

APPENDIX II  
CHINESE ELEMENTS IN TURKI

On the preceding pages I had occasion to make reference in more than one instance to words of the Turkī language spoken in Chinese Turkistan. A. v. LE COQ<sup>1</sup> has appended an excellent Turkī vocabulary to a collection of texts recorded by him in the territory of Turfan. This list contains a certain percentage of Chinese loan-words which I wish briefly to discuss here.

In general, these have been correctly recognized and indicated by Le Coq, though not identified with their Chinese equivalents. But several pointed out as such are not Chinese; while there are others which are Chinese, but are not so designated; and a certain number of words put down as Chinese are left in doubt by the addition of an interrogation-mark. To the first class belongs *γaṅ-za* ("tobacco-pipe"), alleged to be Chinese; on the contrary, this is a thoroughly Altaic word, no trace of which is to be discovered in Chinese.<sup>2</sup> It is *kham̄sa* or *xamsa* in Yakut, already indicated by BOEHTLINGK.<sup>3</sup> It is *gangs̄a* or *gants̄a* in Mongol;<sup>4</sup> *gansa* in the Buryat dialect of Selengin.<sup>5</sup> The word has further invaded the Ugrian territory: Wogul *qansa*, Ostyak *xoṅsa*, and Samoyed *xansa*.<sup>6</sup> It is noteworthy that the term has also found its way into Tibetan, where its status as a loan-word has not yet been recognized. It is written in the form *gaṅ-zag* (pronounced *gaṅ-za*; Kovalevski writes it *gaṅ-sa*, and Ramsay gives it as *kanzak* for West-Tibetan); this spelling is due to popular assimilation of the word with Tibetan *gaṅ-zag* ("man, person").

In *jū-xai giil* ("narcissus") I am unable, as suggested by the author, to recognize a Chinese-Turkish formation. The narcissus is styled in

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<sup>1</sup> Sprichwörter und Lieder aus der Gegend von Turfan, *Baessler-Archiv*, Beiheft I, 1910.

<sup>2</sup> The Chinese word for a tobacco-pipe, (*yen-*) *tai*, is found as *dai* in Golde and other Tungusian languages, because the Tungusian tribes receive their pipes from China.

<sup>3</sup> Jakutisches Wörterbuch, p. 79.

<sup>4</sup> KOVALEVSKI, Dictionnaire mongol, pp. 980, 982.

<sup>5</sup> CASTRÉN, Burjatische Sprachlehre, p. 130.

<sup>6</sup> A. AHLQUIST (*Journal de la Société finno-ougrienne*, Vol. VIII, 1890, p. 9), who regards the Ugrian words as loans from Turkish.