

feature to this day, and it is very probable that they or some part of them are the descendants of the *Ḳaráunahs* or the *Nigudaris*, or of both, and that the origination of the bands so called, from the scum of the Mongol inundation, is thus in degree confirmed. The *Hazáras* generally are said to speak an old dialect of Persian. But one tribe in Western Afghanistan retains both the name of Mongols and a language of which six-sevenths (judging from a vocabulary published by Major Leech) appear to be Mongol. Leech says, too, that the *Hazáras* generally are termed *Moghals* by the *Ghilzais*. It is worthy of notice that *Abu'l Fázl*, who also mentions the *Nukdaris* among the nomad tribes of Kabul, says the *Hazáras* were the remains of the *Chaghataian* army which *Mangu Kaan* sent to the aid of *Hulaku*, under the command of *Nigudar Oghlan*. (*Not. et Ext.* XIV. 284; *Ilch.* I. 284, 309, etc.; *Baber*, 134, 136, 140; *J. As. sér.* IV. tom. iv. 98; *Ayeen Akbery*, II. 192-193.)

So far, excepting as to the doubtful point of the relation between *Ḳaráunahs* and *Nigudaris*, and as to the origin of the former, we have a general accordance with *Polo's* representations. But it is not very easy to identify with certainty the inroad on India to which he alludes, or the person intended by *Nogodar*, nephew of *Chaghatai*. It seems as if two persons of that name had each contributed something to *Marco's* history.

We find in *Hammer* and *D'Ohsson* that one of the causes which led to the war between *Barka Khan* and *Hulaku* in 1262 (see above, *Prologue*, ch. ii.) was the violent end that had befallen three princes of the House of *Juji*, who had accompanied *Hulaku* to Persia in command of the contingent of that House. When war actually broke out, the contingent made their escape from Persia. One party gained *Kipchak* by way of *Derbend*; another, in greater force, led by *NIGUDAR* and *Onguja*, escaped to *Khorasan*, pursued by the troops of *Hulaku*, and thence eastward, where they seized upon *Ghazni* and other districts bordering on India.

But again: *Nigudar Aghul*, or *Oghlan*, son of (the younger) *Juji*, son of *Chaghatai*, was the leader of the *Chaghataian* contingent in *Hulaku's* expedition, and was still attached to the *Mongol-Persian* army in 1269, when *Borrak Khan*, of the House of *Chaghatai*, was meditating war against his kinsman, *Abaka* of Persia. *Borrak* sent to the latter an ambassador, who was the bearer of a secret message to Prince *Nigudar*, begging him not to serve against the head of his own House. *Nigudar*, upon this, made a pretext of retiring to his own headquarters in *Georgia*, hoping to reach *Borrak's* camp by way of *Derbend*. He was, however, intercepted, and lost many of his people. With 1000 horse he took refuge in *Georgia*, but was refused an asylum, and was eventually captured by *Abaka's* commander on that frontier. His officers were executed, his troops dispersed among *Abaka's* army, and his own life spared under surveillance. I find no more about him. In 1278 *Hammer* speaks of him as dead, and of the *Nigudarian* bands as having been formed out of his troops. But authority is not given.

The second *Nigudar* is evidently the one to whom *Abu'l Fázl* alludes. *Khanikoff* assumes that the *Nigudar* who went off towards India about 1260 (he puts the date earlier) was *Nigudar*, the grandson of *Chaghatai*, but he takes no notice of the second story just quoted.

In the former story we have bands under *Nigudar* going off by *Ghazni*, and conquering country on the *Indian* frontier. In the latter we have *Nigudar*, a descendant of *Chaghatai*, trying to escape from his camp on the frontier of *Great Armenia*. Supposing the *Persian* historians to be correct, it looks as if *Marco* had rolled two stories into one.

Some other passages may be cited before quitting this part of the subject. A chronicle of *Herat*, translated by *Barbier de Meynard*, says, under 1298: "The King *Fakhruddin* (of *Herat*) had the imprudence to authorise the *Amir Nigudar* to establish himself in a quarter of the city, with 300 adventurers from *'Irak*. This little troop made frequent raids in *Kuhistan*, *Sijistan*, *Farrah*, etc., spreading terror. *Khoda-banda*, at the request of his brother *Ghazan Khan*, came from *Mazanderan* to demand the immediate surrender of these brigands," etc. And in the account of the