

peak Sengghe kabab gangri.¹ Many other Gangris or mountains with eternal snow surround the province of Ari and continue north-eastwards to the country of Katsi. To the N.E. of Gangdis ri are the mountains called Dabrie sierké, Ghioouké niansian tangla, Samtan gangdza, Nomkhoûn oubachi and Baïn khara, which surround the province of Oui (Wei) on its northern side, and pass by the sources of Hwangho and lake Koko-nor at a distance of more than 6,000 li all the way to Si-ning-fu and other places on the frontiers of Kansu. Two other branches of mountains issuing from the Kailas are described, one bordering Ngari on the south and the other with the massive of Tamchok-kabab, where the Brahmaputra has its source.

This orography is far from being clear, though there is much truth in it. Another chain is said to form the boundary of Ngari in the following way: Tsa tsa la, 450 li north of the town of Lodok gardzoung. This mountain borders upon the one called Kerie dabahn.² To the N.W. of Lodok gardzoung, at a distance of 300 li, is Labsi la. At 830 li S.E. of Ladak dzoung is Noubra la. These three mountains form a chain, which is the northern boundary of Ari.

Maryum-la is mentioned in the following words: Mar young la, mountain of the glory, 280 li to the east of the tribe of the Djochots. It is a branch of the Gangdis ri which stretches to the south. Its southern wing constitutes the western boundary of the province of Dzung; the northern one belongs to the province of Ari.

There are several other mountains mentioned in the Chinese description more or less easy to identify. Only a few of them seem to be parts of our Transhimalayan system. The most important of them is the Nien-chen-tang-la, described as follows: Niansin tangla gangri, or the mountain of the snow-fields of the divinity who is bringing oracles; 130 li N.W. of the city of Poumdo dzoung. It is near the S.E. shore of the lake Tengri noor, extremely great and high, and covered with eternal snows. One sees there a great many snow-fields.³

A part of Transhimalaya is also Samdan gangdja ri or Samtan gangri, snow mountain of the divine contemplation, 180 li N.E. of Poumdo dzong, — and called Samto Kemsas on d'Anville's map.

The Chinese geographer who is the author of these passages has done his best to arrange this hopeless labyrinth of chains and ranges into one system, the head of which is the Kailas and the branches of which are the different ranges, all of them starting from the Kailas. To this Chinese system AMIOT adds the follow-

¹ At another place the Chinese author places this peak more correctly to the north of Kailas. In reality Singi-kabab is not a peak with eternal snow, but a comparatively low mountain.

² Keriya-kotel.

³ In Amiot's translation this passage runs thus: Nien-t sien-kang-la-chan. Elle est au nord-ouest de Peng-touo-tcheng, dont elle est éloignée de cent trente lys. Elle touche au bord oriental du lac de Teng-ka-ly-tché. Elle est très-haute et toujours couverte de neige. — Mémoires concernant l'Histoire, etc. des Chinois. Tome quatorzième, Paris 1789, p. 162.