

How long they remained Christians is not known. In the first years of the 17th cent., Ricci still heard of Christians living outside of the Great Wall. Most of them probably were Öngüt (see «Giorge» and «Ung»), but perhaps some were the direct descendants of the Christian Alans of Polo and Marignolli.

14. ALANIE

alanai TA¹*alania* L, TA³, Z*alanie* F

In Mongol times, the true land of the Alans was in the Eastern Caucasus, but the name was often extended to a region north-west of the Caspian Sea (see «Alains»). In Hethum, in the chapter on Georgia, «Alanie» is mentioned as the name of the Caucasian Alburz (*Hist. des Crois.*, Arm., II, 129, 268). Hethum's editors are mistaken when they also see the name of the Alans («a nation of Turkish origin»!) in their author's «Aloen», which in fact represents the Caucasian Albania (Alvan > Ayvan); cf. *ibid.* II, 128, 139, 268, 276, 593, 628. On Albania (Pers. Ran and Aran, Arab. Arrān, «Aran» of Jourdain Cathala, ed. CORDIER, 93), cf. MARQUART, *Ērānšahr*, 116-119. On Fra Mauro's map, «Alana» (not «Alano» as in HALLBERG, 14) is marked as a town far to the north-east of the Caspian Sea; it seems probable that «Alanie» is here meant, but with a wrong location. The «Alania» of the Catalan Map, although also located north of the Caucasus, is more in agreement with the accounts of Plan Carpine and Rubrouck.

15. ALAODIN

alaodim LT, VA*alaodin* F, L*alaodyn* L*alaudin* VB*aloadan* P*aloadin* FA, FB; R*alodim* VA*alodin* TA³, VA*aloodyn* TA¹*laudin* V

‘Alā’u-’d-Dīn Muḥammad, the seventh Grand Master of the Alamūt «Assassins», born in 1212, had succeeded his father in November 1221 (BROWNE, *Lit. Hist. of Persia*, II, 207; not «1220» as in II, 456); but he was not the last Grand Master. Murdered in 1255, during the Mongol campaign against him, he was succeeded by his son Ruknu-’d-Dīn Ḥuršāh; it was the latter who surrendered to the Mongols in 1256. Soon after he was assassinated, probably when he was being sent from Persia to Mongka. Cf. *Oh*, III, 174-201; *Y*, I, 146; *Br*, I, 114, 116, 135, 136. The notice on «‘Alā’al-Dīn Muḥammed b. Hasan» in *EI* says he was born in «609 (1210)» and succeeded in «618 (1220)»; these equivalences are errors for 1212 and 1221 respectively.