

## Notes on the Inscription of the MUNIU YI 牧牛匜

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The vessel, it is used to be called ZHEN YI 僎匜, that is one of the vessels excavated in Dongjia 董家 village Jishan 岐山 county Shanxi 陝西 province, is paid attention in view of legislation in XiZhou 西周 period. Investigating that inscription again, however, I think the former interpretations about this contain many problems. Especially, I think it is fault that they think who made this vessel is the one called ZHEN 僎, and he was blame because he accused his superior officer. In this article, I guess that who made this vessel is MUNIU 牧牛 and he was blame for his appeal force with his commands. The punishment for him was decided a fine, notwithstanding his such act, after twice reduction of penalty. This was the decision that had big advantages for both side, MUNIU and XIZHOU Dynasty. This inscription is a rare historical source worthy to investigate the real judicial circumstance in XIZHOU period, and I guess we can find how XIZHOU Dynasty looked MUNIU through it.