

Transformation of Regional Village Powers within the North and Mid-section of Hua-tung Valley in the 1640s and the 1650s

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ABSTRACT

This paper aims at exploring the history of the changing regional village powers of the Amis or the Pangtsah within the north and mid-section of the Hua-tung Valley in the 1640s and the 1650s by employing the documents left by the Dutch East India Company (*Verenigde Oostindische Compagnie* or VOC). The paper first reconstructs the geography of settlements described by the Dutch sources and further investigates the relationship between the seventeenth-century settlements and the clan and village identities of the Amis. I then treat the settlements as the basic unit and further try to investigate both the possible transformation of the regional powers and their geographical boundaries of expansion within the north and mid-section of the Hua-tung Valley in the 1640s and the 1650s.

Keywords: Formosan Austronesians, Amis, History of Taiwan, Hualien

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