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A Study of 'Sui-shih-chi' (歲時記) in Tang Dynasty (唐)
and Five Dynasties (五代) as Historical Materials

By Mitsuo MORIYA

It was not until Tsung Lin's (宗懔) 'Ching-chu-chi' (荆楚記) in Liang Dynasty (梁) that historical materials of 'Sui-shih-chi' in China came to possess a typical character and form. The purpose of the present article is to go down further to the periods of Tang Dynasty and Five Dynasties and trace the changes of character of the 'Sui-shih-chi' of these periods.

Nowadays the greater part of 'Sui-shih-chi' which belong to Tang Dynasty and Five Dynasties either has gone scattered and lost, or otherwise is hardly accessible. With those which have got scattered and lost, the present writer tries to restore them to the original state by collecting scattered descriptions from among several kinds of Encyclopaedia (類書) and various documentary records in and after Tang Dynasty and Sung Dynasty (宋), and in the case of what are not easily accessible, he makes every effort to discuss them taken as a whole to the benefit of the public at large.

According to the present writer's investigation, the 'Sui-shih-chi' in Tang Dynasty and Five Dynasties may be listed in chronological order, as follows:

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|--|--------------------------------------|
| (1) 'Ch'ien-chin-yüeh-ling' (千金月令) | (2) 'Chin-jên-yüeh-ling' (齊人月令) |
| (3) 'Chin-ku-yüan-chi' (金谷園記) | (4) 'Pao-shêng-yüeh-lu' (保生月錄) |
| (5) 'Chin-mên-sui-chieh-chi' (金門歲節記) | (6) 'Ssu-shih-pao-ching' (四時寶鏡) |
| (7) 'Ch'in-chung-sui-shih-chi' (秦中歲時記) | (8) 'Lien-hsia-sui-shih-chi' (輦下歲時記) |
| (9) 'Ssu-shih-tsuan-yao' (四時纂要) | (10) 'Sui-shih-kuang-chi' (歲時廣記) |

And for their characters or features, these ten may be grouped into the following three classes.

- (A) 'Sui-shih-chi' which describe techniques for promoting human health and securing longer life.....(1) (2) (4) (9)
- (B) 'Sui-shih-chi' on urban and aristocratic life.....(3) (5) (7) (8)
- (C) 'Sui-shih-chi' which are annalistic records in their characteristics.....(6) (10)

It may be given as a conclusion that the form of 'Sui-shih-chi' which was completed from Six Dynasties (六朝) to Sui Dynasty (隋) showed a tendency to differentiation in Tang Dynasty and Five Dynasties.

This inclination to differentiation in itself is not necessarily a progress in the history of 'Sui-shih-chi', it is true, but it must be admitted that those 'Sui-shih-chi' of the Tang Dynasty and Five Dynasties have sufficient 'raison d'être' of theirs in the sense that they had opened up a way for various types of 'Sui-shih-chi' in later periods.