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Concerning the Miao flight to Wu-ding in Yunnan.

Written by Yang Jing-de.

During the Manchu, that is the Ching, Dynasty, at that time, we Miao were slaves of the landlords. Every kind of compulsory labour came upon the Miao, so that we could neither rest nor sleep. On one occasion when the Nuo lord was betrothing his daughter, she wanted to take our Miao girls and youths with her as slaves to her new home.

In the eighteenth year of Dao-guang (1849), there was an Yi landlord called Li living at Huan-zhou, Wu-ding in Yunnan Province, who came seeking the daughter of the Sao-no family as bride. To begin with the Sao-no daughter was unwilling to go, but afterwards she said, "If you want me to go you must allow me to take the Miao as slaves". Accordingly she took more than forty families of Miao. There were more than one hundred and twenty people who went. Later some of these who had accompanied the landlord's daughter returned as guests to their original country, and talking about their move to Huan-zhou, said that the country was very good. "Pick a cob of maize, eat one side, and the other side, the side that is left, will be enough for a meal for a Miao family!" So it was that two years later, by 1851, there were one hundred and twenty families from the Weining area who had left. The Miao just packed up and moved to the country around Huan-zhou. In 1855 there was another contingent from Weining who moved there. Afterwards as they scattered, on a hunting expedition some came to the Nbu-zhu country. Yet another group came to live in the Ma-lung, Xuin-dien, Fu-ming, Ning-liang and Song-ming districts.

Explanation. Information about the original removal of the Miao to the Wu-ding area has been gathered from the writing of teachers Pan Xio-de and Zhang Cong-ying which describe the original movements that we have here made clear.