1379 On the nineteenth day of the first month (February 7), Chu Yu-tun is born in Feng-yang, Anhwei province, as the first son of the Prince of Chou, Chu Su (1361–1425) and his consort, a daughter of Feng Sheng (1330–1395).

1381 Chu Su is ordered to proceed to his fief at Kaifeng.

1389 When Chu Su leaves Kaifeng for Feng-yang without authorization, he is exiled to Yünnan province but actually detained in Nanking, and Chu Yu-tun is put in charge of his fief.

1391 In the third month, Chu Yu-tun is formally designated as heir-apparent to the Prince of Chou. In the twelfth month Chu Su is allowed to return to Kaifeng.

1395 On the third day of the third month, Chu Yu-tun is married to the daughter of Lü Kuei. Later, he and other young princes receive personal instruction from the emperor.

1396 In the second month Chu Yu-tun leads troops to Pei-p’ing.

1398 The emperor dies and is succeeded as emperor by his grandson Chu Yün-wen. In the sixth month, accused of high treason by his second son Yu-hsün, Chu Su and members of his household are arrested by imperial troops and transported to Nanking. Chu Yu-tun accepts the blame and Chu Su and Chu Yu-tun are banished to Yünnan province.

1402 Chu Su is recalled to Nanking and is later freed by Chu Ti, the new emperor. In the ninth month, Chu Yu-tun returns to Nanking and is praised by the emperor for his filial piety.

1403 In the first month Chu Su is reenfeoffed as the Prince of Chou, and Chu Yu-hsün is banished to Ta-li in Yünnan province. In the fourth month, Chu Su and Chu Yu-tun return to Kaifeng.

1404 Chu Yu-tun’s first play, Ch’en-kou-yüeh, is completed.

1406 The play Ch’ing-shuo-t’ang is completed.

1408 The plays Hsiao-t’ao-hung and Te tsou-yü are completed.

1409 The play Ch’ü-chiang-ch’ih is completed.

1416 The play I-yung tz’u-chin is completed.

1420 After repeated accusations that he plans to rebel, Chu Su is ordered to proceed to the capital.

1421 In the second month, Chu Su goes to Court and confesses to his crimes but is pardoned by Chu Ti, who, however, relieves him of his military command.

1422 The play Wu chen-ju is completed. Chu Yu-hsün is allowed to return to Kaifeng.

1425 Chu Su dies. On the twenty-fifth day of the eleventh month (January 3, 1426), Chu Yu-tun in enfeoffed as the Prince of Chou.
1428  Chu Yu-hsün and Chu Yu-hsi are reduced to the status of commoner and detained in Peking.
1429  The play P'an-t'ao-hui is completed.
1430  The play Mu-tan-hsien is completed.
1431  The plays T'ao-yüan-ch'ing and Mu-tan-p'in are completed.
1432  The plays Pa-hsien ch'ing-shou and T'a-hsüeh hsün-mei are completed.
1433  The plays Fu-lo-ch'ang, Hsien-kuan ch'ing-hui, T'uan-yüan meng, Hsiang-nang-yüan, Pao-tzu ho-shang, Chang-i su-ts'ai, and Ch'ang Ch'un-shou are completed.
1434  The plays Chi-mu ta-hsien, Mu-tan-yüan, and Shih-ch'ang-sheng are completed.
1435  The play Shen-hsien-hui is completed.
1439  The plays Ling-chih ch'ing-shou and Hai-t'ang-hsien are completed

On the twenty-seventh day of the fifth month (July 8), Chu Yu-tun dies.