

ammedans. We do not know the exact date of this settlement. Judging from the rather well-preserved tomb structures of mud it existed a few centuries ago. HEDIN supposes 150—200 years. The age of this settlement has no direct bearing on Quruq-darya and the hydrography of Tarim. As pointed out by HUNTINGTON it has drawn the water supply necessary for the cultivation of its fields from the brook Buyantu-bulaq. The irrigation was effected by means of a canal and a reservoir, the remains of which are still to be seen. Nowadays the water of Buyantu-bulaq reaches Ying-p'an only after heavy rainfall in Quruq-tagh, as we had an opportunity of witnessing in April 1928. But with the aid of a well constructed canal it might reach as far as this more or less permanently. The quality of the water is, however, not the very best for the purpose. Immediately outside the mouth of Buyantu-bulaq there are traces of ancient fields and canals on the left-hand side of the river bed. ABDURAHIM of Shindi informed me that these fields were cultivated some sixty years ago, but had to be abandoned after the lapse of a few years because of the salinity of the water in the brook. The fields once watered by the same stream further down, at Ying-p'an, must have suffered much more from this unsuitable quality of the water.

When a postal service was inaugurated between Urumchi and the lower Tarim region (i. e. the present-day district of Lop) a rest house was built at Ying-p'an near the spring-fed pools in the ancient river bed. All that remains of this brick house is the crumbled walls. Contemporaneous ruins of post stations are to be found at the wells of Toghraq- and Azghan-bulaq along the road to Turfan.

DESCRIPTIVE LIST OF OBJECTS FROM YING-P'AN

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| <p>Find made by Abdurahim of Shindi on the burial site at Ying-p'an.</p> <p>K. 13436. Chinese bronze mirror. The central vaulted knob is surrounded by a quatrefoil. Outside this runs a raised plain band. Between this and the thickened border lies the main decoration, bordered on each side by a striated band and consisting of four animal representations (dragon and tiger) with raised contours. Between each animal there is a small boss similar to the central one. The outer border has a "double wave" band with a small dot in each interspace. Brown-red patina with green spots. Diam. 125 mm. Th. of rim 5 mm. Pl. 15:4.</p> | <p>Near to the E of the ruined circumvallation.</p> <p>K. 13437: 1-2. Two potsherds probably from the same large vessel. Decorated with straight or curved bands incised with a three-toothed instrument. Hard-burnt, light-red ware.</p> <p>K. 13437: 3. Fragm. of the narrow neck (or spout?) of a vessel of the same earthenware as the preceding one.</p> <p>K. 13437: 4. Bronze ring, D-shaped, probably from a buckle. 21×16 mm. Pl. 15:2.</p> |
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