

Between 838 and 847 the Japanese monk Ennin traveled across Tang China. He kept a diary recording his travels and depicting the scenes he encountered at sea, on mountains, on the road, and in urban as well as rural settings in southeast and central Tang China. Even though not a resident himself, his diary provides a glimpse into the lives of East Asian and other resident minorities who had settled in the capital, in port cities, or in Buddhist centers in more provincial locations as merchants, soldiers, civil servants, or monks. The selected passage describes his stay at a Korean monastery in coastal Shandong (northern China) and provides insight into the lives of resident as well as traveling foreigners in Tang China.

The passage is taken from

*Ennin's Diary; The Record of a Pilgrimage to China in Search of the Law*. New York: Ronald Press Co, 1955. Edwin Reischauer, trans.

Other recommended reading:

Abramson, Marc Samuel. *EthnicIdentity in Tang China*. Encounters with Asia. Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 2008.