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## Supplemental Material

- **Table S1.** The chemical composition of the dissolved load of rivers in the Xining and Linxia Basins.
- **Table S2.** <sup>87</sup>Sr/<sup>86</sup>Sr ratios of acetic acid leachates of various sediments in the Xining and Qaidam Basins.
- Table S3. <sup>87</sup>Sr/<sup>86</sup>Sr ratios of acetic acid leachates of carbonate bedrocks and pebbles in the NE Tibetan Plateau.
- **Table S4.** <sup>87</sup>Sr/<sup>86</sup>Sr ratios of carbonate-free fraction of river/lake sediments in the Xining and Qaidam Basins.
- **Table S5.** <sup>87</sup>Sr/<sup>86</sup>Sr ratios of water and acetic acid leachates of the lower HLD section sediments in the Linxia Basin.
- **Table S6.** <sup>87</sup>Sr/<sup>86</sup>Sr ratios of water and acetic acid leachates of the XJ section sediments in the Xining Basin.
- **Table S7.** <sup>87</sup>Sr/<sup>86</sup>Sr ratios of water and acetic acid leachates of the GJS section sediments in the Xining Basin.
- **Table S8.** <sup>87</sup>Sr/<sup>86</sup>Sr ratios of acetic acid leachates of the LMS section sediments in the Tianshui Basin.
- **Table S9.** Nd isotopes of carbonate-free sediments of the GJS section in the Xining Basin.
- **Table S10.** <sup>87</sup>Sr/<sup>86</sup>Sr distribution of various waters in North China and Mongolia.
- **Table S11.** 87Sr/86Sr distribution of water-soluble salts in surface sediments in North China.
- **Table S12.** <sup>87</sup>Sr/<sup>86</sup>Sr distribution of carbonates in surface sediments and carbonate bedrocks in North China.
- **Table S13.** <sup>87</sup>Sr/<sup>86</sup>Sr distribution of decarbonated fraction (silicate) of surface sediments in North China and Mongolia.
- Table S14. AFT central age distribution of bedrock around the Qilian Shan and adjacent regions.
- **Table S15.** Detrital AFT P1 age and lag time for Cenozoic sediments in the basins surrounding the Qilian Shan.
- **Table S16.** 87Sr/86Sr distribution of various waters around the Tibetan Plateau.