

gwan, *gwana*, for *Pistacia mutica* (or *P. terebinthus*, var. *mutica*); this form comes nearest to the Chinese transcription.

While a compound **agoz-van(vun)*, that is, "nut of pistachio," as far as I know, has not yet been traced in Iranian directly, its existence follows from the Chinese record of the term. An analogy to this compound is presented by Kurd *kizvan*, *kezvān*, *kazu-van*, *kasu-van* ("pistachio" or "terebinthus-tree").¹

The *Honzō kōmoku keimō* (Ch. 25, fol. 24), written by Ono Ranzan 小野蘭山, first published in 1804, revised in 1847 by Iguči Bōši 井口望之, his grandson, mentions the same plant 阿月渾子, which reads in Japanese *agetsu-konši*. He gives also in Kana the names *fusudasiu* or *fusudasu*.² He states, "The plant is not known in Japan to grow wild. It used to come from foreign countries, but not so at present. A book called *Zōkyōhi furoku* 象教皮附錄 mentions this plant, stating that *agetsu-konši* is the fruit of the tree *č'a mu* 柵木 (in Japanese *sakuboku*)."³

¹ A. JABA, Dictionnaire kurde-français, p. 333. Cf. above the *kasu-dān* of Kaempfer.

² These terms are also given by the eminent Japanese botanist MATSUMURA in his *Shokubutsu mei-i* (No. 2386), accompanied by the identification *Pistacia vera*.

³ This tradition is indeed traceable to an ancient Chinese record, which will be found in the *Čen lei pen ts'ao* of 1108 (Ch. 12, p. 55, ed. of 1583). Here the question is of the bark of the *san* or *č'a* tree 柵木皮, mentioned as early as the sixth century in the *Kwañ č'i* 廣志 of Kwo Yi-kun as growing in wild country of Kwañ-nan 廣南 (the present province of Kwañ-tuñ and part of Kwañ-si), and described in a commentary of the *Er ya* as resembling the mulberry-tree. This, of course, is a wild tree indigenous to a certain region of southern China, but, as far as I know, not yet identified, presumably as the ancient name is now obsolete. The *Nan čou ki* by Sū Piao (see above) says that the fruits of this tree are styled *wu miñ tse* 無名子 ("nameless fruits"); hence the conclusion is offered by T'añ Šen-wei, author of the *Čen lei pen ts'ao*, that this is the tree termed *a-yüehun* by the Persians (that is, a cultivated *Pistacia*). This inference is obviously erroneous, as the latter was introduced from Persia into China either under the T'ang or a few centuries earlier, while the *san* or *č'a* tree pre-existed spontaneously in the Chinese flora. The only basis for this hazardous identification is given by the attribute "nameless." A solution of this problem is possible if we remember the fact that there is a wild *Pistacia*, *Pistacia chinensis*, indigenous to China, and if we identify with it the tree *san* or *č'a*; then it is conceivable that the wild and the imported, cultivated species were correlated and combined under the same popular term *wu miñ*. MATSUMURA (*op. cit.*, No. 2382) calls *P. chinensis* in Japanese *ōrenju*, adding the characters 黃棘. The word *lien* refers in China to *Melia azedarach*. The modern Chinese equivalent for *P. chinensis* is not known to me. The peculiar beauty of this tree, and the great age to which it lives, have attracted the attention of the indefatigable workers of our Department of Agriculture, who have already distributed thousands of young trees to parks throughout the country (see Yearbook of the U. S. Department of Agriculture 1916, p. 140, Washington, 1917). In the English and Chinese Standard Dictionary, the word "pistachio" is rendered by *fei* 榧, which, however, denotes a quite dif-