

170. COIGANGIU

<i>cagangui, caygangui</i> LT	<i>cingo, jngjngo (?)</i> , <i>zigoj</i> , <i>coiganzu</i> R
<i>caigam, caygam, coygangui</i> P	<i>zingo</i> VB
<i>chaygiagui</i> TA ¹	<i>coginganguy, cogniganguy, conganguy</i> FB
<i>chayngu</i> TA ³	<i>coguigangui</i> FA
<i>choigangui, chorgangui, gan-</i>	<i>coigançu</i> Z
<i>gui</i> VA	<i>coigangiu</i> F, L
<i>chonguagui, chuigangui, cui-</i>	<i>coigangui</i> Fr, LT, VA
<i>gangui, zinguagui</i> V	<i>coiganguy</i> FAt, FBt
<i>choygangui</i> VL	<i>goyganguy</i> Pr

We are here on safe ground. Nobody has ever doubted that «Coigangiu», where Polo crossed the Yellow River (his «Black river»; see «Caramoran»), is 淮安州 Huai-an-chou. The name goes back to the end of the Sung (1234), but, when Polo used it, though it was still current among the people, it had ceased to be official. In 1277, a *tsung-kuan-fu* had been created at Huai-an, and the place had become the seat of a real *fu* in 1283 (YS, 59, 10 a). Of course, the Commissioners of 1276 also crossed the Yellow River at Huai-an (TP, 1915, 396, 414).

Polo's transcription of Huai-an-chou is interesting in its first -g-. The initial sound which we note in French by *ng-*, and which is omitted in English transcription, is very weak, and I do not think that it has left any trace in Mongol or Persian transcriptions. It may be that Polo's first -g- is not so much a real transcription of that initial sound as a substitute for the hiatus stop between *huai* and *an*, something (quite independently) like one of the values of the intervocalic -g- in Mongolian writing. Other examples may be «Paughin», and perhaps «Ciangan» (*q. v.*); but Polo writes «Cauyu» without -g- (or -gh-), and I have decided against a similar use of -g- in «Ciu-giu» (the place west of Huai-an).

Another point in Polo's transcription, «Coigangiu» is worth mentioning : it is the notation of Ch. -ua- (-wa-) through -o-. This is exactly what occurred in Uighur, Mongol and Persian transcriptions of Chinese, where *wang* became *ong*, and Kuan-shih-yin became Konšiiim (but not as a final -ua, which of course gives also a final -a in transcription).

171. COILOMIN

<i>cholonbini</i> V	<i>coilomini</i> L ¹	<i>combi</i> VB
<i>chome luuini</i> VA	<i>columi</i> FA, FB (brazil and	<i>grandes</i> and <i>linuini</i> P
<i>coilomin</i> F, Z, L	<i>ginger</i>)	[<i>mirabolani enblici</i> TA ¹ , TA ³]

An epithet derived from «Coilum» (? «*Coilom»), Quilon. Polo uses it for a kind of brazil-wood and also for a kind of ginger.