

Nothing more is known of «Cogatal», who never reached Europe. The information found in Jacopo d'Acqui, that Gregory X *baptizavit principem illum Tartarorum dictum Cogatal* must be based on some confusion.

169. COIACH

choiach Z; R

coiach Z

This word, as a designation in Ma'abar of unlucky hours, was only known before BENEDETTO's edition from a single mention of «Choiach» in RAMUSIO; but RAMUSIO seems to have abbreviated the text of his ms.; in Z (Z¹ is slightly altered), the word occurs seven times, and is spelt «choiach», «coiach», and even «coiath». Moreover, in Z, we read the first time *unam horam infelicem id est uciacham quam appellant choiach*, and the next one *hora uciacha id est coiach*. A very similar paragraph, without, however, the words *uciacha* or *coiach*, is found in the chapter on «Lar», and would have almost appeared to be a misplaced duplication were it not that both passages occur in Z.

For «coiach» CALDWELL (Y, II, 368) has suggested Skr. *tyājya*, «rejected», pronounced «*tiyācham*» (more exactly *tiyāččiyam*); possibly reduced to **tiyāch* (> **toiach* > «coiach») by Polo's Mussulman informants. In a letter dated August 31, 1937, K. A. NILAKANTA SASTRI declared himself in agreement with CALDWELL. But, even if we start from **toiach*, the -o- of the first syllable remains unexplained. Moreover Polo's -ch is -k, not -č as in **tiyāch*. Other words, such as *tiyakkam*, «faintness», «swoon», or *košakkam*, «confusion», do not belong to the technical terms of Indian astrology.

ROSS (RR, XIII-XIV) has successfully shown that, even now, popular Malabar superstition observes the same unlucky hours (*ragu kalam*) in the various days mentioned by Polo (but ROSS is mistaken when he says that Polo speaks of «Malabar»; Polo's chapter is on Ma'abar, *i. e.* Coromandel). ROSS adds that the Dravidian term for the evil hours is *karippu kal*, «which would be pronounced *Kachukka* by a lowcaste Tamil or Malayalam». I must state quite frankly that I do not believe in any phonetic connection between *karippu kal* and «uciacha» or «coiach».

Moreover, the relation of «uciacha» to «coiach» is not clear. It is not evident that RAMUSIO's ms. had both words, and in the two places in which they appear side by side, it is just possible that they betray the hesitation of a copyist who later decided for «coiach» alone. But, if we take Z at its face value, it looks as though «uciacha» were a term of Western astrology, and «coiach» alone a native term used in Ma'abar. I have nothing to add to MOULE's ingenious suggestion that «uciaca», read **uciata*, might be the participle of either *hucciare* «to proclaim», or of *bruciare*, since *ora bruciata* is known in fact in the required sense of «unlucky».

To YULE's indications on Indian divination and lucky or unlucky hours, add al-Bīrūnī's *India*, I, 344.