

The missionary went to Paris on foot and sailed from Lorient to Chandernagor, where, after 6 months 18 days all the missionaries met, and continued to Patna. He gives some very clever and interesting descriptions of what he saw on the Ganges. The arrival at Patna took place on December 16th, 1739. They prepared themselves for the long journey and continued over Gandak. Most of the following villages he mentions are impossible to identify. They were now only 8 missionaries, as the rest had stayed behind for some time in Patna. They had 16 native servants and the whole party went on foot. Travelling through the Terai they entered Nepal and arrived on February 6th, 1740, in Batgao, where the Capuchins had a hospice. *Via* Katmandu and Nesti they arrived, October 17, in Kuti on the Tibetan frontier and situated on the river Nohotha or Bhotia-Kosi. Here begins the most interesting part of the journey, which Beligatti describes very carefully day by day. Magnaghi here gives the author's own words and his original spelling of the names. And here, or rather a little further on, we begin to look out for some glimpses of the mountains north of the Tsangpo.

On November 10 the journey began. After a burough called Tankialing they reached Yalap, where all travellers had to provide themselves with riding animals for crossing the mountains of Lhandur, »which is almost impossible to pass on foot on account of the strange effects it has, not only on men but also on animals, whether it depends on the rarefaction of the air, or on some nuicible exhalation».

They started, however, with only three riding animals, which were mounted by the most suffering members of the party. In a fort called Tulon (Douloung) they took a rest and then began slowly to ascend the mountain of Lhandur, between precipitous rocks.<sup>1</sup> The nearer they approached the summit of Lhandur the more they felt pains in the head and stomach, and difficulty of respiration, and after 7 *kos'* journey they arrived at a house near the foot of the mountain, called Pambù, built especially for the comfort of travellers.

In this house the whole company rested together with servants and animals and people returning from Lhasa. The night was like a purgatory or inferno. All were complaining, some were shouting brutally, others vomiting, and some delirious. The animals did not improve the miserable situation. The sufferings of the night were so much the more difficult, as they had not been able to eat in the evening.

After sunrise they continued to ascend the mountain. Finally they reached the summit, a plain which sloped very gradually to the other side. They descended »between East and North» and by and by the pains in head and stomach ceased. On the other side they reached a place called Gninsè. At Tingri they did not feel any more of their inconveniences.

<sup>1</sup> In a note Magnaghi points out that Lhandur or Langur is simply a generic word.