

a Chinese commandant of Yü-t'ien shows that the territory had already received an imperial garrison ²⁵.

Reign of
Wei-ch'ih
Fu-tu
Hsiung
(circ. 674-
690 A.D.).

About the year 674-675 A.D. Fu-tu Hsiung, king of Khotan, is recorded to have personally paid homage at the Chinese court, accompanied by his sons, younger brothers, and high dignitaries. In return for services against the Tibetans, the emperor paid him the compliment of constituting his territory into the Government of *P'i-sha* 毗沙, called after the god Vaiśravaṇa (*P'i-sha-mên* in Chinese transcription), and appointing him its governor. The Annals mention the division of the territory into ten districts, but unfortunately fail to give us their names ²⁶. On the death of Wei-ch'ih Fu-tu Hsiung, his son Ching was placed on the throne by the Empress Wu in the year 691 ²⁷. An embassy from this ruler in the year 717, according to the *Ts'ê fu yüan kuei*, brought as presents two horses trained for the game of polo, a wild camel of remarkable fleetness, and a leopard ²⁸.

Tibetan
inroads
(circ. 714-
719 A.D.).

It must have been under his reign that the garrison town of *K'an* 坎城, belonging to Khotan, and three hundred li to the east of the capital, was, circ. 705-706 A.D., raided with rich reward in plunder by the Turkish chief Ch'üeh-cho, as recorded in the biography of Kuo Yüan-chên, then 'Great Protector of An-hsi' ²⁹. Far more serious, however, during the latter part of his reign must have been the danger to Khotan from the Tibetans. The latter are known from the Annals to have annually harassed the Chinese borders from 714 A.D. onwards; and in the interesting Chinese sgraffito of the Endere shrine, dated in the year 719, we have definite evidence that the inroads of these formidable adversaries extended also to the confines of the protected state of Khotan ³⁰. In the same year an imperial decree bestowed upon Yü-t'ien, as on the other three states then counted among the four garrisons (*Kāshgar*, *Kuchā*, *Kara-shahr*), the right of levying duties from the merchants of the 'Western Regions' and of utilizing the proceeds for their own purposes ³¹.

A-mo-chih,
title of
Khotan
ruler.

A notice of the *Tzū chih t'ung chien* acquaints us with a Khotan king whose name does not appear in the T'ang Annals. It relates that Wei-ch'ih T'iao, who in secret alliance with the T'u-chüeh and other Hu tribes was preparing a revolt, was in 725 seized and executed by the Deputy Protector of An-hsi ³². The successor, whom the latter is said to have nominated, was in all probability Wei-ch'ih Fu-shih-chan, whose brevet of investiture as king of Khotan, dated in the first month of the sixteenth year of the *K'ai-yüan* period (728 A.D.), is actually among the documents translated by M. Chavannes from the *Ts'ê fu yüan kuei* ³³. The brevet mentions at the head of the king's official titles that of '*a-mo-chih* 阿摩支 of Yü-t'ien'.

This title of *a-mo-chih* is of interest, as by it we find the ruler of Khotan designated in a Chinese document from Dandān-Uiliq dated 768 A.D. ³⁴. It appears also in a decree of the same year which bestowed the throne of *Kāshgar* on An-chih, *a-mo-chih* of Su-lê ³⁵.

Khotan
rulers from
circ. 736 to
760 A.D.

Fu-shih-chan was succeeded by Fu-tu Ta, apparently about 736 A.D., as an imperial decree of that year records the grant of the title of princess to his consort, the dame Chih-shih ³⁶. Wei-ch'ih Kuei, whom the Annals name as the next ruler of Khotan, must have succeeded

²⁵ See *Ville de Khotan*, p. 69.

²⁶ See Chavannes, *Turcs occid.*, p. 127; *Notes addit.*, p. 23.

²⁷ For the date, see *Notes addit.*, p. 24.

²⁸ Compare *Turcs occid.*, p. 127; *Notes addit.*, p. 34.

²⁹ See *Turcs occid.*, p. 185. This garrison town of *K'an* might possibly be identical with the *Kan chou* which the notice of Kao Ch'ü-hui's mission (938-942 A.D.) mentions as a town east of Yü-t'ien; see Rémusat, *Ville de Khotan*, p. 79. For a probable identification see below, chap. XIII. sec. ii.

³⁰ Compare below, chap. XII. sec. ii.; Bushell, *The early history of Tibet*, p. 26.

³¹ *Turcs occid.*, p. 114.

³² *Turcs occid.*, pp. 82 note, 311.

³³ See *Turcs occid.*, pp. 127, 207.

³⁴ See below, chap. IX. sec. v.; Hoernle, *Report on C.-A. antiquities*, II., p. 24.

³⁵ See *Turcs occid.*, p. 208.

³⁶ See *Turcs occid.*, p. 127; *Notes addit.*, p. 56.