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parts to complement the studies of the predecessors. In this preliminary chapter, I wish to re-examine the relations and contacts between T'any dynasty and the Caliphate from the beginning to the day of Talas. As to the direct causes of the incident and the relating circumstances, I intend to publish my opinion shortly in the SHIGAKU, historical quarterly of Keio University.

Introduction of Fire-arms to China by the Ottoman Empire

Hironori WADA

The 神器譜 or the Record of the Sacred Machines written by Chao Shih-chen 趙士禎 of the Ming period, tells various matters about fire-arms. He stated in his work that the *Lu-mi* gun was the best weapon among the fire-arms of those days. The word "*Lu-mi*" 魯密 is no doubt the *Lu-mi* that was introduced as 魯迷 (*Lu-mi*) in the 明史 (The History of Ming Dynasty) and means the Ottoman Empire as presumed by Bretschneider in his article "Mediaeval Researches from Eastern Asiatic Sources."

However, the question is that how the fire-arms were introduced to China by the Othmans. According to the Ming shih lu (the Authentic Record of Ming Dynasty), the *Lu-mi* 魯迷 paid tribute to the Chinese Court in the 16th century. At that time, the Ottoman Empire was at its zenith under Suleiman the Magnificent, and the might of his Empire even reached as far as Europe. It is possible, therefore, that the Othmans could introduce their fire-arms such a distance as —China. It must be a mentionable fact that the Othman—Turks introduced firearms to the eastern country by land through the highway—the Silk Road—competing with the Portuguese who came to the Far East by sea from the south with their fire-arms.