

Not used

Excerpts from -
TORTURED CHINA by Hallett Abend
Published - Ives Washburn, New York, 1930

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Chapter 7 - Dissolution

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In November, 1929, an official Chinese report made after investigations in Honan province, opens with this striking paragraph:

"For 300 years no such calamity has befallen Honan. It is too deep even for tears. The people live in deep water and hot fire such as outsiders cannot even conceive of."

Detailing conditions that were found in Miench'ih district, the report says that Miench'ih, even before the outbreak of the November civil war, had suffered such continuous raids from mountain bandit gangs that more than 1000 towns and villages had been looted and burned. In these villages more than 5200 people had been slaughtered, more than 10,000 had been carried off into the hills and held for ransom, and more than 40,000 oxen, horses and donkeys had been driven away by the raiders.

"When they capture a person for ransom," continues the report in picturesque Chinese phraseology, "they first pierce his legs with iron wire, and bind them together as fish are hung on a string. When they returned to their bandit dens, the captives were interrogated and were pricked with sickles to make them tell of hidden property they possessed. If there was the slightest hesitation in answering, they were immediately cut in two at the waist -- as a warning to the others. Then they compelled the villagers to disclose where was hidden the little store of grain with which they were trying to eke out an existence. This they carried off, leaving the victims to starve. If any of the adults attempted to escape, the whole family was slaughtered."

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