

The 18th they made 3 *kos* in a strong and biting wind. Very often their animals ran away and they suspected some malicious intentions on the part of the muleteers. The next day they went almost straight north through mountains and halted after 3 *kos* in a village. Started again (the 20th) and entered the mountains to the north, ascended about one hour and found on the top a little plain and after having made a very steep descent to the north-east they found in the valley a little village and further on camped after 8 *kos*. The 21st they continued to the north-east in a valley between two mountain ranges where a little river was running in a stony bed and with stony banks, and after some hours they entered a rich valley full of villages and houses. Camped after 5 *kos*. Next day the same valley became more and more populated, and, travelling the whole day until evening, they made 8 *kos*.

The 23rd 9 *kos* took them to Kiansè of which he gives a good description. Here they stayed two days for celebrating Christmas. He says the Gran Lhama of Kiansè has under him 13 lamas, two monasteries and more than 1 000 monks. He gives a very detailed and picturesque description of a religious festival in Kiansè.

At noon the 27th they continued their journey, marching towards the north-east, and camped, after 6 *kos*, at the bank »of the river which goes to Kiansè». The 28th, going north-east they arrived at Lhamar (?). The 29th they continued on a rocky road at the foot of the mountains along the same river (Nyang-chu), marched 3 *kos* and camped in a house at the foot of a high snow-covered mountain. The name of the camping-place was Lamentutungh (?).<sup>1</sup>

The following passage is of some interest: »The 30th we ascended the mountain, although we did not reach the summit which was snow-covered. Ascending this mountain we saw to the northern side a long line of high mountains covered from head to foot with heavy snow, to which the muleteers made reverence, regarding them as the abode of gods. We were assured that in these mountains the snow never melts away and that they remain covered with deep snow the whole year round and that they therefore are uninhabited and inaccessible.»

Magnaghi finds it difficult to make out whether Beligatti here means the western continuation of Kamba-la or some mountains further north, on the left bank of the Tsangpo.

WADDELL has in his book an illustration of the Karo-la where snow-mountains are seen far away,<sup>2</sup> to the north. At Ralung, on the western side of the pass, Waddell says that »there shot into view another great snowy range which blocked our way to Lhasa. Its dominating peak of Nöjin Kangsang or 'The Noble Glacier

<sup>1</sup> Magnaghi rightly says the 3 days north-east of Beligatti are difficult to understand, as Nagartse is on the same latitude as Gyangtse. It ought to have been straight west and east.

<sup>2</sup> Lhasa and its Mysteries p. 286.