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3					
4	1485				
5		1484			
6			2502		
7				1061	
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Grus

viplo White-naped crane 11

Otus japonicus

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Pigmy owl *Glaucidium brodiei*

pardalotum

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14

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16

8		188
9	60	
10	1428	
11	191	
12	5315	
13	146	
14	152	
15		188
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17		188
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25 824

26 <http://niaolei.org.cn>

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89~102

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Ghost-chariot Bird

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Abstract Legends of Nine-headed Bird had been known in China since ancient time. In popular imagination, it was seen as an evil bird with nine heads upon a single body. It was commonly called Ghost-chariot Bird . This article will not explore the cultural meaning of the creature. Through analyzing various accounts, this article has concluded that the Ghost-chariot Bird is actually a species of owl. Due to its nocturnal habits, it was seldom seen in real life, only its unusual screeches had been heard. After thousands of years of sights-unseen, its description had been altered beyond recognition.

Key words Ghost-chariot Bird, Nine-headed Bird,