

Ho-lan appears in Chinese at an early date. The Ho-lan mountains are mentioned for about A.D. 600 in the *Sui shu* (29, 3 b) and for 630 in the *Hsin T'ang shu* (cf. *Br*, I, 239). As a «double» surname, Ho-lan goes back even farther, to about A.D. 400, under the T'o-pa Wei, and it is generally assumed that the surname was taken from the name of the mountain (cf. *Wei shu*, 113, 22 b; *Chou shu*, 20, biogr. of Ho-lan Hsiang; 張澍 Chang Shu, 姓氏尋源 *Hsing-shih hsün-yüan*, 35, 8 b-9 a; 陳毅 Ch'ên I, 魏書官氏志疏證 *Wei-shu kuan-shih chih shu-chêng* of 1894 [unpublished?], ff. 72-73 of my ms. copy). A title of «khan of Ho-lan» (? 賀蘭汗 Ho-lan han) occurs unexpectedly in an inscription of 502 (cf. CHAVANNES, *Mission archéol.* II, 482). In 813-814, the *Yüan-ho chün-hsien t'u-chih* (4, 4 a and 9 a) says that the Ho-lan mountains, because of their trees and grass, have a motley appearance and look from afar like a piebald horse (駃馬 *po-ma*); and as the Northerners (*pei-jên*) say *ho-lan* for «piebald», the mountains have been called Ho-lan-shan, «Ho-lan mountains». The name of Ho-lan-shan continued in regular use in Chinese texts during the Sung and Yüan dynasties (cf. for instance, *Hsi-Hsia shu-shih*, 4, 15 a; 7, 10 b; 10, 8 b-9 b; 18, 11 b; for 989, 1002, 1020, 1047; on Ho-lan-shan in general, cf. *T'u-shu chi-ch'êng*, Shan-ch'uan-tien, end of ch. 79).

The *Yüan-ho chün-hsien t'u-chih*, while mentioning once the Ho-lan mountains 30 *li* north-east of the *hsien* of 寧朔 Ning-shuo, places them 93 *li* west of the *hsien* of 保靜 Pao-ching in the passage where the name is explained; both leave us in the region of Ning-hsia. But the same text, with the same location 93 *li* west of the *hsien* and the same explanation of the name, is quoted in *T'ai-p'ing yü-lan*, ch. 44, as an extract from the 經陽圖經 *Ching-yang t'u-ching*, an unknown work which may go back to the Sui or is perhaps only contemporary with the *Yüan-ho chün-hsien t'u-chih*. The name of Ching-yang is certainly corrupt, and stands probably for 涇陽 Ching-yang, as Ch'ên I corrects it tacitly; but then the Ho-lan mountains would be 93 *li* west of Ching-yang, far to the south-south-east of Ning-hsia. The passage cannot be merely a misquotation from the *Yüan-ho chün-hsien t'u-chih* (unless there is now a lacuna [of a whole line?] in the last work, as is often the case), since the *Ching-yang t'u-ching* alone adds: «The Hsien-pei and other tribes often divide clans according to mountains and valleys; at present, those who have Ho-lan as a surname are named after that mountain.» Moreover, more than one mountain may have been called Ho-lan, «the Motley», under the Wei. There was also during the T'ang a *chou* of indirect administration (*chi-mi chou*) called *chou* of Ho-lan, which is supposed to have been on the territory of Liang-chou and which may or may not owe its name to the well-known Ho-lan mountains (cf. *Ti-ming ta-tz'ü-tien*<sup>1</sup>, 946). But the fact remains that both texts give *ho-lan* as an Altaic word for a «piebald horse».

The foreign names of places in the *Yüan-ho chün-hsien t'u-chih* are generally accurate, and their interpretation is not only old, but based on good information (cf. *TP*, 1929, 251). Ho-lan, in 500-800, was pronounced approximately \* $\gamma$ â-lân. We know a number of cases, beginning with the very name Hui-hu of the Uighurs, where a Chinese  $\gamma$ - of that period simply represents à kind of *alif* (') at the beginning of Altaic words, so that we are tempted to see, in the explanation offered by the *Yüan-ho chün-hsien t'u-chih*, an allusion to Turk. *ala*, Mong. *alaq*, «motley». Moreover, it may very well be that the mountain was not really named from its appearance, but from a tribe or a clan called the tribe or clan «of the Piebald [horses]», which would account also for the