

# Appendix E: List of Chinese Officials Responsible for the Conduct of the Amherst Embassy

The two junior provincial officers sent to conduct the Amherst Embassy after it arrived in the Gulf of Bei Zhili were:

- Chang-wei (referred to by the British as ‘Chang’)
  - a Chinese and a civil officer, wore a blue button
  - came on board the HMS *Lyra* on 29 July 1816 and the HMS *Alceste* on 31 July 1816
  - left the embassy on 12 September
  - promoted to a judicial commissioner at Shandong at the conclusion of his role in the embassy.
- Yin
  - a Manchu and a military officer wearing a red button
  - came on board the HMS *Lyra* on 29 July 1816 and the HMS *Alceste* on 31 July 1816
  - left the embassy on 17 September.

The two senior mandarins in charge of the embassy, referred to by the British as the ‘legates’, were:

- Guanghui (referred to by the British as ‘Kwang’ or ‘Quong’)
  - a Manchu, age 58
  - Changlu Salt Commissioner stationed at Tianjin
  - remained with the embassy throughout its stay in China

- duties concluded at Canton on 19 January 1817
- demoted at the time of the embassy's conclusion to a gold button and to a secretaryship of the eighth rank and posted to Manchuria.  
(See Appendix I for Morrison's letter to Amherst dated 26 November 1821 on the death of Guanghui.)
- Sulenge (referred to by the British as 'Soo')
  - a Manchu, aged in his seventies or eighties and infirm
  - president of the Board of Public Works
  - wore a red button
  - Hoppo at Canton in 1793 and received Lord Macartney on his return from the Qianlong court
  - left the embassy at Tongzhou in early September 1816
  - demoted at the time of the embassy's conclusion
  - lost his position as president of the Board of Works and rank as a general in the army
  - ordered to pluck out his peacock feather and reduced to a button of the third rank (Tuck, 2000, p. xxviii).

(Not to be confused with Sungyun, Staunton's friend at Canton in 1811. Sungyun had accompanied Macartney as far as Hangzhou, during his journey from Peking to Canton [Cranmer-Byng, 1962, p. 369, fn. 38].)

The highest ranking mandarins sent to Tongzhou to oversee Amherst rehearsing the kowtow were:

- Heshitai (referred to by the British as 'Duke Ho')
  - a Manchu of the Bordered Yellow Banner and the emperor's brother-in-law
  - promoted and rewarded in 1813 after helping to repel a rebel attack on the Imperial Palace and foiling an assassination attempt on the Jiaqing emperor
  - had two meetings with Amherst prior to proceeding to Yuanmingyuan. The first was held on 22 August 1816 and the second on 27 August 1816
  - conducted affairs at Yuanmingyuan where he unsuccessfully endeavoured to deliver Amherst before the Jiaqing emperor

- last contact with the embassy was on the early morning of its reception at Yuanmingyuan
  - lost emoluments as a '*kung-yeh*' or 'Duke' for five years and forfeited the honour of wearing the 'yellow riding jacket' following the failure of Amherst to appear before the Jiaqing emperor
  - allowed to retain his title and his private duties at the palace (Tuck, 2000, p. xxix).
  - Muketenge (referred to by the British as 'Moo' or the 'Silent Moo')
    - a Manchu of the Bordered Yellow Banner and President of the Board of Rites
    - stripped of his presidency of the Board of Rites and retired following the dismissal of the embassy
    - died in 1829.
- (See Appendix I for Morrison's news on the above sent in 1821.)

This text is taken from *Britain's Second Embassy to China: Lord Amherst's 'Special Mission' to the Jiaqing Emperor in 1816*, by Caroline Stevenson, published 2021 by ANU Press, The Australian National University, Canberra, Australia.