

Differentiation of two types of cultural remains of the Eastern Zhou Period in North China: on the relationships among the Rong, Di and the Hu

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Abstract

In the Spring-and-Autumn and Warring-States Periods, North China went through remarkable changes in material culture, economic type, social formation and ethnographic aspect and entered a period of great prosperity. Were the main ethnic groups in this cultural zone concerned with the “Rong”, “Di” and “Hu” recorded in ancient Chinese documents? What difference existed between them? How was the replacement of the Rong and Di by the Hu reflected in material culture? The present paper tries to answer these questions through an integrated study of related archaeological data and literal evidence. Based on a typological and morphological examination of northern bronzes and related artifacts, the available cultural remains can be classified into two types. The two types of remains are varying chronologically and reflect distinct difference in material culture, ethnographic aspect and economic life.

Key words: Di (ethnic group); Eastern Zhou Period; ethnography; ethnology; Hu (ethnic group); Northern Frontier Zone; Rong (ethnic group)

and the Hu? How is the replacement of the Rong and the Di by the Hu reflected in the material record? From an analysis of the Northern Frontier Zone bronze artifacts and other objects it is possible to distinguish two types of remains. Their distribution roughly forms two belts running along the Great Wall during the Warring-States Period (Figure 1).

Analysis of the remains of Type I

The main discoveries belonging to Type I are the following:

1. The Zhongshan State east of the Taihang Mountains in the south of the Baoding area was a small state of “one Thousand Chariots” founded by the White Di. We will start from the remains of the Zhongshan State to understand the cultural particularities of the Di: they used stone burial furniture, earrings made of entwined gold wires, bronze plaques with tiger design, bronze swords with animal mask-shaped guards, knives, bronze *fu*-cauldrons, pottery *hu*-pots with cord pattern and chain handle, etc (Table 1 and Figure 2). In royal tombs there were a greater number of three-dimensional animal-shaped bronzes and other objects belonging to the Northern Frontier Zone cultural tradition (Figure 3).
2. The remains of Yuanping and other sites, which – like the Zhongshan State sites – are distributed in the Hutuo River Valley, are the sites closest to those of the

The outline of the issue

During the Spring-and-Autumn Period along the northern boundary of the Great Wall tremendous changes took place in material culture, economic and social structure, and also ethnic composition. The main ethnic groups mentioned in historical records in connection with the Spring-and-Autumn Period are the Rong and Di; while for the Warring-States Period it is mainly the Hu. The Northern Frontier Zone cultures of the Eastern Zhou Period certainly encompassed remains left by these major ethnic groups, but which belonged to the Rong, the Di,

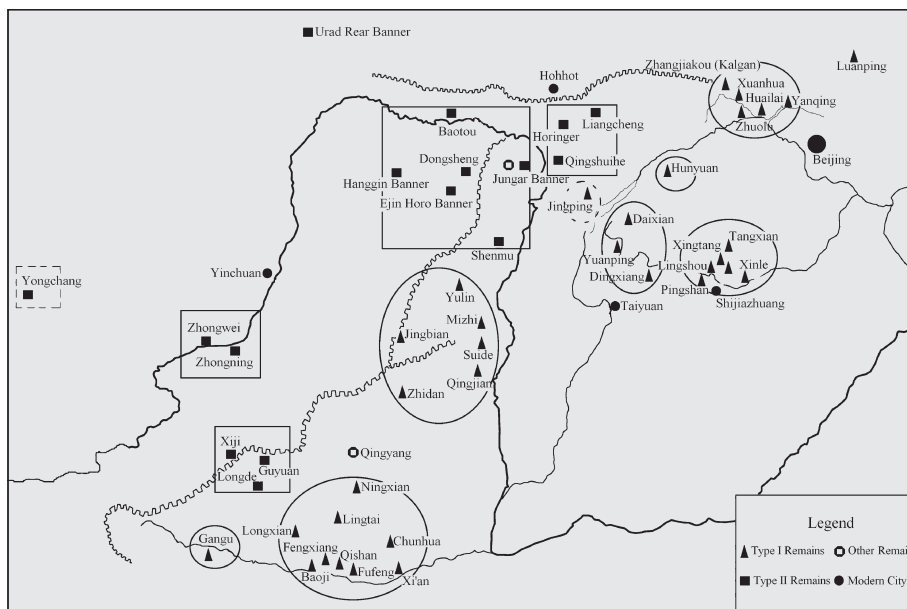


Figure 1 The Distribution of the Two Types of Cultural Remains.

Table 1 Tombs from the Zhongshan State.

Features Tombs	Tomb Type	Gold ornaments	Plaques	Mirrors	Swords with animal-mask-shaped guards; knives	Turquoise beads	Other	Typical objects	Dates (by the original reports)
Lijiazhuang in Xingtang County	Stone cist					√		<i>Fu</i> -cauldron, hoop-handled bottle-gourd shaped <i>hu</i> pot	Early Warring-States
Miaoshang Village in Xingtang County	Unclear	Gold Wrist Ornaments							
Diaoyutai Site in Tangxian County	Unclear		4 Golden Tiger Plaques						
Beicheng in Mancheng County	Unclear							Corded ware <i>hu</i>	
Fangjiazhuang in Pingshan County	Stone outer coffin							<i>Hu</i> -pot with raised cord pattern and chain handle	Early Warring-States
Xichatou Village in Lingshou County	Earthen pit grave	4 cowries, 2 gold wire coils							Early Warring-States
Zhongtong Village M1 in Xinle County	Stone outer coffin	8 buttons, 2 Bracelets	Gilt Tiger Plaque			35			Early Warring-States
Zhongtong cun M2	Stone-filled grave	2 gold wire coils, 3 eardrops				5		<i>Fu</i> -cauldron	Early Warring-States
Lingshou 8004 in Pingshan County	Stone-filled grave	2 gold wire earrings, 22 bubble ornaments		Handled Mirror	Cutter	√		Bone tube, bronze hairpin	Middle Warring-States
Lingshou 8102	Sand-filled tomb		Gilt Deer Plaque		Sword			Bronze bell, bronze bubble ornament <i>Hu</i> -pot	Middle Warring States

Zhongshan State (Table 2).

Signs of northern influence at these sites are stone burial furniture, coils of gold wires, scissors, *fu*-cauldrons, and *hu*-pots with chains and cord design. Additional objects and features not found at the Zhongshan State sites were square-mouthed *fu*-cauldrons, bone horse bits, horse snaffles, and the custom of interring horse bones in the graves (Figure 3:13–20).

Among the Hunyuan bronzes we can distinguish between objects in Central Plains style and those made in

the local style. Local style bronzes and elements similar to those above are the oval square-mouthed *fu*-cauldron, *hu*-pots with chain and cord design and animal-shaped bronze objects; clearly different from these are ding-tripods with bodies in the shape of three-legged jar. The horse snaffles are similar to Yuanping bronze objects.

4. The Eastern Zhou remains of Northern Hebei are all located in the Sanggan River delta in Zhuolu and Huailai Counties, Zhangjiakou Prefecture, and Yanqing County, Beijing (Table 3).

The main common points between the finds from Northern Hebei and the sites listed above are stone coffins, bronze *fu*-cauldrons, *ding*-tripod in the shape of a three-legged jar, bronze swords with animal mask-shaped guards, cutters, double-ring-shaped horse snaffle, disc-

shaped gold wire earrings, and tiger-shaped belt plaques. They differ in that animal victim is more popular and that the hoop-handled *hu*-pots with cord pattern and oval square-mouthed *dou*-bowls imitating the style of bronzes from the Central Plains cannot be found (Figure 3:28–46).

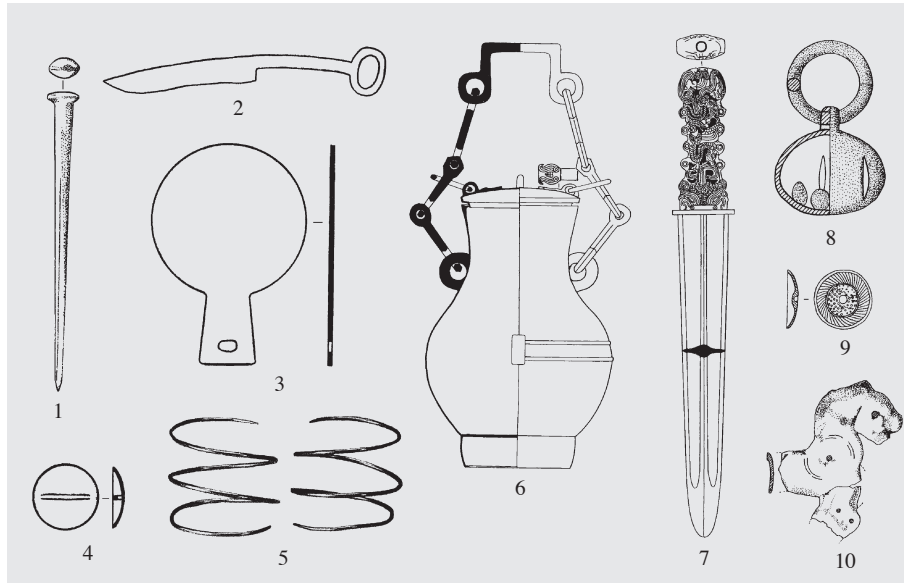


Figure 2 The artifacts from the typical burials of the Zhongshan State.

1. Bronze hairpin (M8004:11); 2. bronze cutter (M8004:9); 3. bronze mirror (M8004:12); 4. bronze bubble ornament (M8004:14-1); 5. gold wire coils (M8004:1 and 2); 6. bronze *hu*-pot (M8102:4); 7. bronze sword with animal mask-shaped guard (M8102:12); 8. bronze bell (M8102:4); 9. bronze bubble ornament (M8102:17); 10. gold-plated ornament (M8102:15)

5. In the Eastern Zhou tombs from Lijiaya in Qingjian County in northern Shaanxi double-handled beakers and low *li*-cauldrons from the northern cultural context (Figure 3:48 and 49) coexisted with pottery typical for the Central Plains cultures. Double-handled *guan*-jars have been common in Gansu and Qinghai Provinces since Neolithic Age. From the late Spring-and-Autumn Period they have become wide-spread in the Northern Frontier Zone along the Great Wall. The *li*-cauldrons from the Eastern Zhou graves of Lijiaya are very similar to three-legged *guan* jars and *ding*-tripods from Hunyuan and northern Hebei. In northern Shaanxi furthermore many bronze *fu*-cauldrons have been gathered through non-archaeological ways.

6. At Di sites in the

Table 2 Cultural Remains from Yuanping and Nearby Sites.

Tombs	Features	Number of tombs	Form	Ornaments	Horse and carriage fittings	Tools and weapons	Special objects	Date
Shiyu in Yuanping County		1	Horse bones		Snaffle	Pebbles	Short-footed <i>dou</i> -bowl	Spring-and-Autumn to Warring-States
Lianjiagou in Yuanping County		1	Unclear		Snaffle		<i>Fu</i> -cauldron	Early Warring-States
Liuzhuang I in Yuanping County		4	Stone outer coffin	Gold wire, string of golden beads, turquoise necklace		Cutter	Oval square-mouthed <i>fu</i> -cauldron	M3: Late Spring-and-Autumn M1 and M2: Early Warring-States
Liuzhuang II in Yuanping County		22	18 had stone coffins 4 were earthen pit (M7)	Bronze bubble ornament, turquoise necklace	Snaffle, horn bit, bronze bell	Knife; bronze pickax	Oval square-mouthed <i>fu</i> -cauldron	Late Spring-and-Autumn
Shawa Village in Daixian County		1					Oval square-mouthed <i>Fu</i> -cauldron	
Zhonghuo in Dingxiang County		5	Stone outer coffin	Bronze bubble ornament	Bone bit	Cutter	Chain-handled <i>hu</i> -pot; cord pattern <i>hu</i> -pot	Late Spring-and-Autumn

Table 3 Cultural Remains from Northern Hebei.

Cemetery	Bubble ornaments	Gold wire coils	Animal plaques	Turquoise necklaces	Chariot and horse fittings	Bronze swords with animal mask-shaped guards	Knives	Two-handled jars	Three-legged jars	Bronze vessels	Dates
Daolazui Site in Zhuolu County			Horse				✓			<i>Dou</i> -bowl, <i>Zhou</i> -vessel	Spring-and-Autumn
Xiaobaiyang in Xuanhua County	✓		Tiger, horse, deer	✓			✓				Spring-and-Autumn
Baimiao Site in Zhangjiakou City	✓		Horse	✓			✓	✓			First Half of Warring States
Ganzipu in Huailai County	✓		Tiger, horse, deer	✓	Snaffle, bit	Handle				<i>Fu</i> -cauldron, <i>dou</i> -bowl, <i>zhou</i> -vessel, <i>pan</i> -plate, <i>yi</i> -vessel	Spring-and-Autumn or Warring-States
Beixinpu Huailai County	✓	✓			Snaffle, bit, bone bit		✓			<i>Ding</i> -tripod, <i>hu</i> -pot	Mid Warring-States
Jundushan in Yanqing County	✓	✓	Tiger	✓	Bit		✓		✓	<i>Fu</i> -cauldron, <i>dou</i> -cup, <i>pan</i> plate, <i>yi</i> -vessel	Mid Spring-and-Autumn to Early Warring-States
Longqingxia in Yanqing County	✓	✓	Tiger, horse	✓	Bit		✓			<i>Ding</i> -tripod, <i>zhou</i> vessel	Mid Spring-and-Autumn to Early Warring-States

Guanzhong (Shaanxi) Plains some very characteristic objects were discovered, such as tiger belt plaques, tiger-shaped bronze objects, bronze swords with animal mask-shaped guards, and bronze *fu*-cauldrons. The earliest and most distinct remains of this kind were found at the late Zhou cemetery of Yucun in Ningxian County, Gansu Province (Figure 3:54 to 56). The earliest *fu*-cauldron from Guanzhong is the one from Wangjiacun Site in Qishan County.

7. Atypical remains. Apart from the finds described above, there are also a small number of remains whose characteristics are not quite clear, namely the sites that do not contain typical Di objects, like the Eastern Zhou burials at Jingping Township in Shuozhou Prefecture, Shanxi Province. The potteries from this grave are single-handled *guan*-jars while the bronze assemblage consisted

mainly of bronze choppers (Figure 4:1–5).

Judging from the archaeological discoveries made so far, the remains of Type I were distributed from east to west throughout all of Northern Frontier Zone and dated from the late Western Zhou to the beginning of the Warring-States Period, showing a continuous movement from west to east (see Figure 1). Objects typical for this type are bronze swords with animal mask-shaped guards, tiger belt plaques, bronze *fu*-cauldrons, double-handled *guan*-jars, which occur side by side with and are intermingled with cultural elements from the Central Plains.

The first time that the Di appeared in the *Chunqiu* (the Spring-and-Autumn Annals) is in the 32nd year of Duke Zhuang (662 BCE) where it says “the Di invaded [the State of] Xing”. For the 33rd year of Duke Xi (627 BCE) the *Zuo*zhuan mentions the White Di: “The Di invaded

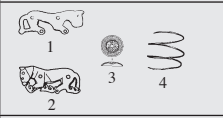
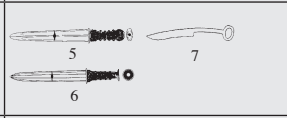
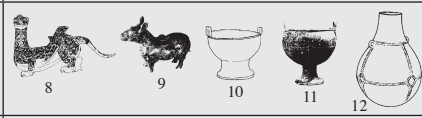

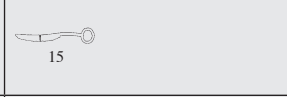
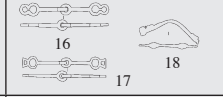
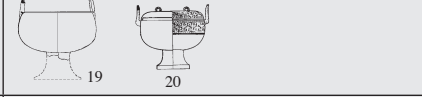
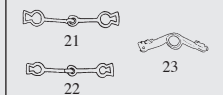

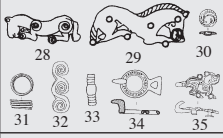
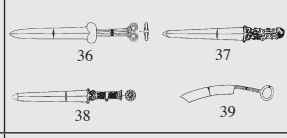
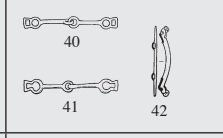
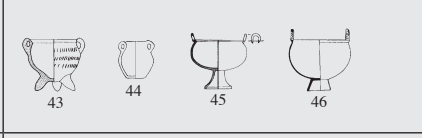

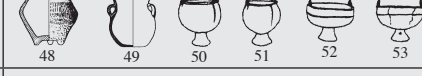



Region	Category	Ornaments	Tools & Weapons	Chariot and Horse Fittings	Vessels and Ritual Objects
Zhongsshan State					
Yuanping					
Liyu					
Northern Hebei					
Northern Shaanxi					
Guanzhong Plain					

Figure 3 The representative artifacts of cultural remains Type I.

1. Bronze plaque (Diaoyutai Site in Tangxian County, Hebei); 2. bronze plaque (Stone Cist Tomb at Mancheng Quarry in Hebei); 3. bronze button (Lingshou City M8102:17); 4. gold wire coil (Lingshou City M8004:2); 5 and 6. bronze sword with animal mask-shaped guard (Pingshan, Hebei); 7. bronze cutter (Lingshou City M8004:9); 8. gold-inlayed bronze winged mythical beast (Tomb of Cuo, the King of the Zhongsshan State); 9. gold and silver-inlayed bronze animal-shaped wine vessel (Lingshou City M6:112); 10. bronze *fu*-cauldron (Zhongtong Village in Xinle County, Hebei); 11. bronze *fu*-cauldron (Lijiazhuang in Xingtang County, Hebei); 12. bronze *hu*-pot (Lijiazhuang in Xingtang County, Hebei); 13. bronze button (Yuanping County, Shanxi); 14. gold wire coil (M3:7 of Tagangliang at Liuzhuang Village in Yuanping County); 15. bronze cutter (M1:6 of Tagangliang at Liuzhuang Village in Yuanping County); 16-18. bronze snaffles (Yuanping); 19. bronze *fu*-cauldron (Lianjiagang Cemetery in Yuanping); 20. bronze *fu*-cauldron (Liyu Village, Hunyuan County, Shanxi); 21-23. bronze bit (Liyu Village); 24. bronze tiger-shaped Animal (Liyu Village); 25. bronze *ding*-tripod (Liyu Village); 26. bronze *fu*-cauldron (M3:2 of Tagangliang at Liuzhuang Village in Yuanping County); 27. bronze *hu*-pot (Liyu Village); 28. bronze plaque (M129:2 of Yuhuangmiao Cemetery in Yanqing County, Beijing); 29. bronze plaque (M22:1 of Xiaobaiyang Cemetery in Xuanhua, Hebei); 30. bronze button (YYM102:10 of Jundushan Cemetery in Yanqing); 31. bronze ring (YYM102:3 of Jundushan Cemetery); 32. bronze bead-string ornament (No. 1678 of Lishugoumen Cemetery in Luanping County, Hebei); 33. bronze tube-shaped ornament (Hulugou Cemetery in Yanqing); 34. bronze belt buckle (YYM13:7 of Jundushan Cemetery); 35. bronze belt hook (YYM102:11 of Jundushan Cemetery); 36. bronze dagger (M1:76 of Beixinpu Cemetery in Huailai County, Hebei); 37. bronze sword with animal mask-shaped guard (M8:9 of Ganzipu Cemetery in Huailai); 38. bronze sword with animal mask-shaped guard (M9:2 of Ganzipu Cemetery in Huailai); 39. bronze cutter (M1:79 of Beixinpu Cemetery); 40. bronze snaffle (Nihezi Village, Zhangjiakou City, Hebei); 41. bronze snaffle (Jundushan Cemetery); 42. bronze bit (M5:8 of Ganzipu Cemetery); 43. pottery *ding*-tripod (YHM52:1 of Jundushan Cemetery); 44. pottery jar (Baimiao Site in Zhangjiakou City); 45. bronze *fu*-cauldron (M8:1 of Ganzipu Cemetery); 46. bronze *fu*-cauldron (M18 of Yuhuangmiao Cemetery); 47. bronze belt hook (Yulin City, Shaanxi); 48. pottery *li*-cauldron (M20:3 of Taochangping Cemetery in Qingjian County, Shaanxi); 49. pottery double-handled jar (M1:15 of Fengjiata Cemetery in Qingjian); 50. bronze *fu*-cauldron (Qiaochatan Site in Shenmu County, Shaanxi); 51. bronze *fu*-cauldron (Ximawan Site in Jingbian County, Shaanxi); 52. bronze *fu*-cauldron (Outskirt of Suide County Seat, Shaanxi); 53. bronze *fu*-cauldron (Zhidan County, Shaanxi); 54. tiger-shaped ornament (M1:6 of Yucun Cemetery in Ningxian County, Gansu); 55. bronze dagger (M1:8 of Yucun Cemetery); 56. bronze three-dimensional tiger-shaped animal (M1:4 of Yucun Cemetery); 57. pottery jar (ILM5:2 of Maojiaping Cemetery in Gangu County, Gansu); 58. bronze *fu*-cauldron (Wangjiacun Site in Qishan County, Shaanxi)

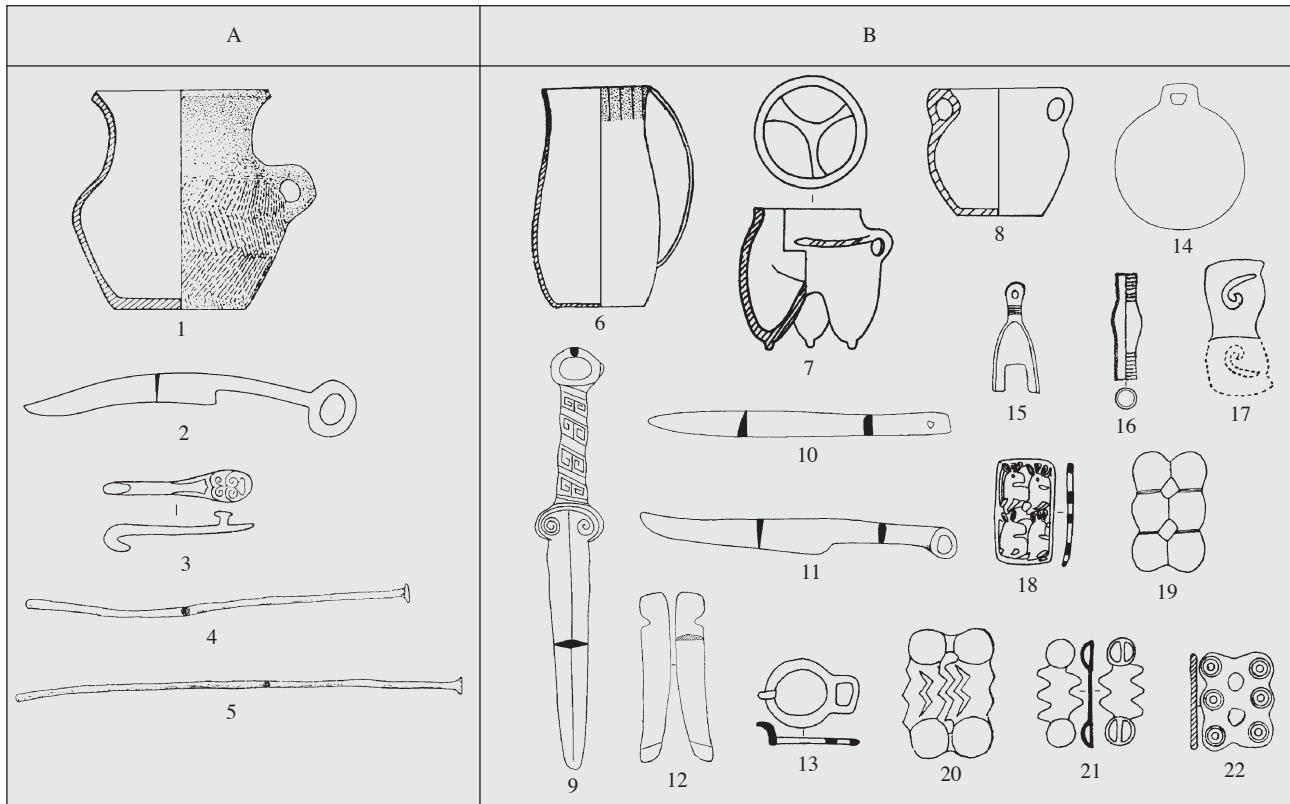


Figure 4 The atypical cases of the two types of cultural remains (A. Type I; B. Type II).

1. Pottery jar (Jingping Cemetery M54:3 in Shuozhou Prefecture); 2. bronze cutter (Jingping Cemetery M192:3); 3. bronze belt hook (Jingping Cemetery M192:4); 4 and 5. nail-shaped bone object (Jingping Cemetery M57:1 and M192:2); 6. pottery jar (Hamadun Cemetery acquired 01 in Yongchang County, Gansu); 7. pottery *li*-cauldron (Xigang Cemetery M146:5 in Yongchang County, Gansu); 8. pottery jar (Hamadun Cemetery M16:3); 9. bronze sword (Chaiwaigang Cemetery M4:7 in Yongchang County, Gansu); 10. bronze knife (Chaiwaigang Cemetery M4:8); 11. bronze knife (Xigang Cemetery M83:1 in Yongchang County, Gansu); 12. bone bow tips (Hamadun Cemetery M18:7); 13. bronze belt buckle (Xigang Cemetery M146:5); 14. bronze mirror (Chaiwaigang Cemetery M75:5); 15. bronze bell-shaped ornament (Hamadun Cemetery M5:6); 16. bronze tube-shaped ornament (Hamadun Cemetery M4:2); 17. bronze plaque (Hamadun Cemetery M11:3); 18. bronze plaque (Xigang Cemetery M74:1-②); 19. bead-string ornament (Hamadun Cemetery M19:3); 20. bead-string ornament (Hamadun Cemetery TM4:1); 21. bead-string ornament (Xigang Cemetery M9:5); 22. bead-string ornament (Hamadun Cemetery M12:5)

Jin, and came as far as Ji, where, in the 8th month, on the day of Wuzi, the Marquis of Jin defeated them, Xi Que capturing the viscount of White Di.” In the 12th year of Duke Zhao (530 BCE) the name “Xianyu 鲜虞” appears in *Zuozhuan*; Du Yu’s *Commentary* interpreted that “the Xianyu are another kind of White Di who lived in Xinshi County, Zhongshan Prefecture (present-day Zhengding County)”. This shows that in the middle and late Spring-and-Autumn Period one branch of the White Di, the Xianyu, had already appeared in the Hebei area, meaning that their eastward migration had already finished.

Judging from the location and date, the archaeological remains in the Sanggan River Valley probably belong to the Dai State. The ending date of this type of archaeological remains coincided with the *Shiji* records

that the Dai State was annexed in the first year of Zhao Xiangzi (475 BCE). According to the *Historical Atlas of China*, the Jingping Cemetery of Shuozhou Prefecture in Shanxi is in the distribution area of the Loufan Tribe. The Eastern Zhou cemetery of Lijiaya in Qingjian County matched White Di, which was located to the west of the Yellow River, belonged to Yongzhou like the Qin State and had intermarried with the Jin State, according to a record from the 13th year of Duke Cheng from the *Zuozhuan*. The archaeological remains in Guanzhong Plains would be that of the Rong ethnic group. According to historical texts, during the reigns of the Kings Li, Xuan, and You of Western Zhou, the Rong were particularly strong and their relations with the Western Zhou were close. During the Spring-and-Autumn Period

the Guanzhong Plains was contested by the Qin State and the Rong and Di. In the 26th year of Duke Wen of Qin (750 BCE), Qin beat the Rong for the first time, forcing part of the Rong to leave the Guanzhong Plains. The Eastern Zhou tombs in Qingjian may be a testimony to this initial outward movement of the Rong. This is where the White Di originated and intermarried with the Jin State. In the 37th year of Duke Mu of Qin (623 BCE) the Qin “conquered the entire western Rong”. This victory started the expulsion of the Rong and Di tribes from south of the Ordos Region and from west of the Yellow River, resulting in the White Di during the middle of the Spring-and-Autumn Period moving further towards the east to the Sanggan and Hutuo River Valleys.

Analysis of the remains of Type II

The main discoveries belonging to the Type II were made in Ningxia and Inner Mongolia.

1. The Guyuan area of Ningxia. Based on the remains of Yujiashuang Cemetery in Pengpu Township, Mazhuang Cemetery in Yanglang Township and that revealed in Luo and Han’s *Bronzes of the Northern System Discovered at Guyuan, Ningxia in Recent Years* (1990), Type II in this area can be divided into three assemblages (Figure 5). The first assemblage can be found at Shanbei Huaiwan, Mengyuan and Tomb M2 at Samen; the second assemblage is represented by most of the burials at Yujiashuang Cemetery and Tombs M1 and M3 at Samen; the third assemblage is represented by most of the graves of Mazhuang Cemetery as well as the burials at Chenyangchuan and Baiyanglin.

2. The Yinnan area of Ningxia. The two tombs discovered at Niding Village in Zhongning County and the 11 tombs at Langwozikeng in Xitai Township, Zhongwei County can be divided into three kinds of assemblages (Figure 6). The first assemblage is shown in the burials of Niding and Tomb M3 of Langwozikeng; the second assemblage is represented by Langwozikeng Tomb M5 (this tomb is actually a mixture of several tombs); the third assemblage emerged only in M1 of Langwozikeng.

The three assemblages of Guyuan and Yinnan are close in date. The first assemblage contains battle axes with sockets, *ge*-dagger axes and hollow-head axes which show connections with Northern bronzes in the late Shang and early Zhou periods. The second group belongs to the time in which daggers and pickaxes were the most developed. There were a large number of belt plaques, so it was probably the representative of the warrior class. Among the third assemblage animal motifs were highly developed as visible in the finials of the horse gear and the belt plaques, which attest to a strong steppe culture influence.

3. The western part of Inner Mongolia is where the remains of Type II is commonly found. They can again be separated into three kinds of assemblages (Figure 7): The first assemblage encompasses the bronze objects from Baohaishe and the Xiyuan Spring-and-Autumn

Period Cemetery in Baotou and the bronze objects from Shuijiangoumen. The second kind is represented by the Taohongbala Cemetery in Hanggin Banner, the Gongsuhao Cemetery in Ejin Horo Banner, the Warring-States Tomb M3 from Xigoupan Cemetery in Jungar Banner, and the burials at Hulu Sitai in Urad Middle and Rear Banners. A special feature of the third assemblage is the extensive use of animal designs. Among the three-dimensional animal decorations (Sujigou, Wa’ertugou and Yulongtai in Jungar Banner, and the Nalin Gaotu group of bronzes from Shenmu in Shaanxi) are earlier than those in relief (the Warring States Tomb M2 from Xigoupan, Aluchaideng, Nianfangqu and Shihuigou).

4. Eastern Inner Mongolia: These remains belong to the cemeteries of Maoqinggou, Yinniugou and Guoxianyaozi in Liangcheng County, Goulitou in Xinghe County, the bronze objects from Fanjiayaozi in Horinger County, and the newly discovered cemeteries of Xinzhouyaozi, Xindianzi, and Xiaoshuang Gucheng. They have in common the daggers and belt plaques, so they probably belong to the second assemblage. Furthermore, these remains can be dated into an early and a late phase (Figure 8), with iron objects increasing in number during the later phase, while animal designs become rarer, probably due to the influence of the Central Plains.

5. Atypical remains: Among the remains of Type II, there is a small number of cases without swords with double birds turning back their heads, pickaxes, belt plaques and other typical objects, such as the remains of Shajing Culture in Yongchang City, Gansu Province (Figure 4:6 through 4:22).

Among the three kinds of assemblages distinguished here, the first shows characteristics of northern bronzes from the end of the Shang to the beginning of Zhou Dynasties. The plaques from the third assemblage are very similar to Xiongnu culture objects. Therefore, these three assemblages are in fact the early, middle and late phases of the remains of Type II.

The Type II remains is distributed on the northern boundary of Type I, showing that during Eastern Zhou times there were actually two separate cultural spheres in the northern and southern part of North China. The beginning and end period of Type II in the northern area are both later than those of Type I.

The main related historical records are from the *Shiji*. Records on the northern people can be largely divided into three periods: from the middle of the Spring-and-Autumn Period there were mainly the war of Duke Wen of Jin and Duke Mu of Qin with the Rong and the Di. In the early Warring-States Period, the Zhao State annexed Dai, and the Qin and Three-Jin States continuously expanded northwards, the states of the Central Plains already encountered ethnic groups from even further north. After the mid Warring-States Period, King Zhao of the Qin State annihilated Yiqu, King Wuling of the Zhao State changed the dress customs to Hu ethnic style, practiced equestrianism and archery and annexed Linhu and Loufan, and built walls to resist the Hu. Historical


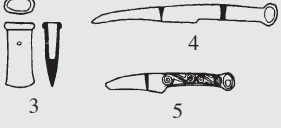

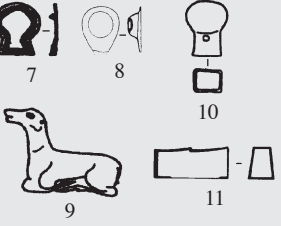
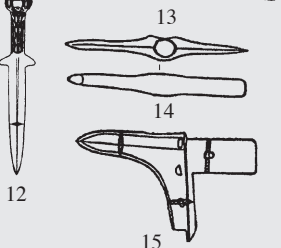


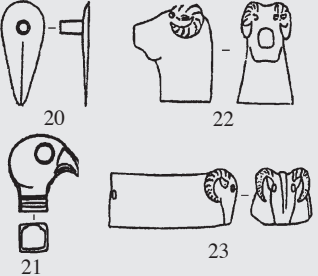
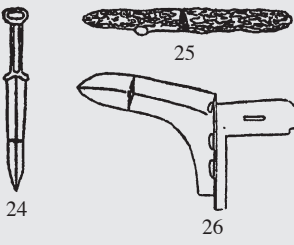
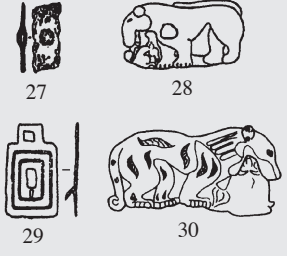
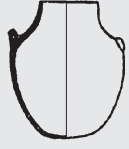
Type Assemblage	Chariot and Horse Fittings	Tools & Weapons	Ornaments	Potteries
I				
II				
III				

Figure 5 The artifacts of cultural remains Type II in Guyuan area.

1. Openwork-decorated bronze round plaque (M2 of Samen Cemetery in Guyuan City, Ningxia); 2. sole-shaped horse head ornament (Mengyuan Township, Pengyang County, Ningxia); 3. bronze hollow-head ax (Mengyuan Township); 4. bronze knife (Mengyuan Township); 5. bronze knife (Huaiwan Site at Shanbei Village, Xiji County, Ningxia); 6. bronze bubble ornament (Mengyuan Township); 7. bronze button (M1 of Samen Cemetery); 8. bronze bubble-shaped horse head ornament (Miyuan Site in Pengyang County); 9. bronze three-dimensional sheep (M1 of Samen Cemetery); 10. bronze bubble-shaped staff head (88M1 of Samen Cemetery); 11. bronze axle ornament (M1 of Samen Cemetery); 12. bronze dagger (M3 of Samen Cemetery); 13. bronze knife (IM12:12 of Mazhuang Cemetery in Guyuan); 14. bronze pickax (M19:4 of Yujiazhuang Cemetery in Guyuan); 15. bronze *ge*-dagger ax (M17:6 of Yujiazhuang Cemetery); 16. bronze plaque (M14:10 of Yujiazhuang Cemetery); 17. bronze belt buckle (IM8: 21 of Mazhuang Cemetery); 18. bronze mirror-shaped ornament (M15:14 of Yujiazhuang Cemetery); 19. pottery jar (M10:2 of Yujiazhuang Cemetery); 20. horse head ornament with tube (IIIM5:33 of Mazhuang Cemetery); 21. eagle-shaped bronze staff head (SM4:15 of Yujiazhuang Cemetery); 22. big-horn-shaped bronze staff head (IIIM4:1 of Mazhuang Cemetery); 23. bronze big-horn-shaped ornament (IIIM4:3 of Mazhuang Cemetery); 24. bronze dagger (Acquired 115 of Mazhuang Cemetery); 25. iron knife (IM15:1 of Mazhuang Cemetery); 26. bronze *ge*-dagger ax (IM1:30 of Mazhuang Cemetery); 27. iron plaque (IIIM5:17 of Mazhuang Cemetery); 28. bronze plaque with tiger-biting-animal design (IM12:5 of Mazhuang Cemetery); 29. bronze belt buckle (IIIM1:52 of Mazhuang Cemetery); 30. bronze plaque (Chenyangchuan Site in Xiji County, Ningxia); 31. pottery jar (M5:20 of Mazhuang Cemetery)

sources reveal how Qin and Zhao continuously expanded northwards until they finally were directly in conflict with the Hu ethnic group(s). The mode of warfare, equestrianism and archery the Hu used and their dress customs are reflected very clearly in the remains of Type II. Historical records for this are relatively few, showing that the people from the Central Plains were by far not as

familiar with them as with the people whom the remains of Type I belonged to.

Differences between the two types of cultural remains

The material remains of Type I first appeared in the

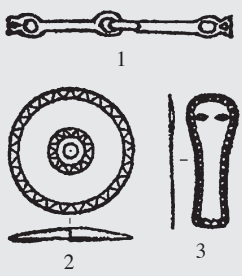
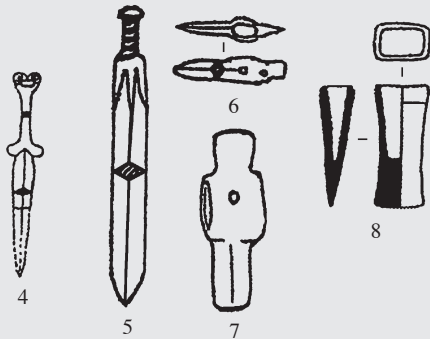


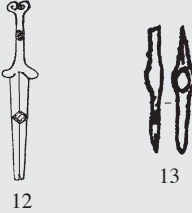


Categories Assemblage	Chariot and Horse Fittings	Tools & Weapons	Ornaments	Potteries
I				
II				
III				

Figure 6 The artifacts of cultural remains Type II in Yinnan area.

1. Bronze snaffle (M2:5 of Niding Village Cemetery in Zhongning County, Ningxia); 2. bronze round plaque (M2:14 of Niding Village Cemetery); 3. sole-shaped horse head ornament (M2:4 of Niding Village Cemetery); 4. bronze dagger (M3:1 of Niding Village Cemetery); 5. bronze sword with trident-shaped guard (M3:12 of Langwozikeng Cemetery in Zhongwei, Ningxia); 6. bronze *ge*-dagger ax with socket (M3:5 of Langwozikeng Cemetery); 7. bronze ax with socket (M1:2 of Niding Village Cemetery); 8. bronze hollow-head ax (M5:3 of Langwozikeng Cemetery); 9. bronze belt buckle (M2:19 of Niding Village Cemetery); 10. bronze tube-shaped ornament (Niding Village); 11. pottery jar (M2:18 of Niding Village Cemetery); 12. bronze dagger (M5:3 of Langwozikeng Cemetery); 13. bronze pickax (M5:27 of Langwozikeng Cemetery); 14. eagle-shaped bronze staff head (M1:19 of Langwozikeng Cemetery); 15. horse head ornament with tube (M1:6 of Langwozikeng Cemetery); 16. bronze plaque (M1:23 of Langwozikeng Cemetery)

Guanzhong Plains from the mid to late Western Zhou Dynasty onwards, arrived in northern Shaanxi during the middle of the Spring-and-Autumn Period, moved east towards the Hutuo and Sanggan River Valleys during the middle and late Spring-and-Autumn Period, until its carriers founded the Zhongshan State on the east of the Taihang Mountains. The remains of Type II from the mid Spring-and-Autumn period onwards were distributed in Guyuan, Yinnan, and Inner Mongolia. These two types of material remains extended from the southwest to the northeast along the Northern Frontier Zone.

Making a cross-section through northern Shaanxi, in the northernmost part we get the remains of Type II as discovered in the late Warring States site of Nalin Gaotu in Shenmu County. Further towards the south there is the remains of Type I like we see it in the mid-Spring-and-Autumn to Warring States cemetery of Lijiaya in Qingjian County. In the vicinity of Qingjian there are furthermore the early Spring-and-Autumn graves of Zhangping in Mizhi County of Central Plains cultural affiliation (Figure 9). The two kinds of northern culture distributed in northern Shaanxi from south to north are









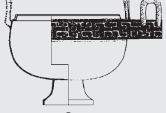
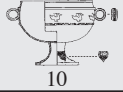


























Assemblage	Categories	Chariot and Horse Fittings	Tools & Weapons	Ornaments	Vessels
			 	    	 
		  	  	    	 
		   		       	

Figure 7 The artifacts of cultural remains Type II in western Inner Mongolia.

1. Bronze snaffle (Ming'anmudu Site in Ejin Horo Banner); 2. bronze knife (Baohaishe Site in Jungar Banner); 3. bronze *ge*-dagger ax with socket (Ming'anmudu Site); 4. bronze earring (M3:4 of Xiyuan Cemetery in Baotou City); 5. bronze belt buckle (Ming'anmudu Site); 6. bronze joint bubble ornament (M6:6 of Xiyuan Cemetery); 7. bronze button (M6:10 of Xiyuan Cemetery); 8. bronze spoon (M6:2 of Xiyuan Cemetery); 9 and 10. bronze *fu*-cauldrons (Baohaishe Site); 11. bronze horse head ornament (GM1:8 of Gongsuhao Cemetery in Ejin Horo Banner); 12. bronze bubble-shaped horse head ornament (Gongsuhao Cemetery); 13. bronze chariot shaft finial (M2:17 of Hulstai Cemetery in Urad Rear Banner); 14. bronze sword with double birds turning back their heads (GM1:5 of Gongsuhao Cemetery); 15. bronze knife (GM1:6 of Gongsuhao Cemetery); 16. bronze pickax (GM1:1 of Gongsuhao Cemetery); 17. ring-shaped bronze belt buckle (M3:14 of Xigoupan Cemetery); 18. bronze tube-shaped ornament (M2:9 of Hulstai Cemetery); 19. bird-shaped bronze plaque (GM1:8 of Gongsuhao Cemetery); 20. bird-shaped bronze plaque (M1:28 of Taohongbala Cemetery in Hanggin Banner); 21. bronze plaque with standing deer figure (M2:16 of Hulstai Cemetery); 22. pottery pot (M2:48 of Hulstai Cemetery); 23. pottery jar (M1:1 of Taohongbala Cemetery); 24. sheep-head-shaped finial (Yulongtai Cemetery in Jungar Banner); 25. tiger head-shaped silver rein fitting (M2:13 of Xigoupan Cemetery); 26. crane head-shaped finial (M2:72 of Xigoupan Cemetery); 27. deer-shaped ornament (M2:9 of Xigoupan Cemetery); 28. bronze pickax (2264 of Yulongtai Cemetery); 29. gold plaque (Aluchaideng Cemetery in Hanggin Banner); 30. bronze belt buckle (2257 of Yulongtai Cemetery); 31. bronze belt buckle (M3:20 of Xigoupan Cemetery); 32. swan-shaped lead ornament (M2:41-45 of Xigoupan Cemetery); 33. standing monster-shaped gold plaque (M2:29 of Xigoupan Cemetery); 34. gold eardrop (Nianfangqu Site in Dongsheng City); 35. silver plaque (Shihuigou Site in Ejin Horo Banner); 36. gold crown top ornament (Aluchaideng Cemetery)

Cate- gories Dates	Chariot and Horse Fittings	Tools & Weapons	Ornaments	Potteries
Early Phase				
Late Phase				

Figure 8 The artifacts of cultural remains Type II in eastern Inner Mongolia.

1. Bronze snaffle (M59:3 of Maoqinggou Cemetery in Liangcheng County); 2. bronze rein fitting (M59:4 of Maoqinggou Cemetery); 3. bronze dagger (M59:2 of Maoqinggou Cemetery); 4. bronze *ge*-dagger ax (M58:1 of Maoqinggou Cemetery); 5. bronze plaque (M63:1 ③ of Maoqinggou Cemetery); 6. bronze bead-string-shaped plaque (M2:4 of Maoqinggou Cemetery); 7. bronze belt buckle (M59:9 of Maoqinggou Cemetery); 8. bronze tube-shaped ornament (M1:4-3 of Guoxianyaozi Cemetery in Liangcheng County); 9. bronze plaque (M5:6 of Maoqinggou Cemetery); 10. bronze plaque (M55:4 of Maoqinggou Cemetery); 11. bronze plaque (Fanjiayaozi Cemetery in Horinger County); 12. pottery jar (M63:7 of Maoqinggou Cemetery); 13. iron dagger (M1:2 of Yinniugou Cemetery in Liangcheng County); 14. iron pickax (M38:1 of Maoqinggou Cemetery); 15. bronze belt buckle (M11:6 of Maoqinggou Cemetery); 16. pottery jar (M11:1 of Maoqinggou Cemetery)

not completely contemporaneous but there is a gradual movement from south to north, reflecting how the northern cultures in reaction on the northern expansion of the Central Plain cultures gradually retreated towards the north. The more towards the south they were distributed, the stronger the Central Plains influence was; the more northwards they were located, the more steppe elements they exhibited.

These two kinds of remains display considerable differences in their material culture.

Among the remains of Type I except for a few cases from northern Hebei there generally are no traces of animal victim but only a small amount of scattered horse bones are found in Yuanping. The sacrificed animals from northern Hebei are mainly dogs and cattle. They appear in half of the graves, with the sacrifice of horses denoting higher ranks of the tomb occupants. The

remains of Type I is thus probably associated with a mixed economy of agriculture and animal husbandry. In burials of the remains of Type II animal sacrifice is very common, mainly of horse and sheep, denoting a nomadic subsistence economy.

Among the sites belonging to Type I, only the human remains of the cemeteries of Baimiao and Yuhuangmiao in northern Hebei have been subject to physical anthropological analyses. Most of them belong to the Ancient North China Type, a few to the Ancient Northeast China Type. The analysis of human skulls from remains of Type II identified mainly Ancient North China Type, Ancient Central Plains Type and North Asiatic Type. The skulls from Inner Mongolia show the complexity of human interaction and admixture during this period.

Among the five different combinations of North Asiatic Type, Ancient North China Type and Ancient

Central Plains Type, the only combination not present is the pure Ancient North China Type. This shows the speedy population admixture during times of social and cultural unrest.

The remains of Type I had a very close relationship to the Central Plains and a weaker connection with the steppe cultures. The material remains of Type II had fewer objects of Central Plains cultural origin (what appeared were mainly the bronze *ge*-dagger axes used in warfare), while elements from the Eurasian steppes are more common, like for example influences in the realm of tools, weapons, and utensils for daily use, but also animal patterns reflecting cultural identity. The motif of animals in combat was first created by the Assyrians and later used by the Scythians and in Persian art. In the steppes north of the Black Sea it emerged in the 7th century BCE. In the 5th century BCE it already appeared in the Altai region. In the Tagar Culture of the Yenisei River region there were only curled-up animal patterns and images of eagle heads but the actual animals in combat motif did not exist. This motif appeared in the Ordos region of North China during the 3rd century BCE.

The conclusion

Research on these two types of cultural remains has shown changes in the pattern of the cultural relations between the various states of the Central Plains and the Northern Frontier Zone. It has shown the reasons for the emergence of the Rong and Di and afterwards the Hu in North China. It has outlined how the owners of the material remains of Type II under the pressure of

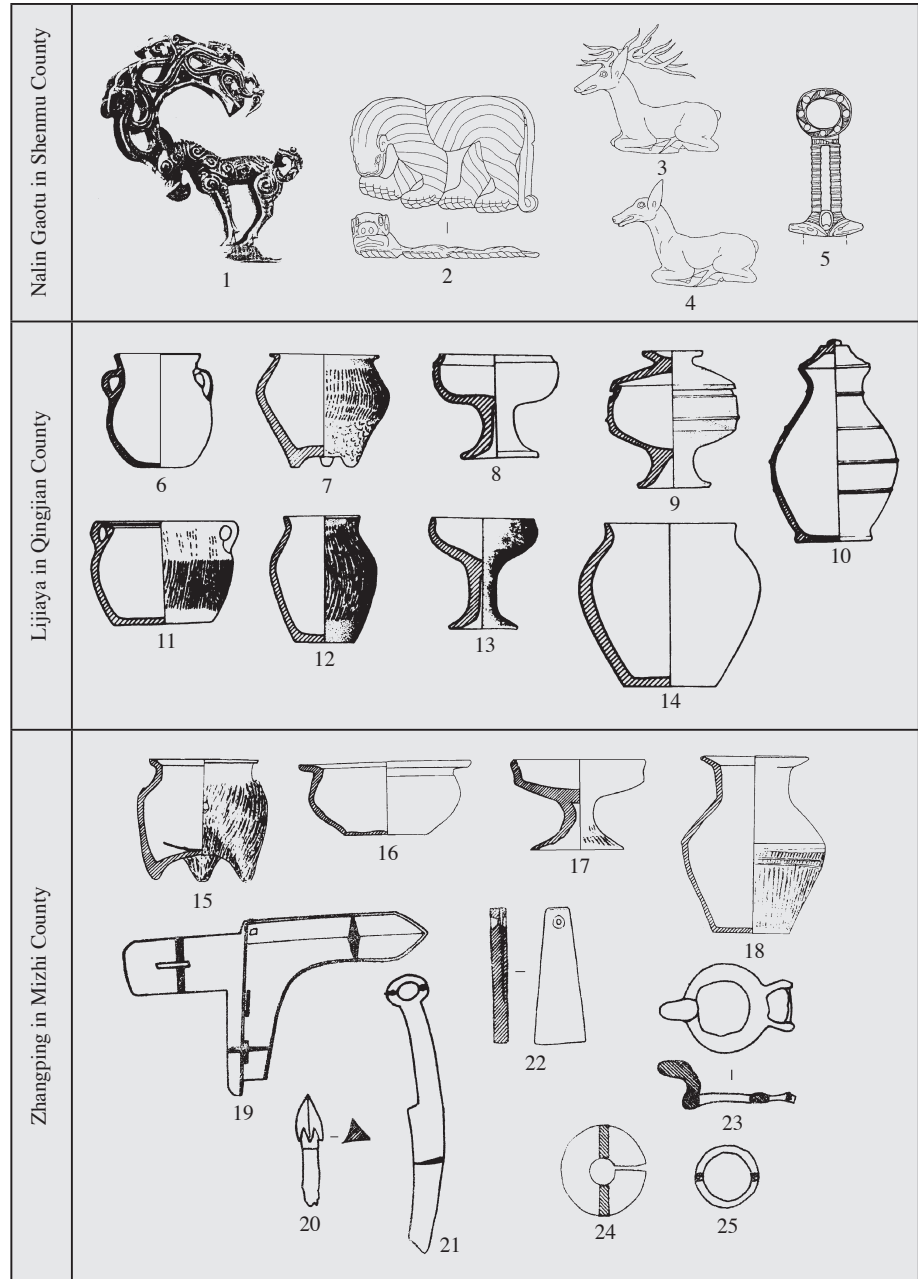


Figure 9 The Comparison of the remains of Both Types in Northern Shaanxi.

1. Deer-shaped gold monster; 2. gold three-dimensional tiger figure; 3. silver three-dimensional Stag; 4. silver three-dimensional doe; 5. gold-inlaid silver sword hilt; 6. pottery double-handled jar (M1:15 of Fengjiata Cemetery); 7. pottery *li*-cauldron (M20:3 of Taochangping Cemetery); 8. pottery *dou*-bowl (M20:2 of Taochangping Cemetery); 9. pottery *dou*-bowl with lid (M1:4 of Fengjiata Cemetery); 10. pottery pot (M1:1 of Fengjiata Cemetery); 11. pottery double-handled jar (M13:5 of Taochangping Cemetery); 12. pottery jar (M13:6 of Taochangping Cemetery); 13. pottery *dou*-bowl (M13:2 of Taochangping Cemetery); 14. pottery jar (M20:4 of Taochangping Cemetery); 15. pottery *li*-cauldron (M2:4); 16. pottery basin (M2:2); 17. pottery *dou*-bowl (M2:3); 18. pottery jar (M2:5); 19. bronze *ge*-dagger ax (M2:8); 20. bronze arrowhead (M2:7); 21. bronze knife (M2:10); 22. whetstone (M2:12); 23. bronze belt buckle (M2:14); 24. jade *jue*-pendant (M2:6); 25. bronze ring (M2:11)

northern and southern cultures gradually got assimilated and formed the Northern Frontier Cultural Zone. It has furthermore exhibited how the nomadic groups of the steppes and their cultures influenced the material remains of Type II and made the people into what in historical texts are called the Hu and triggered further reactions like the constructing of the Great Wall, the adopting of the dress mode, the archery and equestrianism of the Hu, and the encouraging of people from the Central Plains to settle in the north by the different states of the Central Plains.

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Postscript

The Original article published in *Kaogu Xuebao* 考古学报 (*Acta Archaeologica Sinica*) 2009.2: 155–84 with nine illustrations and five tables, was written by Yang Jianhua 杨建华. The abridged version is prepared by the author and translated into English by Anke Hein 安可.