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Last updated: 4/13/09

Materials from Homer H. Dubs and the Han Dynasty History Project

The materials in this section derive largely from Homer H. Dubs' project to translate the *Han shu*, which he began publishing in 1938 under the title *History of the Former Han Dynasty*. Some of the material comes from the now defunct Han Dynasty History Project at the University of Washington. Regular users of Dubs' three-volume translation have often wondered what became of the "forthcoming" Glossary to which readers were often referred in the notes. Although Dubs completed a draft, the Glossary was never published. The ms. eventually made its way, along with other of Dubs' materials, to the Han Dynasty Project headed by Prof. Jack L Dull. Some of the material became the basis for Ch'ü T'ung-tsu's *Han Social Structure*, Hsü Cho-yun's *Han Agriculture*, and Rafe de Crespigny's *Northern Frontier: The Policies and Strategies of the Later Han Empire*. Another volume on communication and transportation in the Ch'in and Han periods was being prepared by Professor Lo Jung-pang but remained unfinished when the author fell ill. A draft is among Professor Lo's papers in the Shields Library at the University of California, Davis. The *Glossary* and other of the Dubs/Han Dynasty Project materials also remained unpublished.

Following Prof. Dull's untimely death in 1995, the Han Dynasty Project ended and the materials became scattered. Now, thanks to the assistance of William G. Crowell, Prof. R. Kent Guy, Director of the China Program at the University of Washington, Prof. Karen Turner of College of the Holy Cross, and Jeffery A. Howard, e-Asia has acquired the Glossary manuscript, as well as a draft copy of part of Dubs' proposed fourth volume of *HFHD*. These materials have been scanned and are being edited by Dr. Crowell and Jeffrey A. Howard with a view to making them available through e-Asia. Still missing are translations of material from the *Han shu* "Treatises" (志) and "Tables" (表) sections and the texts of the final two chapters (100A & B) of the *Han shu*, which contain the history of the Pan family and the poetic epigraphs for each of the *Han shu* chapters. (The Glossary entries for *Hs* 100A&B are included with the entries for the first volume; it should be noted that because the Pan family came to court during the reign of Emperor Ch'eng, some Glossary material pertaining to the last decades of the Former Han is included there as well, e.g., a lengthy entry on Liu Hsiang.) Some of this material is reportedly among Dubs' papers in the Bodleian Library at Oxford. Also missing is an ms. of a biographical dictionary compiled by the Han Project by extracting the biographical entries from the Glossary and assembling them in alphabetical order. Finally, early drafts or translated materials for additional volumes in the Han Project have been lost. Should these materials be recovered, e-Asia would be happy to post them as well. Persons having information on the whereabouts of these materials are asked to contact e-asia.

The materials presented here are in some ways dated, since they do not take into account the scholarship of the last thirty odd years. In particular, the authors were unable to take advantage of the archeological finds of recent times and such works as Michael Loewe's magisterial biographical dictionary. Still, the materials remain useful,

both as a complement to *HFHD* and as an independent reference. Taken together, *HFHD*, the Glossary, and the other Dubs material either translate or paraphrase most of the *Han shu*. It was an extraordinary achievement, and it is unfortunate that more of the material was not published. Moreover, Dubs and his collaborators made extensive use of the materials found in Wang Hsien-ch'ien's *Han shu pu-chu* as well as that found in later encyclopedias, such as the *T'ai-p'ing yu-lan*, and works by Sung, Ming and Ch'ing scholars.

Particularly noteworthy is the amount of material on governmental institutions and that pertaining to the rise of Wang Mang, his reign and his demise. Regarding the former, not only is there a copiously annotated translation of the *Introduction to the "Tables of the Hundred Officials" in the Ch'ien Han-shu: Hanshu 19A* (白官公卿表), but throughout the Glossary there are entries on particular offices and officers. For example, in the "Alphabetical Glossary, Chapters 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 100, S – Y" there is a rather comprehensive discussion of official salaries. Those interested in government institutions should consult both types of material. Concerning Wang Mang, not only are the three chapters covering his reign (*Hs* 99A,B&C) included in *HFHD* III, but the information on the rise of the Wang family found in the Annals of Emperors Yüan, Ch'eng, Ai and P'ing, and the relevant sections of *Han shu* 24 A&B, as well as extensive material from elsewhere in the *Han shu* is included in the Glossary. This is further supplemented by substantial selections from the *Hou Han shu* pertaining to the uprisings at the end of Wang's reign and the eventual rise to power of Liu Hsiu, who became Emperor Kuang-wu.

It should be noted that this is a glossary to the Dubs translation and not a handbook of the Former Han (though it certainly can serve that function); thus, the items explained – such as mythical rulers and events during the pre-Qin period – often fall outside the temporal limits of the Han but are included because they are mentioned by Pan Ku.

The Glossary now exists in two parts – 1) that for *Han shu* 1-5 and 100 A&B, and 2) that for *Hanshu* 6-12 and 99A, B & C. In the first part – which corresponds to Vol. 1 of *HFHD* and is divided into three sections – entries are in alphabetical order, which was Dubs' original format. The revised version of this portion was only recently found in the Seattle basement of one of Professor Dull's former graduate students. (An earlier version dated 1936 with handwritten comments by J.J.L. Duyvendak was found in a Leiden bookstore by Professor Anthony Barbieri-Low and donated to the Bodleian Library. Professor Barbieri-Low graciously provided e-Asia with a photocopy of the text, which has proved invaluable in preparing the revised version.) In the second part, entries are organized according to the order in which the explained term appears in the *HFHD* and each is preceded by the number of the page on which it appears for the first time. Dubs was apparently in the midst of reorganizing the entire Glossary when he passed away. His own draft "Foreward" to the material appears below and explains his approach and some of the limitations of the material.

Although the use of the Wade-Giles romanization is becoming less common, we decided not to covert the Dubs materials to *pinyin* in part because of the amount of work

that would have been required, but more importantly, in order to remain consistent with the usage in *HFHD*. For similar reasons we have not corrected non-standard transcriptions. In several cases Dubs adopted alternative renderings (e.g., *yüan* rather than the usual *wan* for 宛 and *hsieh* rather than *hsüeh* for 薛); to facilitate cross referencing, we have left these unaltered in the Glossary. Dubs generally supported such usages by reference to the commentaries to the *Han shu* and to the work of Bernhard Karlgren. Neither have we changed Dubs' English spelling, which sometimes follows British usage. The editors have made only minimal textual changes to ensure clarity of meaning; additions made by the editors are usually enclosed in nippeded {--} brackets. Notes enclosed in square brackets [--] prefaced by "p." indicate pencilled changes made by Dubs to his earlier drafts; in some cases, these are verbatim the changes suggested by J.J.L. Duyvendak. Finally, in a few cases Dubs changed his mind about the rendering of a title or term, using the corrected version in the Glossary (e.g., at *HFHD* III.163 changing "worthy inferiors" to "Inferior Gentlemen" for 下士). In such cases, we have tried to include the original version for clarity.

To identify place names, Dubs gave the modern equivalent for the Republican (pre-1949) period or often referred to the *Ta-Ch'ing Yi-t'ung-chih*. The latter references were often simply taken from Wang Hsien-ch'ien's notes in the *Han-shu pu-chu*. For place names which occur as the head word of an entry, we have included in nippeded {--} brackets the pages and coordinates in T'an Ch'i-hsiang (Tan Qixiang) 譚其驥. *中国历史地图集*, vol 2. 秦, 西汉, 东汉 Shanghai, 1982. Unfortunately, we have not been able to provide similar references for place names appearing in the body of the text. Moreover, not all place names appear in T'an's atlas, particularly some of the smaller marquisates.

To assist readers in following Dubs' citations to the original source, we have included below a bibliography of the works referenced. Unfortunately, this list is not complete, and the editions used by him are not always known.

We hope that making this material available on line will at last in some measure bring to completion the efforts of Professor Dubs and his collaborators as well as those of Professor Dull and the members of the Han Dynasty History Project. Although we have tried to clean up the text, no doubt typos and inconsistencies remain. We shall correct these as we discover them and as readers bring them to our attention.

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Foreward by Homer H. Dubs

This Glossary contains a discussion, in alphabetical order, of the names of places, of persons, and official titles in the first five and

last chapters of the *History of the Earlier Han Dynasty*. Whatever material could be gathered in a reasonable time has been put there. When the *History* gives a person a biography, that biography has been abstracted for the Glossary. Such abstracts should however be used with caution, since time has been lacking to make a complete or entirely accurate translation. [p: Little attempt has moreover been made to criticize these biographies; the reader should understand that my biography is merely an account of what the *Han shu* says. I give Han interpretations of terms and locations of places, i.e., what the best scholars believed in Han times. But the meaning of an ancient person, term, place-name etc., may have actually been different in Chou times.] Discussions that, in the Chinese, are notes to the text, when they concern places, names, or titles, have been transferred to the Glossary, hence much important explanatory material is to be found here.

Jan. 9, 1935.

Homer H. Dubs.

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- Hs* Wang Hsien-ch'ien 王先謙. *Han shu pu-chu* 漢書補注.
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- Sptk* *Ssu-pu ts'ung-k'an*
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