

This small site is of interest as being the first one discovered on the southern rim of the large Tarim Basin.

LIST OF ANTIQUITIES FROM CHIQIN-SAI

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| K. 13333: 1-2. | Two small potsherds with traces of incised pattern, a wavy double line between two straight lines, and probably a garland incised with a dentated instrument. Light-red ware. | K. 13333: 6-7. | Two fragm. of small flint cores. |
| | | K. 13333: 8. | Thirty-nine small flint flakes. |
| | | K. 13333: 9. | Eight small fine flint flakes with retouched edges. |
| K. 13333: 3-5. | Three small potsherds of red and reddish-brown ware recalling the Singer ware. | K. 13333: 10-16. | Seven small scrapers of grey flint. |
| | | K. 13333: 17. | Various flint refuse and coarser flakes. |

E. CONCLUSION.

MENGHIN characterizes the Lop-nor stone age finds made by STEIN as probably belonging to the Gobi culture and an "epi- und opsimiolitische Fazies der Reittierzüchterkreise"; he does not believe that this culture knew cattle breeding (Menghin 1931, p. 315). All this seems somewhat daring, as not even the slightest trace of any "Reittier" bone has been found together with these implements. And the implements themselves are few and of rather common types.

The differences between the Lop-nor artifacts and those from other Sinkiang sites are not large enough to denote anything but local variations inside the same culture. And the same is true regarding the whole Sinkiang material when compared with that from Mongolia. They all belong to the same Gobi culture. This collective name seems very appropriate as long as we can assign no more precise chronological limits or any classification in well defined groups.

Very much the same natural conditions prevail in Sinkiang and in Mongolia, and the same desert covers large parts of both countries. This Gobi culture was most likely carried by nomads who moved with their herds in this extensive area of steppes and deserts. But it is still too early to make a pronouncement as to the kind of domesticated animals they relied on.

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The painted wares in China first appear in aeneolithic time. Any extensive remains from true neolithic time have not been discovered in China as yet. In Mongolia and Manchuria sites with neatly worked flints and unpainted hand-made pottery are quite common. Unfortunately most of the Mongolian finds occur on the eroded Gobi surface, and we have very few stratigraphical fix-points. The chronology and the relation to the painted pottery cultures are therefore uncertain. Nevertheless, there are some general indications which make one inclined to regard the Mongolian flint