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IASD & CHERMAN · TURQUOISE & ANDANIQUE ≠ MARCO POLO
call it no more wine, because with the change of taste the name also of wine is changed. Now
let us leave these kingdoms and we shall tell you of the great city of Iasd, all its
doings [15b] and its customs.

·34·

Z
VB
TA VA VB TA
LT V
FB V L VB
P VB
V LT
L
L Z LT VB
Z FB FB L
FB
V Z FA
V L L
FB VB FB
HERE HE TELLS OF THE CITY OF IASD. Iasd is in the borders of Persie itself,
a very good city and noble, worthy of particular description and of great
and various trade. And many most beautiful cloths of gold and of silk which
are called Iasdi are made there, which the merchants carry them to many parts in
the east to make their business and their great profit. And they worship and hold the
faith of Mahomet there. And when one departs from this land of Iasd to go forward
he rides quite seven¹ days journeys towards Cherman all level, and except in three
places there is found there no house where one could lodge. There are many beautiful
small woods producing dates, and beautiful plains where one can very well ride. There
is also much fine chase of animals² and much fine fowling. And likewise there are
partridges and quails enough and many other kinds of birds, and the merchants who
ride that way through that plain and those who delight in these things take many of them,
from which they take great pleasure & enjoyment therein. And there are also found many
and very beautiful onagers, that is to say wild asses. And at the end of these seven
days journeys of plain is found a city which is called, and it is a great realm which is
very beautiful which is called, Cherman.

·35·

VA
Z Z L
V L L
L
Z
Z VB V
FB
VB VL
VL FB
FB
HERE HE TELLS OF THE REALM OF CHERMAN. Cherman is a great kingdom
in the borders of Persie itself toward sunrising, and the city has the same
name. And anciently its ruler had it by inheritance; but since the
Tartars conquered it the rule does not go by inheritance, but the Tartar sends there
that lord whom he wishes from his land, and they govern. And in the mountains of
this kingdom are produced the precious stones which one calls turquoise, and they
are there in great abundance, for they find them in the mountains, for they dig
them out in veins of the rock. And again they have veins of steel and of andanique
enough found in those mountains, the best the world has. And in this city they employ
themselves with all horsemans harness very well, that is bridles [15c] and saddles
and spurs and swords and bows and quivers and all their other kinds of armour
according to their usages which all those provinces have. And the ladies of the men of
that land do no work but order their maidservants and damsels who work too cunningly and
very nobly with the needle in beasts and in birds and in trees and in flowers and in

¹ V,VB,R: "eight"

² chachaion de bosces Z: uenationes siluestrium R: cacciagioni d'animali saluatichi FB: belles
chaces FA: biau chacier So correct, chachaion de bestes TA: begli boschi B. keeps bosces.