The handle http://hdl.handle.net/1887/54948 holds various files of this Leiden University dissertation.

**Author:** Ma, Y.
**Title:** Isotopic analysis of dietary patterns in northern China from the Proto-Shang Period to the Qin Dynasty
**Issue Date:** 2017-11-09
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I would like to extend my sincere gratitude to all those who helped me during my Ph.D. research. My deepest gratitude goes first and foremost to Professor Jean-Jacques Hublin for giving me the opportunity to work at the world famous Department of Human Evolution at the Max Planck Institute for Evolutionary Anthropology. Without his support, I would never have been able to finish this thesis. Next, I am deeply grateful to my excellent supervisor Professor Michael P. Richards, for all of his instructive advice and suggestions that he gave me when I became lost or did not understand how to do things. He is an amazingly talented supervisor, and he has taught me a lot during this process. Thank you! You are such an inspiration to me.

I would like to express my heartfelt gratitude to Professor Wang Changsui and Professor Hu Yaowu from the University of Chinese Academy of Sciences, who have instructed and helped me so much these past years. They have treated just like a family member, and I am honored to have had the chances that they have provided for me! They have pushed me to think and to be a better researcher. I would also like to thank Professor Song Guoding and Mr. Zhang Jianlin for helping to obtain the samples that I studied in this thesis. I owe a debt of gratitude to all the members of my “Archaeological Science” group and to all of the department staff who provided me with various help both in research and in life during my stay in Leipzig. Specifically, I would like to thank Silke Streiber for helping me with all of my forms and files in Leipzig.

Lastly, I thank my wonderful family for their love and great confidence in me all through these years. I dedicate this thesis to my parents Zhongji Ma and Fengxian Tong; I could not have finished this journey without your support!!! It has taken so long, but it has been such an important and valuable experience for me. Again, I feel very grateful to have had all of you that have guided and walked with me on this pathway.

Ying Ma

Department of Human Evolution
Max Planck Institute for Evolutionary Anthropology
CURRICULUM VITAE

Ying Ma
21.01.1983 in Xi’an, China

University Education:
--Department of Archaeology, Northwest University, Xi’an, China, 2001-2005
  Degree: Bachelor
--Department of Archaeology and Anthropology, University of the Chinese Academy of Sciences, Beijing, China, 2005-2008
  Degree: Master

Practices Experience:
--Participation in repairing and maintaining the Traditional decorative materials in wooden architecture (Ming Dynasty Bell Tower in Xi’an, Shannxi Province), August 2004
--Investigation of the current conditions and the diseases of Mogao Grottoes in Dunhuang, Gansu Province, September – October 2004
Excavation at Shenmingpu Site, Xichuan, Henan Provence, November 2007

PhD research:
-conducted at the Department of Human Evolution, Max-Planck Institute for Evolutionary Anthropology, Leipzig, Germany