legendary Xia 夏 Dynasty (2100–1600 BC).

52. Ping King of Chu was a ruler of Chu Kingdom in the Spring-Autumn Period.

53. Minister Wu was an official of Ping King of Chu. His name was Wu She 伍奢. Wu Shang and Wu Yuan were his sons.

54. These stories about the Guangwu Emperor (see dates for Liu Xiu in note 19) are from the drama *Da Jin Zhuan* 打金磚 (Beat the Golden Brick) and are obvious fabrications.

55. The Sanqi King was Han Xin.

56. This line recounts a folktale concerning Han Xin, who was a herder before he became a king. One day while he lay on Qinglong Mountain, an immortal passed by and said that if someone were to be buried there, his descendant would become a famous man. Han Xin overheard this message and buried his mother alive in that mountain.

57. This line recounts another folktale concerning Han Xin: he divided the family’s common water well with a chicken feather and promptly defecated and urinated in his half of the well, infuriating his brother and sister-in-law.

58. Xiang Yu 項羽 (232–202 BC), also known as the Hegemon.

59. The story relates that the firewood collector, Han Xin, who was killed at Chencang Path, was reincarnated as a woman, taking the name Chen Cang, who then killed Han Xin.

60. Yang Guang is Sui Yang Di 隋煬帝 (r. 605–617), the second emperor of the Sui 隋

Dynasty (581–618).

61. Li Yuan was the founding emperor of the Tang Dynasty.

62. Tang Tong is Li Shimin 李世民 (r. 627–650), the son of Li Yuan, and inheritor of his throne.

63. We could not understand the original line sung by Li, so we replaced it with one from a song of a similar nature from LUO (1993, 39).

64. Later, the singer offered 腰纏.

65. We could not understand the original lines 10 and 11 sung by Li, so we replaced them with lines from a similar song from LUO (1993, 39).

66. Also known as the “eight diagrams.” These diagrams display eight combinations of three whole or broken lines used in divination.

67. The “willow-spirit” was a servant of Cao Guojiu. Cao Guojiu is said to have come to take his servant to the next world, but with self-restraint the servant chose not to go.

68. This stanza relates an episode when Zhang Guo went to cross Zhaozhou Bridge while riding his donkey. He asked Lu Ban, who is often portrayed as the first and most famous carpenter in China and constructor of the bridge, if the bridge would support both himself and his donkey. Lu Ban scolded him for his disrespect and guaranteed that the bridge would hold up. Zhang Guo, perturbed at having been scolded, wanted to show him that he was wrong and used his powers to have the donkey carry four mountains across the bridge with him. In the end, the bridge did not collapse.

69. We could not understand the third and fourth lexical items sung by Li, therefore, we replaced these two characters with the characters for “black beard,” which we obtained from a similar song in LUO (1993, 39).

70. These lexical terms are taken from a similar song in LUO (1939, 39).

71. This line was unintelligible.

72. *Daoqing* is a variety of Qinghai folksong.

73. The singer sung “*zaoli*,” which is probably Qinghai Chinese Dialect for “strainer.”

74. His name was Wen Zhong 閻仲. *Taishi* was his title. He was the most important general under the last Yin king, Zhou, mentioned in the following line.

75. Su Daji was the favorite concubine of King Zhou (d. ca 1100 BC). She is credited with corrupting him and leading to the downfall of his dynasty.

76. This is a famous story in Chinese fiction, best known from *The Outlaws of the Marsh* 水滸傳.

77. This stanza recalls an episode from the *Romance of the Three Kingdoms* 三國演義. Zhang Ye, mentioned in the last line, is Zhang Fei 張飛, one of the novel's heroes.

78. Li Sanniang was the wife of Liu Zhiyuan 劉知遠, the founder of the Later Han 後漢 Dynasty (947–950 AD). When her husband went to war, she lived at her brother's home and suffered as the stanza suggests. After the war, her husband became emperor and forgot her.

79. Liu, Guan, and Zhang are the three heroes of *The Romance of the Three Kingdoms*: Liu Bei 劉備 (161–223), Guan Yu 關羽 and Zhang Fei, respectively.

80. Old Man Guan is Guan Yu.

81. Zhang Wenyuan was Cao Cao's 曹操 (155–220) general. When Guan Yu was surrounded by Cao Cao's troops, Zhang Wenyuan persuaded Guan Yu to join Cao Cao's army.

82. This stanza refers to an episode in *Yang Jia Jiang*.

83. This stanza recounts another episode in *Yang Jia Jiang*. Qilang was the seventh son in the Yang family.

84. This stanza recounts another episode in *Yang Jia Jiang*. Balang was the eighth son in the Yang family. He was captured by northerners and forced to marry a northern woman. Baxian Wang, a minister of the Song, went to Dongjia Ridge for talks with the enemy, where

he met Xiao Yinzong, a representative of the northerners.

85. Han Xin 韓信, a general under Liu Bang 劉邦 (d. 194), founder of the Han Dynasty, did battle with Xiang Yu near Jiu Li Mountain. He used nine generals, who fought with Xiang Yu one at a time. Finally, Xiang Yu was compelled to go over Wu River, where he was forced to kill himself by sailors from Han Xin's force.

86. Zhou King of Yin invited ten spirits and disposed ten connected formations, hence the phrase "ten-death battle formation." King Zhou used the formation to fight with Jiang Ziya 姜子牙, a minister of King Zhou's enemy, Wen King of Zhou 周文王. Jiang Ziya invited the Daoist priest, Hongjun, to destroy the formation.

87. One of the Eight Cave-Dwelling Immortals.

88. Erlang seems to have been helpful in regulating rivers and water courses in the mythical past, particularly in the present-day Sichuan Province. In Qinghai, Erlang is of particular significance to many Minhe Mangghuer, Tongren Monguor, Han Chinese, and some Tibetans.

89. It was said that the Qin Emperor 秦始皇 (d. 209 BC) wanted to finish construction of the Great Wall quickly, consequently he raised nine suns into the sky so that the people could work all day long. Erlang sympathized with the fate of the people and arranged for the extra suns to be blocked by mountains, alleviating the suffering of workers and peasants.

90. In the Han Dynasty, Tian Zheng, Tian Qin, and Tian Guang were dividing the family possessions. They wanted to cut down a lilac tree to divide it among themselves, but suddenly it died. The three brothers wept and then decided to divide the family no more, at which point the lilac revived.

91. This stanza recounts another episode from the drama *Yang Jia Jiang*.

92. This stanza recounts another episode from the drama *Yang Jia Jiang*.

93. This is the same story as that recounted in note 82.

94. "Nine-female star" is a reference to Mu Guiying, who defended the Liao 遼 people in North China.

95. One *liang* equals fifty grams.

96. Also known as Kumil, it is located in the northeast of the present-day Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region.

97. This line is unintelligible.

98. The lyrics in this paper and Luo's "Eight Cave-Dwelling Immortals," "Ten Lamps," and "General Gao Leads Troops" are similar in general meaning but the specific textual content differs. Stanza 8 of Luo's "Eight Cave-Dwelling Immortals" is the same as its counterpart in this paper. The same similarity is evident in stanza 9 of "General Gao Leads Troops." Stanzas 1, 2, and 3 of "Ten Lamps" in Luo's collection and in this paper are very similar. "Ten Characters" and "Twelve Lunar Months" have quite different lyrics.

99. For example, the singer of *Zhi Shou Jin* 織手巾 in Part 1 is Wu Si 吳氏, whereas in Part 2 the singer is Luo Shi 羅氏 (LUO 1993, 111 and 261).

100. The music of line 1 and line 4 in all the stanzas is nearly identical.

101. Sung by Ma Shengfang 馬生芳 and Ma Guangyu 馬光玉 in "the eastern part of Qinghai." Collected by Xu Ming 旭明.

102. A folksong genre found in northwest China that is often characterized by erotic content.

103. A folksong genre sung by Hui and Han, among other nationalities, mainly at home. Themes are Heaven, the universe, folk culture, local conditions and customs, and memorable characters.

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