

adopts in the text. «Bastra» is also the form which has been accepted in *RR*, 25, and in *B*¹, 438 (though with some doubt in favour of «Bascra»). But there is no reason to adopt «Bastra» instead of «Bascra» when YULE, RICCI and ROSS, and BENEDETTO retain «Nescradin» (*q. v.*); in both cases, the apparent -sc- would answer to the same letter ص *ś*. As a matter of fact, I think we should read «Nesoradin» (confirmed by the Chinese transcriptions) and «Basora». «Bassora» occurs in *LT*, and all the forms in mediaeval maps show an *a-* (<*o-*) before -*ra*, so that the form of the name used by Polo must not have ended in -*scra* or -*stra* (cf. HALLBERG, 71; according to *Y*¹, iv, 309, the form on the Catalan Map is not «Bassara», but «Bassora»). The Portuguese form of the name is «Baçora», and Italians even now use «Bassora». For various citations of the place and the name, cf. YULE, *Hobson-Jobson*², s. v. «Balsora, Bussora»; *Fe*, 693; DAMES, *Barbosa*, I, 88. The isolated form «Balsara» in RAMUSIO may not have been derived from a misreading of his mss., as a similar form «Balsera» was used before him by N. Conti and Fra Mauro. RAMUSIO perhaps «edited» the name according to a then current form among Italian travellers and geographers; but I doubt that this «Ba!sara», «Balsera», «Balsora», is due to a metathesis of Al-Baśra, as is supposed by DAMES.

Baśra is referred to in 1225 by Chao Ju-kua as 彌斯羅 *Pi-ssū-lo* (cf. *HR*, 117, 122, 137-138); the transcription is more regular than it is in the modern pronunciation.

64. BATU

bacchia TA³
bachim G
bachui LT, VA, V
bacui F, L

bacuy FA, FB
barchia (?) TA¹
bath S
bathyn R

batin P, VL
bote VB
 Chapter 220
patu F, TA¹, Z, L

This is a correction. In one passage, the readings of the mss. would seem to point to «Batui» (the «Bacui» of F is a usual clerical error; R's «Bathyn» comes from a *Bathin misread from *Bathui; there is no Z reading here). In the second case, the «Patu» of F and Z is almost certainly altered from *Batu (see «Apusca» for an analogous case, and cf. in F «Jacopit» for «Jacobit» [*B*, 18, 23]), but no ms. gives this last form. On the anomaly of the double form «Batui» and «*Batu», see «Ulau». Plan Carpine, whose nomenclature shows Slavonic influences, writes «Bati» (*Wy*, 39 and *passim*), which corresponds to Russian «Baty», the Russian *y* (=Turk. *ı*) having in the past a certain analogy with *u* and transcribing it in many cases. Rubrouck has always «Baatu» (*Wy*, 168, etc.), which shows a pronunciation Bātu, with long *ā*. Hethum gives «Batho» (var. «Bato», «Baccho», etc.; cf. *Hist. des Crois.*, Arm., II, 115, 157). Among Persian writers, the name is always باتر *Batu*. The YS writes 拔都 *Pa-tu* and 八都 *Pa-tu*, *Batu*, sometimes with the addition of 罕 *han*, which gives *Batu-han*, «Khan Batu» (cf. WANG Hui-tsu², 41, 9). The name is fairly common, and there are in YS several *Pa-tu*