

the entire length of this lacustrine region; it does not however possess more than an approximate value, and is designed to afford only a general idea of the relief of the surface.

Viewed from the culminating-point of the dune, Jolsis-kakmasi, the deep bay on the east side of the Gölme-käti, lay S 80° W. This was the only part of that lake that was visible to us, because just there the intervening sand was low, at all events considerably lower than our point of observation; for not only is each chain of dunes subject to great variation as regards its ground-plan, it also varies greatly in its altitude. Towards the south stretched an illimitable »ocean» of sand; but the established characteristics of the dune-architecture persisted unchanged to an almost infinite distance. Of the bajirs we could of course see only those which were close under our feet, those farther away being masked by the sand. On the other hand the steep leeward flanks stood out with especial distinctness, appearing, with the sun behind them, like straight lines of impressive blackness. West of each such frowning wall we concluded there was a bajir, a valley or trough, between two vast accumulations of sand. And even in the two *daschis* which lay immediately beneath our feet, we recognised again two or three features which we had observed in the Sejt-köl, the Gölme-käti, and the Karaunelik-köl. They too, like these latter, each consisted of two basins, and if they were filled with water they would, like them, possess a *bolto* or »connecting sound».

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