

diviners [*bu*], artisans [*gong*], and musicians [*yue*] shall be established according to their [original] registers. For those who deceitfully claim [*zha*] or falsely claim [*mao*] [to be another sort of household] so as to escape [from their own household registers] and to avoid their heavier obligation and assume [others'] lighter obligation, they shall be punished by 80 strokes of beating with the heavy stick. If authorities casually permit households to escape, or to alter registers, the punishment shall be the same.

[2] For those who deceitfully claim to be soldiers at the military guards and do not perform either military or civilian services, they shall be punished by 100 strokes of beating with the heavy stick and be sent to the distant frontier in military exile.

*Article 83 Establishing Buddhist or Daoist Monasteries without Authorization and Ordaining Buddhist or Daoist Priests without Authorization* [Sichuang anyuan ji sidu sengdao]

[1] In all cases where Buddhist or Daoist monasteries, except for the existing ones, are not allowed to be established or enlarged without authorization, any violations shall be punished by 100 strokes of beating with the heavy stick and returning to lay status [*huansu*]. Buddhist or Daoist priests shall be sent to the distant frontiers in military exile. Buddhist or Daoist nuns shall be enslaved to the government.

[2] If Buddhist or Daoist priests do not petition for ordainment certificates but they themselves shave their heads without authorization, they shall be punished by 80 strokes of beating with the heavy stick. If this is initiated by household heads, the household heads shall be punished. If abbots of Buddhist or Daoist monasteries or teachers ordain without authorization, the punishment shall be the same, and they shall all be returned to lay status.

*Article 84 Illegally Designating Wives' Sons [as Heirs]* [Li dizi weifa]

[1] In all cases of illegally designating wives' sons [as heirs], the offenders shall be punished by 80 strokes of beating with the heavy stick. If wives are over 50 years of age and have no sons, the eldest son of a concubine may be designated. If the eldest son is not designated, the punishment shall be the same.

[2] If persons of the same lineage are adopted as sons, and [the adopted sons] forsake [the adoptive parents] while the adoptive parents have no sons, they shall be punished by 100 strokes of beating with the heavy stick, and they shall be returned to the control of the adoptive parents. If [the adoptive parents] have their natural sons and [the adopted sons'] natural parents have no other son, [the adopted sons] may return [to their natural parents] if they wish to do so.

[3] If persons of different surnames are adopted and thereby lineage sys-

tems are disrupted, the penalty shall be 60 strokes of beating with the heavy stick. For those who give their sons to families with different surnames as heirs, the punishment shall be the same. Their sons shall be returned to their own lineages.

[4] Nevertheless, abandoned children of 3 years of age or younger, even though they are of different surnames, may still be adopted, and they shall immediately take the adopters' surnames.

[5] When heirs are designated, even though those who are designated are from the same lineages, if the senior or junior orders are violated [*zun-bei shixu*], the punishment shall also be the same. The [adopted] sons shall also be returned to their lineages, and those who ought to succeed shall be designated.

[6] If commoners' families raise slaves, the penalty shall be 100 strokes of beating with the heavy stick. [The slaves] shall be immediately released and returned to the status of honorable people [*liang*].

*Article 85 Taking Stray Children* [Shouliu mishi zinü]

[1] In all cases where [persons] take stray children of other families and do not send them to the authorities but sell them as slaves, they shall be punished by 100 strokes of beating with the heavy stick and penal servitude for three years. If [they sell them] as wives, concubines, sons, or sons' sons, they shall be punished by 90 strokes of beating with the heavy stick and penal servitude for two and one-half years. If they get stray slaves and sell them, the penalty shall be reduced one degree from that for [selling] honorable people. Those who are sold shall not be punished and shall be returned to their relatives for reunion.

[2] If they take runaway children and sell them as slaves, they shall be punished by 90 strokes of beating with the heavy stick and penal servitude for two and one-half years. If [they sell them] as wives, concubines, sons, or sons' sons, they shall be punished by 80 strokes of beating with the heavy stick and penal servitude for two years. If they get runaway slaves and sell them, in each case the penalty shall be reduced one degree from that for [selling] honorable people. The penalty for those runaway persons who are sold shall be reduced one degree. If the penalties for the running away are heavier, then they shall be punished according to the heavier penalties.

[3] If they take [the stray persons] as their own slaves, wives, concubines, sons, or sons' sons, the punishment shall be the same. If they hide them in their homes, they shall all be punished by 80 strokes of beating with the heavy stick.

[4] If the buyers or brokers know the circumstances, the penalty for them shall be reduced one degree from that for offenders. The money paid shall be recovered by the government. If they do not know the circumstances,