

But there is in all these texts no mention of the Asut, while there are several concerning Chên-ch'ao; I shall quote the main ones :

α. YS, 132, 4 *b*, biography of Ang-chi-êrh, a Hsi-Hsia man (not an Alan as is said in *Mo*, 141) : Ang-chi-êrh's father had submitted to Chinghiz-khan with his men in 1221, and Ang-chi-êrh succeeded in the command of these Hsi-Hsia troops, to which others of the same nation were added. When Bayan passed south of the Yang-tzŭ, he ordered Ang-chi-êrh to remain in the north and to pacify the western half of the region between the Huai and the Yang-tzŭ. «The [seat of the] military district of Chên-ch'ao submitted and was garrisoned by Asut troops. The population would not tolerate their harshness. The [former Sung] commander [of the military district] (*tu-t'ung*), 洪福 Hung Fu, killed the whole [Asut] garrison and revolted. Ang-chi-êrh attacked and stormed the city and captured [Hung] Fu. . . »

β. YS, 132, 1 *a* [and cf. T'u Chi, 102, 11 *a*], biography of the Asut Hang-hu-ssŭ : «In 1270, the son of Hang-hu-ssŭ, A-t'a-ch'ih, helped in conquering the important pass of Wu-ho-k'ou (in the district of Wu-ho, Anhui). In 1274, he helped in conquering the prefectures of 松江 Sung-chiang and others (I suspect that the text is altered and I propose to read 沿江 *yen chiang*, 'along the Yang-tzŭ'; Sung-chiang is the region in which lies Shanghai, far from Anhui) and garrisoned Chên-ch'ao. The population would not accept the orders. The Sung general Hung Fu, who had submitted, resorted to trickery, and taking advantage of an occasion when [A-t'a-ch'ih] was drunk, he killed him. Shih-tsu (= Qubilai) expressed compassion for [A-t'a-ch'ih's] death and granted to his family 500 taëls of silver, 3,500 strings of cash in paper money and [the ownership of] 1539 families of Chên-ch'ao ».

γ. YS, 132, 2 *b* [and cf. T'u Chi, 102, 12 *a*], biography of the Asut Yü-wa-shih : Yü-wa-shih's father, Yeh-lieh (Eliya?), who had been appointed chiliarch in the army of the Asut, «helped in conquering Hsiang-yang (see 'Saianfu'), then helped in conquering the cities along the Yang-tzŭ. The Sung governor (*an-fu*) Hung [Fu], after he had submitted, revolted again; he induced [Yeh-lieh] to enter the city, and, at a banquet, profiting from his [Yeh-lieh's] drunkenness, he killed him. . . Yü-wa-shih succeeded his father as chiliarch of the army of the Asut, and followed the minister Bayan in the pacification of the Sung. He was granted [the ownership of] 2,052 families of Chên-ch'ao.»

Of course, it might be supposed that another massacre of drunken Alans, of which there is no trace in history, took place when Ch'ang-chou revolted; but the coincidence is hardly possible, and the texts quoted above leave no doubt, in my opinion, that the Alans were killed at Chên-ch'ao, not at Ch'ang-chou. Polo has wrongly connected with Ch'ang-chou an incident which occurred elsewhere; the rebellion of both cities after they had submitted and the phonetic similitude between Chên-ch'ao and Ch'ang-chou are probably responsible for the confusion.

The date of the massacre at Chên-ch'ao cannot be 1274, as is stated in *Mo*, 262; T'u Chi, 102, 12 *a*, has adopted 1276, which is not quite certain either. Hung Fu's stubborn resistance and death at Chên-ch'ao are narrated in his biography in the *Sung shih*, 451, 2 *b*, but without any allusion to the Asut and without precise dates. According to the *pên-chi* of the *Sung shih*, 47, 4 *b*, 5 *a*, after the seat of the military district of Chên-ch'ao had submitted to the Mongols, it was reconquered by Hung Fu in 1275, 4th moon, on the day *jên-yin* (April 28), and, as a consequence,