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/MA HUA-LUNG (Matthews' Chinese-English dictionary, Revised American Edition 1969, characters nos. 4310, 2211, 4258), also known MA CH'AOCHING (Matthews', nos. 4310, 233, 1171), a Chinese Muslim leader and exponent of the "New Teaching" who played an important part in the great mid-13th/19th century Muslim risings against the Ch'ing dynasty.

Ma Hua-lung was born at an unknown date during the first half of the 13th/19th century, probably at Ch'in-chi-p'u (Hartmann, op. cit. in Bibl., 14), a walled city in Ninghsia [q.v.] province situated on the right bank of the Yellow River some 80 km. south of Ninghsia city (the modern Yinchwan). We know little of Ma's personal background. Po Ching-wei, a member of the Shensi gentry who participated in the struggle against Ma (and therefore a hostile source), states that "Ma Hua-lung's family lived at Chin-chip'u for generations"; seemingly, Ma came from a well-to-do family background, for he was "the leading rich man in the area, as well as a person with a military title which he earned by substantial contributions to the government". Furthermore, he was a man of considerable political and religious significance, for Po tells us that he was "very much respected and trusted by the Moslems in Ninghsia ... [and] ... he was a sweeping influence over the Moslems of the other provinces too" (Po Ching-wei, Feng-hsi-ts'ao-t'ang-chi, iii, 7-11; cited in Chu, op. cit. in Bibl., 346-7).

In Ma Hua-lung's time, Chin-chi-p'u, said to have been a Muslim centre "for more than a thousand years" (Bales, op. cit. in Bibl., 218), and described as the "Medina of Chinese Islam" (Wright, op. cit. in Bibl., 111), indicating a significance secondary

only to that of Hochow (often described as the "Mecca of Chinese Islam"), was a prosperous trading centre which thrived on the tea and salt trade with Mongolia. Bales, 243, notes that "it was a purely Muslim city and no Chinese official was resident there. The officials lived at Lingchow" (a small city some 30 km. to the north).

Ma Hua-lung's lineage is unclear. He does not appear to have been directly related by blood to Ma Ming-hsin [q.v.] of An-ting, but he was certainly a spiritual descendant of the latter. Muhammad Tawādu' (op. cit, in Bibl., 117) states that he was the sixth shaykh of the Nakshbandī farīka founded by Ma Ming-hsin ca. 1175/1761 near Lanchow. Ma Hua-lung's father, Ma Erh (Matthews', nos. 4310, 1751), the fifth shaykh in Ma Ming-hsin's silsīla, is said to have died "a lingering death" (Wright, 109) at the hands of the Chinese; Ma Hua-lung was thus both a spiritual and a direct blood descendant of Ma Erh, the fifth head of the Nakshbandiyya-Djahriyya order in Northwest China (see, however, Israeli's 1974 thesis, 273-324, for an alternative analysis).

It seems that, after the harsh suppression of "New Teaching" adherents in the Kansu-Chinghai borderlands resulting from the defeat of the 1196/1781 and 1198/1783 Muslim risings, the surviving "New Teaching" leaders moved eastwards towards Ninghsia. According to Fletcher (op. cit. in Bibl., 77), it was Ma Hua-lung who made Chin-chi-p'u into the foremost "New Teaching" centre in all of China. From this bastion he was able to exercise an influence on the Chinese umma far in excess of that wielded by Ma Ming-hsin during his prime, for during the threequarters of a century following the death of the latter, the "New Teaching" had spread from the Kansu-Chinghai border area across much of China. Seemingly, Ma Hua-lung played an important part in this process of proselytisation, for in a memorial addressed to the Imperial authorities at Peking requesting the prohibition of the "New Teaching", Tso Tsung-tang, the Ch'ing commander who eventually crushed the 1862-78 Muslim rebellion in Northwest China, complained that Ma, who styled himself the Tsung-ta A-hung ("General Grand Mulla", Matthews', nos. 6912, 5943, 1, 2931), had "sent out people to spread this evil religion everywhere". According to Iso, these missionaries, known as hai-li-fei (Matthews', nos. 2014, 3865, 1850, possibly a corruption of the Arabic Şūfī term khalīfa, see Israeli, op. cit., 1974, 298), were "disguised as businessmen" (Tso Tsungt'ang, Memorials, cited in Chu, op. cit. in Bibl., 1966, 156-8). In fact, Muslim merchants dominated the North China caravan trade, and it is more than probable that many of the "New Teaching" hai-li-fei were also legitimate merchants. Tso continued: "According to the testimony of lately captured Muslim rebels, there are missionaries of the New Teaching in Peking, Tientsin, Heilungkiang, Kirin, Shansi and Hupeh" (Tso, Memorials, ibid.); it is also probable that the "New Teaching" had spread across Szechwan (where it was definitely established) to Yunnan [q.v.] where it may have played some part in the "Panthay" [q.v.] Muslim rebellion of Tu Wen-hsiu [q.v.].

During the great Muslim rebellion of 1862-78 [see AL-Sin], four main centres of Muslim power were to emerge in Northwest China (excluding only the Turkic areas of Sinkiang which were either to pass under the rule of Yackub Beg [q.v.] of Kashenar [q.v.], or to maintain a precarious independence under incompetent local leadership in Dzungaria