Lesson 18 Handout

Week 11: 16 November 2023

This handout goes over the major parts of Chinese-to-Manchu transliteration which are not very clear. If you're ever stuck, a complete list of pinyin/Manchu equivalences is found in Roth-Li, pp.377–381.

(1)

Chinese (Pinyin)	Manchu	Example (Pinyin = Manchu)
-ou	*-eo*	*zhou = jeo*
-ao	*-ao* or *-oo*	*lao = loo/lao*
-ong	*-ung* or *-ūng*	*long = lung/lūng*
-er	*-el*	*er = el*
-uo	*-uwe* or *-o*	*tuo = tuwe/to*
-ü/yu	*-ioi*	*xu = sioi*
-ün/yun	*-iyūn*	*xun = siyūn*
-üan/yuan	*-iowan*	*xuan = siowan*
-i+V(N)	*-iy+V(N)*	*bian = biyan, biao = biyoo*
-u+V(N)	*-uw+V(N)*	*luan = luwan, shuai = šuwai*
j-	*j-* or *g-*	*jing = jing/ging*
q-	*c-* or *k-*	*qian = ciyan/kiyan*
x-	*s-* or *h-*	*xiang = siyang/hiyang*
k/g/h before *a/o*	*k'/g'/h'-*	*kao = k'ao/k'oo, gan = g'an*

Some other notes:

(2)   a.   After Manchu *š* and *ž*, the letter *i* is simply used.
       b.   After Manchu *c* and *j*, the letter *i* is used in combination with a circle on the right (*fuka*) to distinguish it from *ci* and *ji*: these are transliterated *c'i* and *j'i*
       c.   After Manchu *ts'* and *s*, the vowel is represented with a letter which is written as a tooth with a small sideways v shape (a fork) which protrudes to the right of the tooth.
       d.   After *dz*, the 'fork' vowel may be used — but if the vowel comes last, a simple short tail (like at the end of the final form of *ū* or *r*) is added instead.

Möllendorff:	*dz*	*ts'y*	*sy*	*j'i/jy*	*c'i/cy*	*ši*	*ži*
Manchu Script:	ᡯ	ᡱ	ᠰ	ᡷ	ᡱ	ᠰ	ᠷ
Pinyin:	*zi*	*ci*	*si*	*zhi*	*chi*	*shi*	*ri*
Character Examples:	子	次	思	支	池	是	日
IPA:	[tsɨ]	[tsʰɨ]	[sɨ]	[tʂɨ]	[tʂʰɨ]	[ʂɨ]	[ɻ~ʐɨ]

Remember the special letters used for Chinese sounds:

(3)   a.   Chinese *z* — Manchu *dz*
       b.   Chinese *c* — Manchu *ts*
       c.   Chinese *r* — Manchu *ž* (in initial position)

Occasionally, the letter $\bar{u}$ will be used in transliterations — this is typically when it denotes a pinyin u before a vowel (e.g. Chinese *huang* = Manchu *huwang/hūwang*) or to denote a *o* before *ng* (e.g. Chinese *dong* = Manchu *dung/dūng*)

Practice

Please transliterate these words into Manchu and then into Pinyin.