

which belonged to the first centuries of our era. This was proved by a Kharoshthi document on wood found there. It is significant that the time which saw the fort built and life brought back again to Hsüan-tsang's ruined site coincides with the re-establishment of Chinese power in the Tarim basin which assured its peace and security. I may add that on a later visit to the Endere site I was able to trace more remains of that earlier settlement which Hsüan-tsang on his passage had found abandoned to the desert.