

But I agree with BLOCHET (*Bl*, II, 378) that Yung-ch'ang is the original, from which « Wan-čhang » has been derived; and the same holds good for « Wun-zen ». If in the Ming Vocabulary the name Chin-ch'ih is rendered « Wan-čhang », *i. e.* Yung-ch'ang, it is because, at the time of the compilation of the vocabulary, Chin-ch'ih did not any longer designate the real Chin-ch'ih tribes, but only the « Chin-ch'ih Garrison », the seat of which was at Yung-ch'ang. A Mussulman author of the middle of the 17th cent., calling himself a native of « Chin-ch'ih » (cf. *BEFEO*, VIII, 262), merely tells us in an archaistic manner that Yung-ch'ang was his birthplace; this descendant of Sayyid Aĵall, and as a consequence of the Prophet himself, had of course nothing to do with the Zar-dandān.

The notice of the Chin-ch'ih in the *Man shu*, which I have translated under « Čardandan », speaks of the group of tribes to which the Chin-ch'ih belonged as living « south of the Barrier (*kuan*) of Yung-ch'ang ». I have not met with the name of that « barrier » or « pass » elsewhere, but it could not have been far from Yung-ch'ang itself.

375. UNGRAT

migiāt LT
ongaro VA
origiach VL

ungeat FA
ungrac F, FB, TA³
ungrat LT, TA¹

urigat V
vngrac P
vngut R

In spite of F's « Ungrac », there can be no doubt about the name; the *-t* is moreover given by LT and by R's « Vngut ». But Polo's form is interesting. The name, in « classical » Mongolian, is Qonggirat (cf. SCHMIDT, *Gesch. der Ost-Mongolen*, 494); Rašīdu-'d-Dīn gives قنقرات Qonqrat (cf. *Ber*, I, 146); in Čayatai, we have قونقرات Qongyrat and قنقران Qonyrat; Qonyrat has generally been derived from Turk. *qongur* + *at*, « bay-horse ». But, in the *Secret History*, the form is always Onggirat; the Chinese transcriptions in *YS* (弘吉剌 Hung-chi-la, 雍吉剌 Yung-chi-la, 甕吉剌 Wēng-chi-la, etc.) are based sometimes on Qonggirat, sometimes on Onggirat. The question is not of a hesitation in pronunciation between a form with ancient initial *h-* and a simple vocalic initial, as that *h-* would not be noted at all in Mongolian writing, and the Turko-Persian form would be with *h-*, not with *q-*. There must really have been a double Mongolian pronunciation Qonggirat and Onggirat; Polo heard the second one. A Turkish origin of the name would explain to a certain extent that a name of foreign origin did not immediately take a fixed form in Mongolian; but then it is not without interest that one of the principal Mongol tribes, the one which, as Polo says, had a sort of privilege for providing wives for the Mongol emperors, should have, at least in its name, Turkish affinities.

For Polo is right on this point, and the choice of Qonyrat wives by the Mongol emperors, which goes back to the beginning of the dynasty with Chinghiz-khan's wife Börtä, is also noted