

“Announcement on Drawing the Barbarians Inward”

Cheng Yan (c. 890s)

There have long been diverse barbarian peoples [*siyi* 四夷] who have been multilingual and have come to China [*zhonghua* 中華]. They admire the humanity, righteousness, loyalty, and honesty of China. Although their origins lie in alien regions, they are able speedily to direct their hearts toward China [*hua* 華]. Therefore, I don't refer to them as barbarians [*yi* 夷]. There are people of the Central Kingdom who have long stubbornly resisted kingly transformation. They have forgotten humanity, righteousness, loyalty, and honesty. Although their origins are in China, their hearts skulk among the barbarians. Therefore, I don't refer to them as Chinese. They have not been banished to the barbarians by the state. Rather, they themselves are responsible for their hearts wallowing in iniquity. Should we not then stop referring to people as Chinese just because they are named Chinese, and stop referring to people as barbarians just because they are named barbarian?

There are people who are named Chinese but who have barbarian hearts. There are people who are named barbarians but who have Chinese hearts. The former, who, though living in the Central Kingdom, have knowingly abandoned humanity, righteousness, loyalty, and honesty, are none other than barbarians of the Central Kingdom. There is no need for the barbarians to invade us. Those who disobey the orders of the Central Kingdom, who arrogantly act without authorization and do not accept royal authority, and who discard humanity, righteousness, loyalty, and honesty, are incompatible with social norms. How can they not be barbarians of the Central Kingdom? Those of the barbarians who look inward and admire China, who delight in our humanity, righteousness, loyalty, and honesty, and who desire to be part of human society, how can they not be the Chinese of the barbarians? Mark my words. There are those called barbarians who are not barbarians. Then, there are people with the name of Chinese who fail to measure up to those called barbarians.

《內夷檄》

成宴《唐代》

《四夷之民長有重譯而至，慕中華之仁義忠信。雖身出異域，能馳心於華，吾不謂之夷矣。中國之民長有倔強王化，忘棄仁義忠信，雖身出於華，反竄心於夷，吾不謂之華矣。竄心於夷，非國家之竄爾也，自竄心於惡也。豈止華其名謂之華，夷其名謂之夷邪？華其名有夷其心者，夷其名有華其心者。是知棄仁義忠信於中國者，即為中國之夷矣。不待四夷之侵我也，有悖命中國，專倨不王，棄彼仁義忠信，則不可與人倫齒，豈不為中國之夷乎？四夷內向，樂我仁義忠信，願為人倫齒者，豈不為四夷之華乎？記吾言者，夷其名尚不為夷矣，華其名反不如夷其名者也。》