

In the space of about one hundred and twenty years no less than thirty descendants or kinsmen of Chagatai are counted to have occupied his throne, and indeed revolutions, depositions, murders, and usurpations seem to have succeeded each other with a frequency unusual even in Asiatic governments.<sup>1</sup>

At an early date however in the history of the dynasty, the claims of Kaidu to the Supreme Kaanship, of which Kublai had effective possession, seem to have led to a partition of the Chagatai territory. For Kaidu, who was of the lineage of Okkodai,<sup>2</sup> not of Chagatai, whilst claiming in the higher character of Supreme Khakan to exercise superiority over the apanage of Chagatai and to nominate its proper khans, held also under his own immediate sway a large tract, the greater part of which belonged apparently to the former apanage as originally constituted. It is not very clear what were the limits between Kaidu's territory and that of the Chagatai Khans, and indeed the two must have been somewhat interlocked, for Kaidu and Borak Khan of Chagatai at one time exercised a sort of joint sovereignty in the cities of Bokhara and Samarkand. But it may be gathered that Kaidu's dominions included Kashgar and Yarkand, and all the cities bordering the south side of the Thian Shan as far east as Karakhoja, as well as the valley of the Talas river, and all the country north of the Thian Than from Lake Balkash eastward to the Chagan Nur, and in the further north between the Upper Yenisei and the Irtish.<sup>3</sup> Khotan appears to have belonged to the Great Kaan, but Borak Kaan got possession of it in the beginning of his reign, and I do not know if it was recovered by Kublai,<sup>4</sup> or if it passed into the hands of Kaidu.

During a great part of Kaidu's struggles he found a staunch ally in Dua the son of Borak, whom he had set upon the throne of Chagatai in 1272.<sup>5</sup> After Kaidu's death in 1301, his son and successor Shabar joined with Dua in making submission to Timur the successor of Kublai; but before long, the two former princes having quarrelled, Dua seized the territory of Shabar, and thus substantially reunited the whole of the original apanage of Chagatai, as it had been before the schism of Kaidu.<sup>6</sup>

This state of things does not appear however to have endured long; for

<sup>1</sup> See for example at p. 189 *supra*, where some obscure points in the chronology of those kings have already been discussed.

<sup>2</sup> He was son of Kashi, son of Okkodai.

<sup>3</sup> See *D'Ohsson*, ii, 361, 450-2, 516; iii, 427; *Notices et Extraits*, xiv, 224; *Polo* in *Pauthier's* ed. and notes, pp. 137, 163, 241, 253, 716 *et seqq.*, also the version of a Chinese sketch of Asia under the Mongols on the Map at the end of that work. Khondemir appears to have written the History of Kaidu, which would I presume throw exacter light upon the limits of his dominions. But this does not seem to have been translated (see *Defrémery*, *op. cit.*, p. 267).

<sup>4</sup> *Defrémery*, *op. cit.*, p. 250. Marco says of Khotan, "Ils sont au grand Kaan" (*Pauthier*, 143).

<sup>5</sup> So *D'Ohsson*. Khondemir puts Dua's accession in 1291, but notices that other accounts gave a different statement (*Defrémery*, p. 265).

<sup>6</sup> *D'Ohsson*, ii, 518 *seq.*