

of the Genius', rose up, 10 miles off, a majestic mass of snow and glacier ice, over 24 000 feet high, and on its western flank could be seen the cleft of the Kharo Pass which we had to cross . . . This snowy range is a continuation of that spur from Chumolhari which we saw ran off to the north along the Rham lake at Tuna.»¹ PERCEVAL LANDON says that Karo-la with its 16 600 feet² is »the highest point between Lhasa and India».³ On its eastern side the road »is crowned by the snow-fields of the Nichi-kang-sang group». Probably Beligatti is simply speaking of the mountains which he saw near at hand and which therefore impressed him more. But as he talks of a long line of high snow-covered mountains to the north, one would feel tempted to think of the Nien-chen-tang-la, which is straight north from Karo-la. I do not know, however, whether this range is visible or not from the pass. It may be hidden both on the pass and in the valley beyond, and in the narratives on Younghusband's mission I cannot find a word describing any far view to the north.

On the other side of the mountain, which must be the range of Karo-la, the missionaries descended very slowly and entered a little valley, surrounded by snow-covered mountains, and pitched their tents after 6 *kos*.

On December the 31st they continued zigzagging between mountains »and after having travelled some 5 *kos* we arrived at the fortress of Nagarsè which is situated at a promontory of the lake which is called Paltè, and, passing beyond the fortress about 1 *kos*, we followed the shore of the lake, which we had to our right, whereas on our left we had the naked mountains.» Camped on the shore after 6 *kos*.

The first day of 1741 they continued to travel round the lake, »which is very great», and was said so be 18 days' walk round it going 10 *kos* a day which gives 360 *miglia* in circumference. »In the middle of the lake rises a series of small rocks, which are inhabited . . .» There are also monasteries governed by a reborn Lhamessa called Turce-pamò. He gives some very curious information about the Dorje Pagmo whom he, della Penna and the other missionaries later on met in Lhasa.

They followed the shore till evening and, having passed the fortress of Paltè, »from which the lake takes its name», and after 7 *kos* they camped on the shore of the lake.

The real name of the lake was obviously known to Beligatti, for Georgi has the following passage:⁴ »Paltè: Lacus, alias Jamdrò aut Jang-sò nuncupatus.» That Georgi has used Beligatti as a source may be seen from the following passage: »Maximæ amplitudinis est, quam homo pedibus, uti indigenæ tradunt, nonnisi octo-

¹ Op. cit. p. 283.

² Ryder has 16 200.

³ Lhasa, Vol. I p. 265. Compare also Candler: The Unveiling of Lhasa, p. 210.

⁴ Alphabetum Tibetanum, p. 451.