

## Verb Prefixes in the Tangut (Xixia) *Tiansheng Code*: Verbs for ‘Send Document’ and Their Prefixes\*

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### Summary

*The Tiansheng Code* is a code of the Xixia Kingdom published in the mid-to-late twelfth century, written in the Tangut language. This code laid down about 1,400 articles on such matters as punishment and administrative affairs. Many types of verbs and prefixes were used in this code. Nishida Tatsuo suggested based on other Tangut texts that there are two series of prefixes—one that originally functioned as directional markers and then developed to express the perfective aspect (“prefix series 1”), and another (“prefix series 2”) that represents an “optative” meaning. In this paper, I examined the use of prefixes in this code to test his suggestion.

First, I researched three articles of this code that regulated the format of official documents sent between government departments. We find three variants of the verb meaning ‘send document’. When government departments sent documents to higher-class departments, the verb 𐰽𐰚 and the prefix 𐰽𐰚 were used; when they sent documents to departments of the same class, the verb 𐰽𐰚 or 𐰽𐰚 and the prefix 𐰽𐰚 were used; when they sent documents to lower-class departments, the verb 𐰽𐰚 and the prefix 𐰽𐰚 were used. Despite referring to the same action ‘send document,’ specific verb stems take specific prefixes depending on the class of the government department. Each of these prefixes belongs to prefix series 2, but not all of them have the meaning optative—some mean ‘ought’ according to context.

Second, I researched whether the prefix 𐰽𐰚 functioned as a directional marker in the same code. 𐰽𐰚 was affixed to the verb ‘to sign/mark by hand’ and ‘to stamp’ in other articles. These actions move a seal or writing brush in a downward direction, suggesting that this prefix functioned as a downward-directional marker.

We can find another usage of the verb 𐰽𐰚 when taking another prefix in series 1 𐰽𐰚 in this code. In this case, the verb indicates that the action ‘to declare’ has ended; therefore, this prefix expresses the perfect aspect.

**Key words:** Tangut (Xixia), code, document, prefix, directional prefix

关键词：西夏文、法典、天盛律令、文书、方向前缀

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## 1. Introduction

*The Revised and Newly Endorsed Code for the Designation of Reign Tiansheng* (hereafter, *The Tiansheng Code*) was published in the Xixia kingdom between 1149–1169 CE. The code consists of 20 chapters, including about 1,400 articles written in the Tangut language. About 80% of the code was unearthed from the ruins of Khara-khoto by the Kozlov expedition at the beginning of the twentieth century. These texts are presently housed in the Russian Academy of Sciences' Institute of Oriental Manuscripts.

Scholars have identified many prefixes in *The Tiansheng Code*. For instance, Arakawa (2012) comprehensively researched the prefixes. Nishida (1989=2012: 488–491) suggested that there are two series of prefixes in the code—one that originally functioned as directional markers and then developed into an aspect marker to express the perfective aspect (hereafter, “prefix series 1”), and another (“prefix series 2”) that represents an “optative” meaning. Prefix series 2 is derived from prefix series 1. Nishida also described how particular verb stems took specific prefixes in later texts.

This paper researches the usage of prefixes in Ch. 10, Articles 678–680 of *The Tiansheng Code*.<sup>1</sup> These articles regulate the format of official documents which were sent between different departments of the Xixia kingdom's government. The articles use several types of verbs to mean the same thing, ‘send document’ (Sato 2018), and use several different prefixes according to the specific verb in question. This paper examines how each verb is used and how each prefix functions. It then compares its findings with those of Nishida (1989). Tangut transcriptions are based on Arakawa (2014).

## 2. Three verbs for ‘send document’ and their prefixes

### 2.1 Article 678

The Tangut text of Article 678, “Imperial Secretariat and Bureau of Military Affairs send message (=document),” and its English translation are given below:

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<sup>1</sup>Articles were not numbered in the original text. In this paper, I use article numbers given by Кычанов 1987–89.

- 1 𠵹 𠵺 𠵻 𠵼 𠵽 𠵾 𠵿 𠶀 𠶁 𠶂
- <sup>1</sup>II: <sup>2</sup>phyu <sup>1</sup>te: <sup>2</sup>ma:r <sup>1</sup>se <sup>2</sup>ryen <sup>2</sup>du' <sup>1</sup>e: <sup>2</sup>gu <sup>3</sup>nwe?
- one high rank secretary council self mutually message
- 𠶃 𠶄 𠶅 𠶆 𠶇 𠶈
- <sup>2</sup>ryeqr' <sup>1</sup>the' <sup>2</sup>daq <sup>1</sup>me:' <sup>2</sup>'a <sup>3</sup>nwe?
- P2 send word end CM message

‘If the Imperial Secretariat and Bureau of Military Affairs located in the first class want to send a message to each other, at the end of the document, they should indicate the message’

- 2 𠶉 𠶊 𠶋 𠶌 𠶍 𠶎 𠶏 𠶐
- <sup>1</sup>byu <sup>2</sup>yu <sup>2</sup>leu <sup>2</sup>nI: <sup>1</sup>yu <sup>1</sup>nI: <sup>1</sup>ke: <sup>1</sup>o
- CM front same reach call pl P2 join
- 𠶑 𠶒 𠶓 𠶔 𠶕 𠶖 𠶗
- <sup>1</sup>wi: <sup>2</sup>dzi:q' <sup>1</sup>khyu <sup>1</sup>ldaq <sup>2</sup>ne: <sup>1</sup>tsI: <sup>1</sup>chI:
- do official title CM hand P2 mark Dem

‘of the report and request the presence of nobles and sign below the official name.’

- 3 𠶘 𠶙 𠶚 𠶛 𠶜 𠶝 𠶞 𠶟
- <sup>1</sup>no" <sup>1</sup>ra:r <sup>2</sup>ngwer <sup>1</sup>chya: <sup>2</sup>ne: <sup>2</sup>hya <sup>1</sup>wi:
- after department pl CM P2 send do
- 𠶠 𠶡 𠶢 𠶣 𠶤 𠶥 𠶦 𠶧
- <sup>1</sup>me:' <sup>2</sup>'a <sup>2</sup>rar <sup>2</sup>ryeqr' <sup>2</sup>I: <sup>2</sup>yar <sup>1</sup>khyu <sup>1</sup>ldaq
- end CM pass P2 say date CM hand

‘If they want to send [the document] to other departments, they should write a message at the end of the document’

- 4 𠶨 𠶩
- <sup>2</sup>ne: <sup>1</sup>tsI:
- P2 mark

‘and sign below the date.’

(Text: Кычанов 1987–89, vol. 3: 414–415)

This sentence is an article of law; therefore, they first write a condition and then write the action appropriate to respond to the condition. Here, a condition—if these departments want to send documents to the same class of department—is followed by an action—a signature should be written. Because the verb 𠵿 'the' ('send document') does not end the action it describes, this sentence indicates an 'optative' condition as described by Nishida (1989). In addition, in this sentence the prefix 𠵿 'ryeqr' is used before the verb 𠵿. This prefix belongs to prefix series 2 (Nishida 1989).

The Xixia kingdom's government departments were classified into six classes. The Imperial Secretariat and the Bureau of Military Affairs were located in the highest class. Thus, the second and third lines given above regulate instances when officials from the Imperial Secretariat and Bureau of Military Affairs send documents to other departments of a lower class. In such cases, the verb 𠵿 is used to mean 'send document'. The prefix before the verb 𠵿 is 𠵿 'ne:', and it also belongs to prefix series 2.

## 2.2 Article 679

The Tangut text and accompanying English translation of Article 679, "Sending documents to the Department of *Jinglueshi*," are as follows:

1	𠵿	𠵿	𠵿	𠵿	𠵿	𠵿	𠵿	𠵿
	<sup>1</sup> II:	<sup>1</sup> ke:	<sup>2</sup> leu:	<sup>1</sup> syI	<sup>1</sup> ra:r	<sup>1</sup> ta:	<sup>2</sup> phyu	<sup>1</sup> te:
	one	Jing	lue	shi	department	TM	high	rank
	𠵿	𠵿	𠵿	𠵿	𠵿	𠵿	𠵿	𠵿
	<sup>1</sup> ra:r	<sup>2</sup> u	<sup>1</sup> ke:	<sup>2</sup> dur	<sup>1</sup> ke:	<sup>2</sup> leu:	<sup>1</sup> e:	<sup>2</sup> gu
	department	CM	P2	report	Jing	lue	self	mutually

'If the Department of *Jinglueshi* wants to send documents to first-class departments, or the Department of *Jinglueshi* wants to send documents to each other,'

2	𐞗	𐞗	𐞗	𐞗	𐞗	𐞗	𐞗	𐞗
	<sup>1</sup> shyo	<sup>2</sup> ryeqr'	<sup>1</sup> the'	<sup>1</sup> kuq	<sup>1</sup> yu	<sup>2</sup> ryeqr'	<sup>2</sup> I:	<sup>2</sup> dzi:q'
	lead	P2	send	then	call	P2	say	official title
	𐞗	𐞗	𐞗	𐞗	𐞗	𐞗	𐞗	
	<sup>1</sup> khyu	<sup>1</sup> ldaq	<sup>2</sup> ne:	<sup>1</sup> tsI:	<sup>1</sup> chI:	<sup>1</sup> no''	<sup>1</sup> ryur	
	CM	hand	P2	mark	Dem	after	every	

‘they should tell their request at the back of the document and sign below the official name. If they want to send to’

3	𐞗	𐞗	𐞗	𐞗	𐞗	𐞗	𐞗	𐞗
	<sup>1</sup> ra:r	<sup>1</sup> chya:	<sup>2</sup> ne:	<sup>2</sup> hya	<sup>1</sup> wi:	<sup>1</sup> me:'	<sup>2</sup> a	<sup>2</sup> rar
	department	CM	P2	send	do	end	CM	pass
	𐞗	𐞗	𐞗	𐞗	𐞗	𐞗	𐞗	
	<sup>1</sup> ke:	<sup>1</sup> o	<sup>2</sup> yar	<sup>1</sup> khyu	<sup>1</sup> ldaq	<sup>2</sup> ne:	<sup>1</sup> tsI:	
	P2	join	date	CM	hand	P2	mark	

‘other departments, they should write their message at the end of the document and sign below the date.’ (Text: Кычанов 1987–89, vol. 3: 415)

The Department of *Jinglueshi* was a second-class government department. Thus, when officials from this department wanted to send documents to departments of a higher class, such as the Imperial Secretariat and Bureau of Military Affairs, the code uses the verb 𐞗 with the prefix 𐞗 'ke: to mean ‘send document’. In addition, when officials from this department wanted to send documents to each other, they used the verb 𐞗 and the prefix 𐞗 to mean ‘send document’, and when they wanted to send documents to lower-class government departments, they used the verb 𐞗 and the prefix 𐞗 to mean ‘send document’. Each of these verbs does not finish the action it describes. Instead, they indicate an ‘optative’ condition. Again, the prefix 𐞗 belongs to prefix series 2 (Nishida 1989).

### 2.3 Article 680

The Tangut text and the accompanying English translation of Article 680, “sending documents to various departments,” are as follows:

- 1 𠄎 𠄎 𠄎 𠄎 𠄎 𠄎 𠄎 𠄎 𠄎  
 'lɪ: 'cyɪ' ²gu 'khyu 'me:' ²tseu 'nɪ: 'e: ²ni:  
 one next middle low end next pl self pl
- 𠄎 𠄎 𠄎 𠄎 𠄎 𠄎 𠄎  
 'su 'ra:r 'te: ²khwe ²do 'ke: ²dur  
 CM department rank large CM P2 report

'If the third-, fourth-, fifth-, and sixth-class departments want to send documents to upper-class departments,'

- 2 𠄎 𠄎 𠄎 𠄎 𠄎 𠄎 𠄎  
 'te: 'ka 'shyo ²ryeqr' 'the' 'kuq 'yu 'ke:  
 rank even document P2 send then call P2
- 𠄎 𠄎 𠄎 𠄎 𠄎 𠄎 𠄎  
 'o ²dzi:q' 'khyu 'lɪaq ²ne: 'tsɪ: 'a?  
 join official title CM hand P2 mark one

'and to the same class departments, they should tell their request on the back of the document, and sign below'

- 3 𠄎 𠄎 𠄎 𠄎 𠄎 𠄎 𠄎  
 'te: ²bi: ²do ²ne: ²hya 'wi: 'kuq 'dzyen  
 rank low CM P2 send do then divination
- 𠄎 𠄎 𠄎 𠄎 𠄎 𠄎 𠄎  
 ²wenq 'ke: 'o 'nyɪ' 'te: 'sho 'bɪ:  
 send P2 join two rank raise low

'the official name. If they want to send documents to one lower-class department, they should write [??], and if they want send them to over two lower-class departments,'

4	𠵹	𠵹	𠵹	𠵹	𠵹	𠵹	𠵹	𠵹
	<sup>2</sup> bi:	<sup>1</sup> ta:	<sup>1</sup> kuq	<sup>1</sup> dzyen	<sup>2</sup> di:	<sup>1</sup> ke:	<sup>1</sup> o	<sup>2</sup> kon
	low	TM,	then	divination	document	P2	join	official
	𠵹	𠵹	𠵹	𠵹	𠵹	𠵹	𠵹	𠵹
	<sup>2</sup> di:	<sup>1</sup> khyu	<sup>1</sup> ldaq	<sup>2</sup> ne:	<sup>1</sup> tsI:	<sup>1</sup> tha:	<sup>1</sup> kha	<sup>2</sup> mi'
	document	CM	hand	P2	mark	Dem	CM	supreme

‘they should write [??], and sign below the word “government”. But [when on the] emperor’s’

5	𠵹	𠵹	𠵹	𠵹	𠵹	𠵹	𠵹	𠵹
	<sup>1</sup> dzyu	<sup>1</sup> ta:	<sup>1</sup> ra:r	<sup>2</sup> bi:	<sup>2</sup> be:	<sup>2</sup> ldeu	<sup>1</sup> me:	
	order	TM	department	low	high	should	not exist	
	𠵹	𠵹	𠵹	𠵹	𠵹	𠵹	𠵹	𠵹
	<sup>2</sup> ne:	<sup>2</sup> hya	<sup>1</sup> wi:	<sup>1</sup> te:	<sup>1</sup> ka	<sup>1</sup> ldi:q	<sup>1</sup> ra:r	<sup>2</sup> seu <sup>2</sup> khwe
	P2	send	do	rank	even	also	department	small large

‘order[s], they send documents regardless of the class. If they want to send to the same class department,’

6	𠵹	𠵹	𠵹	𠵹	𠵹	𠵹	𠵹	𠵹
	<sup>2</sup> do	<sup>1</sup> jenq	<sup>1</sup> nI:	<sup>1</sup> ta:	<sup>2</sup> dzi:q'	<sup>1</sup> khyu	<sup>1</sup> ldaq	<sup>2</sup> ne:
	CM	act	pl	TM	official title	CM	hand	P2
	𠵹	𠵹	𠵹	𠵹	𠵹	𠵹	𠵹	𠵹
	<sup>1</sup> tsI:	<sup>1</sup> kyi	<sup>1</sup> dzenq	<sup>1</sup> zenq	<sup>1</sup> tsyer2	<sup>1</sup> je:	<sup>2</sup> bo	
	mark	regulation	break	when	rank	have	penalty	

‘they should sign below the official title. If they break this regulation, a person with rank should offer’

7	𩇑	𩇒	𩇓	𩇔	𩇕	𩇖
	<sup>1</sup> ryeqr'	<sup>2</sup> gI:	<sup>1</sup> myeqr' <sup>2</sup> dzwo:	<sup>2</sup> aq	<sup>1</sup> soq	<sup>1</sup> rI:r
	horse	one	soldier	ten	three	beat with stick

‘a horse as penalty, and a person who does not have rank should be beaten 13 times with a stick.’ (Text: Кычанов 1987–89, vol. 3: 415–416)

This article regulates the format of documents sent by third-, fourth-, fifth-, or sixth-class departments to other departments. When these departments send documents to departments of a higher class, the code uses the verb 𩇒 and the prefix 𩇓 to mean ‘send document’. When these departments want to send documents to departments of the same class, the code uses the verb 𩇔𩇕 and the prefix 𩇔 to mean ‘send document’. When these departments send documents to departments of a lower class, the code uses the verb 𩇓𩇕 and the prefix 𩇑 to mean ‘send document’. The use of verbs and prefixes in this article as they are in Article 689. None of the verbs end the action they describe, and every prefix has an optative meaning.

The last part of Article 680 quoted above regulates the format of documents sent at the orders of the emperor. When this is the case, the code uses the verb 𩇓𩇕 and the prefix 𩇑 to mean ‘send document’. Because the Xixia emperor was placed higher than any other government departments, the code uses the verb 𩇓𩇕 here. However, in this case, the prefix 𩇑 (which is part of prefix series 2) does not mean ‘optative’ but ‘ought’.

The foregoing has concluded that each of the three articles examined above uses a different verb to mean ‘send document’. In short, when Xixia government departments sent documents to higher-class departments, the verb 𩇒 and prefix 𩇓 were used; when they sent documents to departments of the same class, the verb 𩇔𩇕 or 𩇕 and the prefix 𩇔 were used; when they sent documents to lower-class departments, the verb 𩇓𩇕 and the prefix 𩇑 were used. Each of these prefixes belongs to prefix series 2, as mentioned by Nishida (1989); but not all of them have the meaning optative—some mean ought.

### 3. Function of prefixes

In short, *The Tiansheng Code* uses different verbs to mean ‘send document’ to differentiate between processes for sending documents between different government departments. It also uses different prefixes in accordance with the verb chosen. Nishida (1989) suggested that a specific prefix would be affixed to a particular verb stem in later texts. In this section I study the prefixes 𩇑 and 𩇓 in order to determine whether they originally functioned as directional markers.



### 3.1 Use of the prefix 𐞑 <sup>2</sup>ne:

The prefix 𐞑 was used before the verb 𐞑𐞑 when sending documents to higher-class departments. This prefix is also used alongside the verb 𐞑𐞑 ‘to sign/mark by hand’. It is also used in Chapter 6, Article 347 of *The Tiansheng Code*, titled “deadline for submitting soldier list and delay for submitting list”:

𐞑	𐞑	𐞑	□	𐞑	𐞑
<sup>1</sup> ga:	<sup>2</sup> u:	<sup>2</sup> swi:		<sup>2</sup> ne:	<sup>2</sup> tyenq
army	head	lead		P2	stamp

‘Army section commander ? should stamp [army list].’

(Text: Кычанов 1987–89, vol. 2: 608, ll. 1–2)

Here, ‘stamp’ refers to someone person moving a seal in a downward direction, and ‘sign’ refers to someone moving a writing brush in a downward direction. According to Li (2008: 863, no. 5474), the fundamental meaning of the verb 𐞑 here is ‘fall’.

These examples show us that the prefix 𐞑 is connected to the verb which expresses the act of moving something in a downward direction. As Nishida (1989) mentioned, this prefix also functioned as a downward directional marker.

### 3.2 Use of the prefix 𐞑 <sup>1</sup>ke:

The prefix 𐞑 was used before the verb 𐞑 when sending documents to lower-class departments. Nishida (1989) wrote that 𐞑 evolved from the prefix 𐞑 <sup>1</sup>kI: and functioned as a directional marker meaning ‘to here (to the speaker)’. In case of Articles 679 and 680, if the speaker is the Xixia government that promulgated the *Tiansheng Code*, we can interpret 𐞑 as evolving from the prefix 𐞑 and functioning as a directional marker meaning ‘to here (to the speaker)’ as Nishida (1989) mentioned. However, if the speaker is a particular government department, then we can interpret the function of this prefix as a directional marker meaning ‘to outside (away from the speaker)’.

### 3.3 Prefix 𐞑 <sup>1</sup>kI: another prefix connecting to verb 𐞑

If we look elsewhere in the text, we can find the use of another prefix 𐞑 before the verb 𐞑. For example, Ch. 5, Article 303, “Not to register person, horse, and armor to list, and hide them from inspection” says as follows:

1

𨾏	羸	祿	羸	𨾏	羸	羸	羸
'li:	'ga:	'tsyen	'pyan	'o	'hu	'te:	'kon
one	regular	army	auxiliary	army	emergency	volunteer	official

𨾏	𨾏	羸	𨾏	𨾏	𨾏	𨾏	𨾏
'ryeqr'	'gwI: ²zi:r	'nI:	²je:	²me:'	'e:	²byu	
horse	shell	pl	list	name	P2	call	

‘Government horses and armors of combatants, noncombatants, and transporters should be registered with their names’

2

𨾏	𨾏	𨾏	𨾏	𨾏	𨾏	𨾏	𨾏	𨾏
'wi:	'ke:	²zar	'tha:	'kha	'kon	'ryeqr'	'gwI: ²zi:r	
do	P2	inspect	Dem	CM	official	horse	shell	

羸	祿	羸	𨾏	𨾏	𨾏
'ga:	'tsyen	'pyan	'o	'seu:	'yu
regular	army	auxiliary	army	new	call

‘and inspect[ed]. If combatants and noncombatants newly request government horses and armor,’

3

𨾏	𨾏	羸	𨾏	𨾏	𨾏	𨾏	𨾏	𨾏
'dzI:	'lhi:	²ldeu	'nI:	²je:	²'a	²me:	'zenq	'dyu
penal	servitude	should	pl	list	CM	Neg	hit	have

𨾏	𨾏	𨾏	𨾏	𨾏	𨾏	𨾏
'ta:	²ngwer	'byu	'dzI:	'lhi:	'dyu	'ku
TM	number	CM	penal	servitude	have	therefore

‘and if they did not register goods that should be registered,’

4

𣪗	𣪘	𣪙	𣪚	𣪛	𣪜	𣪝	𣪞
<sup>1</sup> dzI:	<sup>1</sup> lhi:	<sup>1</sup> chya:	<sup>1</sup> ke:	<sup>2</sup> zar	<sup>1</sup> dzI:	<sup>1</sup> lhi:	<sup>1</sup> me:
penal	servitude	CM	P2	inspect	penal	servitude	not exist

𣪟	𣪠	𣪡	𣪢	𣪣	𣪤	𣪥	𣪦
<sup>1</sup> ku	<sup>1</sup> tshe:	<sup>1</sup> byo	<sup>2</sup> nyon	<sup>1</sup> chya:	<sup>1</sup> ke:	<sup>2</sup> zar	<sup>1</sup> mi:
therefore	dissociate	report	CM	P2	inspect	Neg	

‘they should be registered, and afterwards should be inspected.’

5

𣪧	𣪨	𣪩	𣪪	𣪫	𣪬	𣪭	𣪮
<sup>2</sup> zar	<sup>2</sup> dzu:'	<sup>1</sup> zenq	<sup>1</sup> ga:	<sup>1</sup> tsyen	<sup>1</sup> pyan	<sup>1</sup> o	<sup>1</sup> cyu
inspect	hide	when	egular	army	auxiliary	army	work

𣪯	𣪰	𣪱	𣪲	𣪳	𣪴	𣪵	𣪶
<sup>1</sup> lenq	<sup>1</sup> twuq	<sup>1</sup> kI:	<sup>2</sup> dur	<sup>1</sup> dzI:	<sup>1</sup> tenq	<sup>2</sup> wI:	<sup>3</sup> C?
serve	place	P1	report	prepare	take away	P1	save

‘If they had been hidden without inspection when combatants and noncombatants had declared to the officer and afterwards’

6

𣪷	𣪸	𣪹	𣪺	𣪻	𣪼	𣪽
<sup>2</sup> dzu:'	<sup>1</sup> ta:	<sup>2</sup> dzu:'	<sup>2</sup> myeqr'	<sup>1</sup> ldi:q	<sup>1</sup> mi:	<sup>2</sup> zar
hide	TM	hide	who	also	Neg	inspect

𣪾	𣪿	𣻀	𣻁	𣻂	𣻃	𣻄	𣻅
<sup>2</sup> myeqr'	<sup>1</sup> nI:	<sup>1</sup> a? <sup>2</sup> tyenq	<sup>1</sup> a?	<sup>1</sup> keu:	<sup>1</sup> dzI:	<sup>1</sup> lhi:	<sup>2</sup> me:
who	pl	equally	one	year	penal	servitude	Neg

‘were removed and hidden, they receive one year of penal servitude, and when they had hidden them without removal’

7 纒 纒 纒 纒 纒 纒 纒 纒  
<sup>2</sup>C? <sup>1</sup>tha: <sup>1</sup>she: <sup>2</sup>dzu:' <sup>1</sup>ta: <sup>1</sup>cheu: <sup>2</sup>tseu <sup>2</sup>'a  
 save Dem according to hide TM sixth CM

纒 纒 纒 纒 纒 纒 纒 纒  
<sup>1</sup>kho:n <sup>2</sup>?? <sup>2</sup>je: <sup>2</sup>'a <sup>1</sup>mi: <sup>1</sup>dzI: <sup>1</sup>hi: <sup>1</sup>'e:  
 strong obtain list CM Neg penal servitude CM

‘from [the] list yet, they get judgement along the regulation’

8 纒 纒 纒 纒 纒 纒 纒 ...  
<sup>2</sup>dzi:q <sup>2</sup>rer <sup>1</sup>se: <sup>2</sup>tyenq <sup>1</sup>byu <sup>2</sup>dzwI: <sup>2</sup>dzyen  
 punishment shore clear rule CM judge

‘Conscripted person were not registered’ in Ch. 6. ...’

(Text: Кычанов 1987–89, vol. 2: 565–566)

In Xixia, all men over 15 years of age were conscripted into the army. Many of them did not have officer status. This article regulates the punishment of combatants and non-combatants who did not declare their government-supplied horses and armor. Here, in the fifth line, the verb ‘declare’—perhaps by official document—ends the action it describes. According to Nishida (1989) the prefix 纒 belongs to prefix series 1 and is an aspect marker expressing the perfect aspect, and in this article, the prefix 纒 expresses the perfect aspect.

#### 4. Conclusion

In this paper, I studied prefixes included in the twelfth-century text, *The Tiansheng Code*. Like Nishida (1989), I suggest that specific verb stems take specific prefixes in later texts. I also suggest that the prefix 纒 indicated the perfect aspect, that prefixes included in prefix series 2 not only designated an ‘optative’ condition but also an ‘ought’ condition, and that some of these prefixes might have functioned as directional markers.

## Abbreviations

CM	case marker	P2	prefix series 2
Dem	demonstrative	pl	plural
Neg	negative prefix	TM	topic marker
P1	prefix series 1		

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