

to have heard its name, Kubi-chu. The Chinese and d'Anville cut the Chema into two parts, of which the upper joins the Kubi, the lower the Maryum-chu. Even on Ryder's map it is difficult to tell which river is meant to be the Kubi.

The source of the Brahmaputra has, in other words, wandered about in the periphery of a semi-circle, the centre of which is at the confluence of the different branches.

I have already once published¹ an extract from the Shui-tao-ti-kang about the Satlej and its relation to the two lakes:²

»The *Kang-ka-chiang*³ comes out from *Kang-ti-ssü-shan*,⁴ on the south-east of which there stands *Lang-chuan-ka-pa-pu-shan*,⁵ magnificent like an elephant. [The relief is gradually accentuated more and more towards the south-western frontiers, and culminating at *Kang-ti-ssü-shan*.⁶ The mountain has a circumference more than 140 li. On all sides the mountain forms precipitous walls, more than 1,000 feet high above the surrounding mountains, and accumulated snow seems as if hung on cliffs. Hundreds of springs pour down from the top, but flow under the ground on the foot of the mountain. It is situated on the extreme west of the Ts'ang Region, 310 li north-east of *Ta-ko-la-chêng*⁷ in *A-li*,⁸ more than 5,590 li south-west of Hsi-ning-fu in Shensi Province. Its longitude is 36°4'W. and its latitude 30°5'N.⁹ In olden times the place was unknown, but can be doubtfully referred to as *A-nok-ta-shan* in the annotation of Shui-ching. In the neighbourhood there are four high mountains, of which the southern is called *Lang-chuan-ka-pa-pu-shan* lying 250 li south by east of *Kang-ti-ssü-shan*, and 270 li east of *Ta-ko-la-chêng*. The natives call it so, because the form of the mountain resembles an elephant. On the east of this mountain there stands *Ta-mu-chu-ko-ka-pa-pu-shan*,¹⁰ which is the source of the *Yalu-tsang-pu-River*.¹¹ This mountain runs south-westwards to *Men-na-ko-ni-êrh-shan* and then to *Sa-mu-tai-kang-shan*, and extends to the south of *A-li* to the country of *Ê-no-tê-ko*.] Springs come out from the northern foot of the mountain, and accumulate into a lake [35°5'W. and 29°1'N.]. The water flows north-westwards for 70 li and receives a stream coming from the north-east. [The stream lies in the

¹ Trans-Himalaya, Vol. II, p. 183 et seq.

² Professor Ogawa of Kyoto has kindly made the translation for me. I have not altered his English.

³ *Kang-ka-chiang* means the Ganges river.

⁴ *Kang-tise*, Kailas.

⁵ *Langchen-kabab-mountains*, or the mountains of the source of the Satlej, as *Langchen* is the Tibetan name for Satlej and *ka* means mouth, and *bab* (*pa-pu*) pouring out; thus: the mouth from which the Elephant river is pouring out.

⁶ The passages within brackets are printed in the original Chinese text with smaller characters as explanatory notes to the geographical names mentioned in the text.

⁷ Taklakhur.

⁸ Ngari(-khorsum).

⁹ In reality its latitude is 31°2½'.

¹⁰ *Tamchok-kabab* or the Source of the horse-river, i. e. Brahmaputra.

¹¹ *Yaru-tsangpo* or Brahmaputra.