

THE TREACHERY AND MASSACRE AT CIANGIU ~~≠~~ MARCO POLO

TA FB *great Kaan, it happened that after he had taken the chief city this Baian sends a great*
 VA FB *part of his people who were called Alain, who were Christians, to this strong city*
 R *to take it. The city had two circuits of wall. Now it happened that these Alains*
 VA P *attacked the city and took it and entered peacefully, without hurting any man more, into*
 R VA P *the first city; because the people of the place surrendered themselves to these Alain, and those*
 VB VB *who were in the city being overcome by the valour of the attackers freely gave the city over to*
 VB *them. And they find there such a quantity of good wine (in which that city greatly*
 VB *abounds) that they, being eager for such drink after the stress of the weariness and wounds*
 VA *received, set themselves without any thought to drink so much of it that in the evening*
 FB P *they were all drunken so that they slept in such a way that they perceived neither*
 R P *good nor bad and all lay down as dead, and kept no guard in the city at all. And when*
 VB FB *the men of the city who were in the second circuit, who had received them in peace, saw*
 V *that those who had taken it were so transformed that they resembled dead men,*
 FB *all drunken and sleeping, lying on the earth like swine, they make no delay nor did anything*
 P *else but all immediately in that night they killed them all so that never a single one*
 V *of them escapes. And when Baian, that is the lord of the great army, knows that*
 FB *those of this city had killed his men so treacherously he sends there another commander*
 P *of his with enough of his men and they take it by force. And also I tell you quite*
 V FB TA *truly that when they took it [65d] he commanded that all the citizens should be killed*
 FB VA *as a mark and in vengeance for that treachery and faithlessness. And as he commanded, so it*
 V FB TA *was done. They handled them evilly and killed them of the city all with the edge of the*
 FB VA *sword so that none of them escaped who was not killed, in revenge for that which they had*
 FB *done with those Alains. And in such a way as you have heard were so many men dead*
 FB *in this city. Now we will depart from here and will go forward and will tell you*
 FB *of a very great city which is called Sugiu.*

V V V **H**ERE HE TELLS OF THE CITY OF SUGIU. Sugiu is a very noble city and great,
 FB *the people of which they are idolaters and are subject to the rule of the great*
 FB *Kaan, and have money of notes, and they have silk in very great quantities.*
 FB FB FB *And they live by trade and by crafts, and they make many cloths of gold and of silk*
 R FB Z *for their clothing, for all go clothed in silk; and they also sell it. And there are in it*
 TA TA Z Z *great merchants and very rich citizens. The city it is so large in its circuit that it is*
 FB Z *forty¹ miles round. And it has so very great quantity of people in it that no one*
 FB *could know their number. Moreover I tell you that if they were men of arms, and*
 L P *those of the province of Mangi, they would easily conquer and be bound to defeat all*

¹ VB,TA: "forty" FA,LT,VA,P,V,L,Z: "sixty" FB: "nine" R: "twenty"