

I have said also, under « Caraunas », why I attach no authority to the form « Nukodar » used once by RAMSTEDT for the name of Čayatai's grandson. Rašidu-'d-Din names a granddaughter of Ariq-bögä called Nägüdär or Tägüdär; BLOCHET (*Bl*, II, 563) says that Nägüdär is the correct form, but this is arbitrary.

297. NEGREPONT

negentpont FB *negroponte* TA¹, TA³, V, *nigropons* L, LT
negrepont F, FA, FB VA, VL *nigroponte* VB, VL
negroponte F *niger pons* L

Negropont. The form with *e* in the second syllable, always used in F and FA, is often met with in mediaeval texts. Cf., for instance, *Hist. des Crois.*, Arm., II, 406, 508; BRÄTIANU, *Actes des notaires*, 137. The place was a regular port of call between Venice and Constantinople.

298. NESCRADIN (< *NESORADIN)

nascardus G *nescardin* LT *nestardin* R
naschardim, nischardim VA *nescardyn* P *nestraidin* FA
nastabun V *nescradin* F, FB *nistradin* VB

The name is Arabic نصر الدين Našru-'d-Din, and one might suppose that the reading « Nescradin » of the Mss. gives another example of the notation of ص *š* by *-sc-* which seems to occur in « Basora », but I have tried to show that the proper reading is « Basora » (see « Basora »). Here Polo has probably followed the same vulgar pronunciation which is represented by the Chinese transcription 納速刺丁 Na-su-la-ting, *Nasuradin; I have restored the original form accordingly.

Našru-'d-Din was the eldest of the five sons of that famous Sayyid Ajall, Šamsu-'d-Din 'Omar, who had been sent to govern the province of Yün-nan in 1273 and who died there in 1279. His father's position, when appointed in 1273, was difficult because of the fact that Prince Tuyluy, who had received supreme authority in Yün-nan sometime after Prince Hügäči's death in 1271 (see « Cogacin »), was reluctant to yield up a whit of his power. Našru-'d-Din was very helpful in overcoming the difficulty. Soon he was given command of the troops at Yün-nan-fu. Transferred to Ta-li in 1277, he led an army against the « Zardandän » (see « Zardandan ») and Burma, and, on his return, went to the Court to offer 12 tame elephants. There the news of his father's death reached him (1279). Gradually, he became *yu-ch'êng* and *tso-ch'êng* of the province of Yün-nan.