

GARRY NEILL KENNEDY

八 旗

中国历史画

THE EIGHT BANNERS

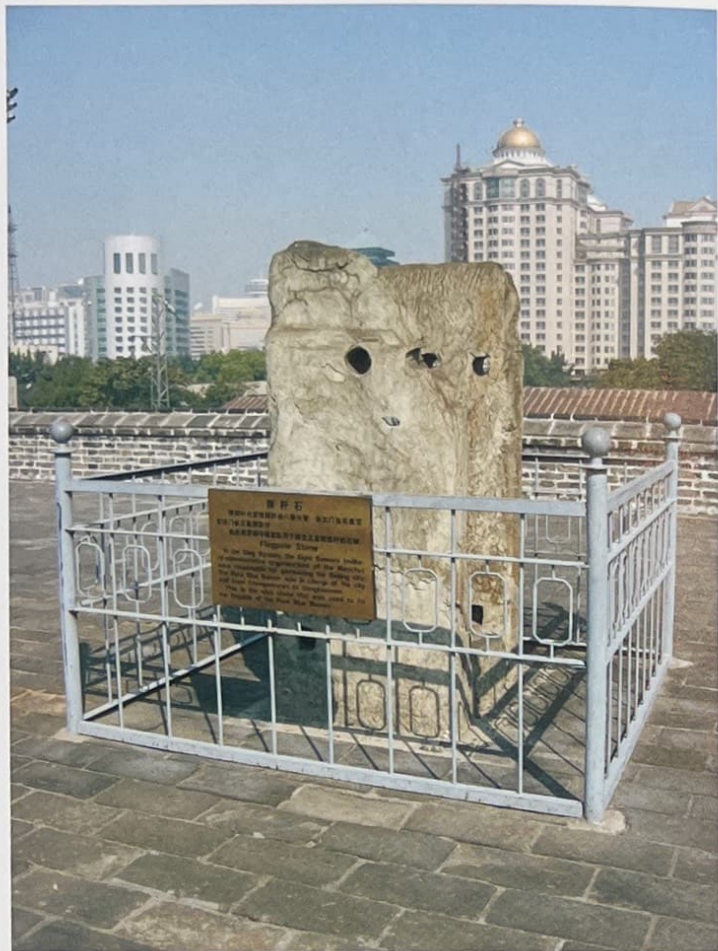
A CHINESE HISTORY PAINTING

酱艺术中心 **PICKLED ART CENTRE**

北京市朝阳区来广营东路费家村1号香格里拉公社 1# Feijiacun, Laiguangyingdonglu, Chaoyang District, Beijing

Tel: 010-84563727, Fax: 010-84701783 E-mail: heyings@pickleart.com, <http://www.pickleart.com>

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八旗

“八旗”是17世纪东北满族部落征服和统治中原使用的军事组织的名称。满族的领导者努尔哈赤（1559-1626）于1601年创立了四旗，分别用黄、红、白、蓝四种颜色的旗帜加以区分，即黄旗、红旗、白旗、蓝旗。旗的基本单位是牛录，每300人为一牛录。1615年又增加了四旗。新增的四旗是在原来四旗颜色的基础上镶以红边，红色镶以白，即镶黄、镶红、镶白、镶蓝旗。除了少数的皇子，努尔哈赤所有的追随者都被编入了八旗。八旗除了行使军事职能外，同时也具有行政、募兵、税收、人口管理等职能。

THE EIGHT BANNERS

The Eight Banners was the name given to the military organization used by the tribes of Manchuria to conquer and control China in the 17th century (beginning the Qing Dynasty). The *banner system* was developed by the Manchu leader Nurhachi (1559 - 1626) who in 1601 organized his warriors into four companies of 300 men each. *The companies were distinguished by banners of different colours - yellow, red, white and blue. In 1615 four more banners were added, using the same colours bordered in red, the red banner being bordered in white.* All of Nurhachi's follower's, with the exception of a few imperial princes, were organized into the *banner system*, which also served an administrative function. Taxation, conscription, and registration of the population were carried out through the banner organization.

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