

LIST OF OBJECTS EXCAVATED OR FOUND AT LĀL-TĀGH SITE

- L. Tāgh. 01. Wooden finial**, similar to M. Tāgh. c. 06, but with simplified mouldings. Split and perished; part broken away. H. $5\frac{1}{4}$ ", diam. $2\frac{5}{8}$ ".
- L. Tāgh. 02. Pottery fr.**; red, well-washed clay, glazed green, with two roughly drawn black annular lines crossing it. $2\frac{1}{8}" \times 1\frac{1}{2}" \times 1\frac{3}{8}"$.
- L. Tāgh. 03. Pottery fr.**, rectang. Fine red clay with thin dull buff slip on outside. $2" \times 1\frac{1}{4}" \times \frac{5}{16}"$.
- L. Tāgh. 04. Bronze collar**, conical, with bead moulding round larger end. Cast; corroded. Larger diam. $1\frac{7}{8}"$, smaller $1\frac{1}{3}"$; h. $\frac{1}{2}"$.
- L. Tāgh. 05. Fr. of turquoise-coloured paste**; small, circular, broken at one edge. Diam. $\frac{3}{8}"$, gr. thickness $\frac{1}{16}"$.
- L. Tāgh. 06. Bronze finger-ring**, thickened at bezel into projecting keel shape. No hollow for jewel. Split at thin part. Diam. $\frac{7}{8}"$.
- L. Tāgh. 07. Paste (?) bead**; ring-shaped, dark opaque; quoit-shaped in section. Diam. $\frac{5}{16}"$, thickness $\frac{1}{8}"$.
- L. Tāgh. 08. Stucco relief fr.** Face-mask of elephant, very boldly modelled. Prominent frontal bones, brow, and bulging eyes of quasi-human type. Part of upper margin of R. ear preserved. Trunk broken off, and tusks missing from round sockets. Hard; prob. burnt accidentally. $7\frac{1}{4}" \times 5" \times 2\frac{1}{2}"$. Pl. IV.
- L. Tāgh. 09. Stucco relief fr.** Top-knot of hair, as L. Tāgh. 017 and *Ser.*, iv. Pl. CXXXIV, Mi. xi. 003. Burnt hard; well preserved. $3\frac{1}{8}" \times 2\frac{5}{8}"$.
- L. Tāgh. 010. Stucco relief fr.** L. side of high top-knot, like preceding, but larger. Burnt; well preserved. $3\frac{7}{8}" \times 2"$.
- L. Tāgh. 011. Stucco relief fr.**, representing dragon devouring human being who tries to force monster away. Dragon's head with wide open jaws and full eye in profile to R., very spirited and well modelled. Twisted body composed of double plain bands with pearls between. Human fig. male (?); head missing; action excellent and proportions good. Fr. broken on two sides, and on one shows hole for tenon. Lightly burnt, but friable at broken edges; well preserved. $4\frac{3}{4}" \times 4\frac{1}{2}"$. Pl. IV.
- L. Tāgh. 012. Stucco relief fr.** Five-strand cord and tassel from valance as *Ser.*, iv. Pl. CXXXVII, Mi. i. i. 004. g; burnt. The five strands are lotus stalks and are tied together by band of pearls bordered by double strands. From below issue four radiating lotus buds or sepals. Well preserved. For similar frs., see L. Tāgh. 014, 019. $2\frac{7}{8}" \times 2"$.
- L. Tāgh. 013. Stucco relief fr.**, representing stem with small leaflets growing out from either side. Burnt; well preserved. $2\frac{1}{2}" \times 1\frac{3}{4}"$.
- L. Tāgh. 014. Stucco relief fr.** Tassel similar to L. Tāgh. 012. Stalks missing; remains of colour wash. Burnt; well preserved. $2\frac{1}{8}" \times 1\frac{3}{4}"$.
- L. Tāgh. 015. Stucco relief fr.** R. hand, open, with six-petalled lotus in relief on palm; cf. *Ser.*, iv. Pl. CXXXVII, Mi. xviii. 005. Hand well modelled and almost in the round; little finger broken. Hole up centre through wrist for core; shows clay of attachment at back, which is unmodelled. Burnt. Red clay. Length 3". Pl. IV.
- L. Tāgh. 016. Stucco relief fr.** Central loop of high top-knot, similar to L. Tāgh. 010. Burnt. $1\frac{3}{4}" \times 2\frac{3}{4}"$.
- L. Tāgh. 017. Stucco relief fr.** Top-knot similar to L. Tāgh. 09. Burnt; rather fragile. $3" \times 3"$.
- L. Tāgh. 018. Stucco relief fr.**, appliqué orn. Eight-petalled lotus or rosette. Centres of petals and centre of flower in high relief; sepals showing between petals. Burnt; fairly hard. Diam. $2\frac{7}{8}"$.
- L. Tāgh. 019. Stucco relief fr.** Tassel similar to L. Tāgh. 012. Traces of colour wash. Well preserved. $3\frac{1}{2}" \times 2\frac{1}{4}"$.
- L. Tāgh. 020. Stucco relief fr.** Stilted arch of beads bordered by fillets, enclosing peacock (?) standing to L. p. Prob. finial or head ornament. Burnt; broken at L. p. lower corner. $3\frac{3}{4}" \times 3"$. Pl. IV.
- L. Tāgh. 021. Stucco relief fr.**, from life-size human face. L. eye and cheek, with lower part of ear and hair at back. Well modelled and colour-washed yellowish buff. Burnt; surface abraded. $6" \times 3\frac{3}{8}"$.

SECTION III.—A HILL RANGE IN THE TAKLAMAKĀN

On October 25th I set out from Marāl-bāshi for my long-planned expedition into the desert south-eastwards. Its object, as already briefly stated, was to reach the Mazār-tāgh range on the Khotan river, if possible, direct through the sands of the Taklamakān. Apart from the hope of gaining time by this short cut and the attraction presented by such a venture across an unknown tract of desert, there was a special geographical interest attaching to the enterprise. Our surveys of 1908 had shown reason to believe that the Mazār-tāgh hills are closely allied in geological structure to those remnants of an ancient range which the isolated rock islands to the east of Marāl-bāshi (Map No. 8. A, B. 1), repeatedly referred to in the preceding sections, undoubtedly represent. We had then been able to trace the Mazār-tāgh extending for over twenty miles from the Khotan

Start from
Marāl-bāshi
into desert.