

## ÇANGHIBAR · MEN · ELEPHANTS · SHEEP · GIRAFFES ≠ MARCO POLO

VA L the people are *all*·very large and stout, though it is true that they are not so tall  
 in proportion as they are stout. For I[tell]you that they are so stout and so  
 P P P large-limbed that *if they were correspondingly tall* they would seem without doubt to be  
 giants. Moreover I tell you that they are immensely strong, for they carry a load  
 Z for four<sup>1</sup> other men *who are not of the island*. And this is no wonder, for I tell you  
 Z V FB that he eats food for five men of *another country*.·And they are all black and go quite  
 LT naked except that they are covered in their natural parts. *And they do very wisely to*  
 V LT *cover them for they have them very large & ugly & horrible to see*.·And they all have the  
 FA hair so curly & black like pepper that it could hardly be made to stretch out with  
 V Z VL L water. *And they have so great a mouth also and the great & red nose so flat and turned*  
 P G LT *upwards·toward the forehead·like an ape,·and beards, and nostrils so thick that it is wonderful*.  
 L FB *They have the ears large, and the lips thick, turned outwards, and the eyes so large & so*  
*bloodshot & so red<sup>2</sup> that they are a very horrible thing to see; for whoever should*  
 L Z *see them in another country would say of them rightly that they were infernal devils*.  
 VB V *They are great merchants & do great trade*. Elephants enough are bred there, and they  
 V P make great trade of the tusks of elephants. *And they have also in this island many*  
 Z FB lions of another fashion than are the rest of them *elsewhere*. They have also bears &  
 V lynxes enough and leopards *and many other beasts* are bred there also. And what shall  
 P P I tell you of it? They have *in the same way* all animals of *this island* different from  
 Z FB all the others of *other regions* in the world. Moreover I tell you that they have *their*  
 VB sheep and ewes all of one likeness and of one colour of *a fashion different from what*  
 L *they are in other places*, for they are all white and have the head *all very black*. And in  
 all this island you will not find either sheep or ewe which is not [92c] of this kind  
 R that I have described to you. *And so are made all the dogs of the said island*. There are  
 FB bred also *many sorts of giraffes* in plenty, which are very beautiful things to see. She  
 is made in such a way as I shall describe to you. Now you may know that she  
 VB has a short body<sup>3</sup> and is rather low behind, for the hind legs are small & short  
 VB and the legs in front *long and tall*, and the neck she has very large, so that her head  
 V is really about three paces high from the ground. *And she has a small head and*  
 L V L *is gentle and does no harm to any*. *And she is in colour all red and white in beautiful*  
 Z rings, and it is a very beautiful thing to see. And again I wish to tell you something  
 of the elephant which I had forgotten. Now you may know that when the bull  
 FB elephant wishes to pair with the female elephant he hollows out *a great pit* in the

<sup>1</sup> VL: "six"<sup>2</sup> *si Rouillas et si Rouges* FA: *si esroilliez & si rouges*<sup>3</sup> TA: *chorta choda*