The Fu-bing System of the T'ang Dynasty

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

This academic exercise discusses the Fu-bing system in five chapters. The first chapter traces the origin and development of the Fu-bing system, describing mainly the beginnings of the Fu-bing systems and such systems before my chapter. I am also deeply indebted to Mr. Tan Eng Chaw, the T'ang Dynasty, for his guidance and encouragement.

The background that led to the adoption of Fu-bing system in the early T'ang period and certain manifestations for promoting the Fu-bing system are being explored in chapter two.

Chapter three recounts the organisation of the T'ang Fu-bing system, including the Fu-bings' supply of equipment, responsibilities and rewards.

The purposes of having a Fu-bing system during the T'ang Dynasty, including the political, economic and military objectives, are being expounded in the fourth chapter.

The final chapter deals with the reasons for the disintegration and collapse of the T'ang Fu-bing system from the economic, political and social points of view. Certain flaws of the Fu-bing system itself are also discussed in this chapter.