

lošak, «mule», and Mong. *lausa*, *lōsa*, id. (? < Ch. *lo-tzū*), seems to be purely accidental. In Siberian dialects (Bar., Tur., Tob.), *alaša* means only «small», «small-sized», and such is the case also with Kir. *alasa* (< *alaša*). MARR (*Izv. Ak. Nauk*, 1925, 971) would derive the word from the Abkh. word for «horse», which he divides into *a-laša*; speaking without authority, I should rather think that Abkh. *alaša* is borrowed from the Turkish.

This *alaša*, although unknown to-day in Mongolian, existed in that language in the past, since we find in the *Secret History* (§ 273) the plural form *alašas* of a word *alaša*, with a Chinese translation 淮馬 *huai-ma*, «*huai*-horse». *Huai* is only the name of a well-known river, and I cannot trace the origin of the term *huai-ma*. But it just happens to be used, also in the 13th cent., in a poem by Yüan Chüeh (1266-1327), as a designation of polo-ponies; and this connects Mong. *alaša* both with the «horse» and the «small-sized» meanings of the word in various Turkish dialects. The word has survived in Manchu, written *alašan*, with the meaning 驚馬 *nu-ma*, «broken-down horse», «jade» (*Ssü-t'i ho-pi wên-chien*, 31, 69 b).

Since *-a*, *-ai*, *-an* endings are commonly interchangeable in Mongolian, it seems a natural conclusion to identify with *alaša* the Alašai or Alašai[-nuntuq] of the *Secret History* and the modern «Alashan» (*Alašan*). An 阿喇沙阿蘭山 *A-la-sha-a-lan-shan* occurs in *YS*, 100, 2 a (also *Hsin Yüan shih*, 100, 4 a), but I do not know what to make of it. Our «Alashan» is written *Alašan* in Manchu and Mongolian, but 阿蘭善山 *A-lan-shan-shan* («**Alašan* mountains») in Chinese, in *Ssü-t'i ho-pi wên-chien*, 3, 62 a. In any case, it is clear that «Alashan» is to be transcribed in one word, and not «A-la Shan» or «Ala Shan» as in almost all our books and maps, including *Br*, I, 239, and STEIN, *Serindia*, 724 (not to mention «Ara-shan» in both editions of GILES'S *Chin.-Engl. Dict.*, or the «Alade-shan» of *Y*, I, 282, which I corrected in *Y*, III, 62).

But we are faced now with two difficulties: the initial *c-* of Calacian if we are to connect it with Alašai, «Alashan», and the choice which is to be made between *Ho-lan* < **ala*, «motley», «piebald», and *alašai* = *alaša*, «small-sized horse».

The initial *c-* of «Calacian» cannot be explained as a notation of mediaeval Mongolian *h-*, as is the case for instance with «Cogacin» (*q. v.*) = **Hügäčün*, since *ala* is not among the Mongol words formerly beginning with *h-*, and since moreover Rašidu-'d-Din would then write the name with *h-*, while he uses here *h-*. Provisionally, I suppose that Polo's «Calacian» and Rašid's *Ḥalājan* or *Ḥaljan* represent the Hsi-Hsia form of the name, which had hardened the initial *alif* rendered by *γ-* in the ancient transcription *Ho-lan* (**γâ-lân*), and by *h-* in the Tibetan «*Ha-la yun-log*». Unfortunately, this conjectural Hsi-Hsia form does not seem to have any modern representative. A word 喀爾占 *k'a-êrh-chan* enters into a place-name of the Alashan region (*Ta-Ch'ing i-t'ung chih*, 412 B, I a), but it occurs also in many different place-names all over Mongolia; although POPOV has read it sometimes as *ḥarjan*, sometimes as *ḥaljan* (*Mên-gu-yu-mu-czi*, 62, 66, 83, 110, 111, 487), it seems to be always Mong. *ḥaljan* (< *qaljan*), «bald», and I do not think it can have anything to do with «Calacian».

As to the second point, I feel that we should separate *ala*, **alač*, *alača*, «motley», and *alaša*, «small», «gelding», «small-sized horse». It is possible that, in the course of time, the original name meaning «piebald horse» was replaced by the other one, of somewhat similar sound, meaning «small-sized horse», but I can offer no proof beyond the bare fact of the double name;