



Divination and Power: A Multi-regional View of the Development of Oracle Bone Divination in Early China

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Table 3: Sites with oracle bones mentioned in the text with taxon of bone (when known) and published frequency. Actual frequency at the site may be considerably more than listed. X indicates presence when frequency is not listed and individual bones are not discussed.

Era codes: N= Neolithic; C=Chalcolithic; EBA=Early Bronze Age; ELBA=Early Late Bronze Age; EMBA=Early Middle Bronze Age; MBA=Middle Bronze Age; LBA=Late Bronze Age; LLBA=Late Late Bronze Age; LMBA=Late Middle Bronze Age

Site	Era	Culture Phase	Approx. Date BC	OB Tot.	Bone OB Tot.	Shell OB Tot.	Turtle	Cattle	Pig	Deer	Sheep	Unid. / Other Mam.	Fish	Pretreated Bones	Multi-stage pretreat.	Reference	Notes
Andi	LM BA	Yinxu II-III	1250-1125	X	0	0		X						X	0	SSKY 1993	
Beicun	EM BA	Early Shang	1600-1300	Many	0	0		X						X	0	SSKYSZS & BDKSZS 1988	
Beicun	LM BA	Late Shang	1300-1000	Many	0	0		X						X	0	SSKYSZS & BDKSZS 1988	
Beiyingtai	EM BA	Early Shang	1600-1400	7	7	0		1	1			5		0	0	HSWY et al. 2001	
Beiyinyang-ying	LM BA	Late Shang	1250-1050	12	5	7	7	5						X	0	NB 1993	
Caoyuan-zhuang	C	Longshan	3000-2000	2	2	0		1	1					2	?	Lee 1981a	No #. >2 Cattle skull frag.
Caoyuan-zhuang	LM BA	Late Shang	1300-1000	1	1	Many	Many	1						2		Lee 1981a	Many turtle frag.
Chengziya	C	Longshan	3000-2000	6	6	0		4		1		1		3		Lee 1981a	
Chengziya	LM BA	Late Shang	1300-1000	10	10	0		10						X		Lee 1981a	Some cattle scap. pretreat.
Dachangshan	C	Longshan	3000-2000	4	4	0		3		1				0	0	Lee 1981a	
Dahezhuang	C	Qijia	2050-1750	1	1	0					1			0	0	ZKKYGG 1974	
Dashanqian	EBA	Lower Xiajiadian	2000-1500	1	1	0						1		1	0	ZSKY et al. 1998	"Several" lg. mammal scap. OB
Daxinzhuang	EM BA		1425-1300	Many	0	0			X	X	X			0	0	SDL 1995	
Daxinzhuang	LM BA		1300-1250	Many	0	0		X		X	X			X	0	SDL 1995	

Daxinzhuang	LM BA		1250-1200	Many	0	0	X	Most						X	X	SDL 1995	
Daxinzhuang	LM BA		1200-1125	Many	0	0	X	Most						X	X	SDL 1995	
Daxinzhuang	LM BA		1125-1050	Many	0	0	Most	X						X	X	SDL 1995	
Daxinzhuang	LM BA	Yinxu I-IV	1425-1050	80	0	0	X	X	X	X	X			X	X	SDL 1995	Tot. for phases I-V. (Not separate in SDL 1995)
Donghuishan	EBA	Siba	1900-1500	1	1	0					1			0	0	GSKY & JDK 1995	"A few" OB
Dongxiaifeng	EBA	Erlitou I	1900-1700	2	2	0			2					0	0	ZSKY et al. 1988	
Dongxiaifeng	EBA	Erlitou II	1700-1610	2	2	0			2					0	0	ZSKY et al. 1989	
Dongxiaifeng	EBA	Erlitou III	1610-1550	39	39	0		9	20		10			9	0	ZSKY et al. 1990	Cattle scap. Pretreat. Other scap. not.
Dongxiaifeng	EM BA	Erlitou IV	1550-1450	57	57	0		X	40	X	X		17	X	0	ZSKY et al. 1991	Cattle scap. Pretreat. Other scap. not.
Dongxiaifeng	EM BA	Erligang	1500-1300	39	39	0		9	22		8			9	0	ZSKY et al. 1992	Cattle scap. Pretreat. Other scap. not.
Dongxianxian	ELB A	Western Zhou	1050-771	1	1	0							1	1	1	HSWY 2002	
Dongyin	EM BA	Upper Erligang	1425-1300	4	4	0		4						4	0	SSKY & XXB 2001	
Erlitou	EBA	Erlitou I	1900-1700	X	0	0		X	X		X			0	0	ZSKY 1999: 68	
Erlitou	EBA	Erlitou II	1700-1610	X	0	0		X	X		X			0	0	ZSKY 1999: 121	
Erlitou	EBA	Erlitou III	1610-1550	Many	0	0		X	X		X			0	0	ZSKY 1999: 238	
Erlitou	EM BA	Erlitou IV	1550-1450	Many	0	0		X	X		X			0	0	ZSKY 1999: 332	
Erlitou	EM BA	Lower Erligang	1510-1425	Few	X	0								0	0	ZSKY 1999: 365	
Fangchijie	LM BA	Sanxing- dui	1250-1150	5	0	5		5						5	0	CSBK & CSWKY 2003	

Fucheng	EM BA	Baijia- zhuang	1400- 1250	4	4	0		3			1			4	0	Yuan & Qin 2000	
Fuhegoumen	N	Fuhe	3500- 3150	2	2	0				1	1			0	0	ZSKYNG 1964	
Fujiamen	N			1	1	0					1			0		Venture 2002	
Gejiazhuang	EM BA	Upper Erligang	1400- 1300	2	2	0		2						2	0	HSWY 2000	
Gejiazhuang	LM BA	Yinxu I-II	1425- 1200	3	3	0		3						3	2	HSWY 2000	
Huanweihui Qingniang- gongyu	EM BA	Lower Erligang	1510- 1425	Many	0	0								0	0	HSWY 1993c	"Many" OB. Pig, cattle, deer, sheep scap.
Huimin Middle School	EM BA	Lower Erligang	1510- 1425	1	1	0		1						0	0	HSWY 1993a	
Jiangoucun	C	Longshan	3000- 2000	2	2	0					2			0	0	Lee 1981a	
Jiangoucun	EM BA	Late Shang	1300- 1200	4	3	1	1	1				2		4	?	Lee 1981a	Dog scap.
Kangjia	C	Longshan	2830- 2590	20	20	0			X	X	X	20		0	0	SSKYKK 1988, 1992	1992 ref. = "mostly deer, pig, and sheep" (p. 22).
Lewangmiao	EBA	Lower Xiajiadian	2000- 1500	1	1	0				1				1	0	Lee 1981b	
Lijiaya	LM BA	Yinxu II	1250- 1200	2	2	0						2		2	0	Zhang & Lu 1988	
Liulihe	ELB A	Western Zhou	1050-771	Many	0	Many	Many							All	X	LK 1997	"Dozens" of OB. 3 with characters.
Luoyang	ELB A	Western Zhou	1050-771	13	13	0		13						13	13	LSWG 1989	
Mingong Rd. East	EM BA	Lower Erligang	1510- 1425	1	1	0		1						1	0	ZSWKY 2002	
Mingong Rd. East	EM BA	Upper Erligang	1425- 1300	2	2	0		2						2	0	ZSWKY 2002	
Mingong Rd. East	LM BA	People's Park Phase	1300- 1200	2	0	2	2							2	2	ZSWKY 2002	
Nanguanwai	EBA	Luoda- miao	1680- 1510	2	1	1	1	1						1	0	HSWKY 2001	
Nanguanwai	EM BA	Lower Erligang	1510- 1425	106	96	10	10	56	7		33			56	0	HSWKY 2001	

Nanguanwai	EM BA	Upper Erligang	1425- 1300	111	74	37	37	X	X	X	X	74	Many	0	HSWKY 2001	All turtle plast. frags pretreated. Many mammal scap. also.	
Nanshangeng	EBA	Lower Xiajiadian	2000- 1500	7	7	0						7	7	0	Lee 1981b		
Panlongcheng	EM BA	Upper Erligang	1400- 1300	2	2	0		2					2	0	HSWKY 2001		
People's Park	LM BA	People's Park Phase	1300- 1200	6	2	4	4	2					6	6	HSWKY 2001	Double divination hollows	
Qijiacun	ELB A	Western Zhou	1050-771	Many	0	Many	Many						All	X	Li Ling 2000b		
Quliang	EBA	Erlitou	1900- 1500	2	2	0						2	0	0	BDKWX 2003		
Quliang	EM BA	Shang	1600- 1050	1	1	0						1	1	0	BDKWX 2003		
Shangpo	C	Longshan	3000- 2000	1	1	0					1		0	0	HSWKY et al. 2004		
Shaocai	EBA	Erlitou II	1700- 1610	2	2	0		2					0	0	HSWY 1993b		
Shaocai	EBA	Erlitou III	1610- 1550	6	6	0		4			2		4	0	HSWY 1993b		
Shaocai	EM BA	Erlitou IV	1550- 1450	11	11	0		8			3		8	0	HSWY 1993b		
Shaocai	EM BA	Erligang	1500- 1300	8	8	0		8		X			8	0	HSWY 1993b		
Shijia	EBA	Yueshi	2000- 1600	2	2	0					2		0	0	ZSW et al. 1997		
Taikoucun	C	Longshan	3000- 2000	1	1	0		1					0	0	Lee 1981a		
Taixi	EM BA	Middle Shang	1400- 1200	494	403	91	91	X	X			403	494	0	HSWY 1985; Li & Tang 1982		
Taosi	C	Longshan	3000- 2000	4	4	0			4				0	0	ZSKYS & SLXW 2003		
Xiajiadian	EBA	Lower Xiajiadian	2000- 1500	1	1	0						1	1	0	Lee 1981b		
Xianglushi	EM BA	Early Shang	1675- 1500	3	0	3	3						3	3	HSQGK 1995		
Xianglushi	LM BA	Late Shang	1300- 1100	13	0	12	12						1	13	0	HSQGK 1995	

Xianglushi	LBA	Western Zhou	1100-1000	24	0	5	5					19	19	0	HSQ GK 1995	
Xiaoshuang-qiao	EM BA	Baijia-zhuang	1400-1250	1	1	0				1			0	0	HSWKY et al. 1996	One OB in report.
Xiaozhao	EBA	Erlitou	1900-1500	1	1	0				1			0	0	ZSKYSG 2001	Sheep OR deer bone.
Xiapanwang	C	Longshan	2660-2370	1	1	0			1				0	0	Lee 1981a	
Xiawanggang	N	Yangshao ?	5000-3000 or 3000-2000	1	1	0							0	0	HSWY and CLGBKHF 1989	
Xiawanggang	C	Longshan	3000-2000	3	3	0			1		2		0	0	HSWY & CLGBKHF 1989: 263	
Xiawanggang	EBA	Erlitou	1900-1500	1	1	0			1				0	0	HSWY & CLGBKHF 1989: 306	
Xiawanggang	LBA	Western Zhou	1050-771	6	1	5	5		1				6	2	HSWY & CLGBKHF 1989: 331	
Xiapanwang	EM BA	Early Shang	1600-1400	1	1	0			1				1	0	Lee 1981a	
Xinzhongji	C	Longshan	3000-2000	1	1	0			1				1		Lee 1981a	
Yangbai	C	Longshan	2300-1700	1	1	0			1				0	0	SDLKZ et al. 1997	
Yangtouwa	C		3000-2000	1	1	0				1			1	0	Lee 1981a	
Yanshi Shangcheng	EM BA	Early Shang	1600-1400	Some	0	0		X					X	0	ZSKYHDE GD 1995, 1999	"Many" OB. Mostly non-pretreated sheep scap. Some pretreated cattle scap.
Yinjiacheng	LM BA	Late Shang	1250-1050	10	9	1	1	8				1	10	X	SDLKJ 1990	
Yinxu	LM BA	Late Shang	1250-1050	Many	Many	Many	Many	Many					Many	Many		
Yuanqu Gucheng	EBA	Erlitou	1900-1500	6	6	0			1	1			4	0	ZLBK et al. 1996; ZLBK & SSKY 1997a	

Yuanqu Gucheng	EM BA	Lower Erligang	1510-1425	8	8	0		3	2		1	2		3	0	ZLBK et al. 1996; ZLBK & SSKY 1997a, 1997b	
Yuanqu Gucheng	EM BA	Upper Erligang	1425-1300	15	14	1	1	2	1		1	10		3	0	ZLBK et al. 1996; ZLBK & SSKY 1997a, 1997b	
Zhaizita	N	Ashan	3000-2500	3	3	0						3		0	0	NWKY 1997	
Zhengzhou	EBA	Luoda-miao	1680-1510	Many	0	0		X	X		X			0	0	HSWKY 2001	Many OB. Pig, cattle, sheep scap.
Zhengzhou	EM BA	Lower Erligang	1510-1425	3	3	0		3	X	X	X	X		3	0	HSWKY 2001, 2003	Many OB. Pig, cattle, deer, & sheep scap. Some cattle bones pretreated.
Zhengzhou	EM BA	Upper Erligang	1425-1300	2	2	0		2						1	0	HSWYG 1959	Many OB. Pig, cattle, deer, sheep scap. Some cattle bones pretreated.
Zhongba	LM BA	Sanxing-dui	1300-1100	12	0	12	12							0	0	Flad 2004	
Zhongba	ELB A	Wazhadi	1100-500	48	0	48	48							Many	X	Flad 2004	
Zhongba	LLB A	Qingyang-gong	500-200	123	0	123	123							Most	X	Flad 2004	
Zhukaigou	EBA	Erlitou	1825-1375	51	51	0		32	4	11	2	2		X	0	Huang Yunping 1996	Simple pretreat.
Zhumazui	EM BA	Yinxu I-II	1425-1200	X	0	0						X		X	0	BDKSZ & SSKY 2000	