

Of the inhabitants on the banks of Murussu the Chinese author says: »Les tribus du Mourous oussou sont à l'est-nord-est du Zzang, et s'étendent jusqu'aux frontières de Si ning. Leur pays confine avec celui des Hor ou Mongols de Dam, et elles sont mêlées avec ceux-ci.»

Here we must remember that in the middle of the 17th century the Khoshot prince Gushi Khan (Couchi Han) and a part of his victorious hordes settled in the district Dam, some 8 days N.E. of Lhasa and not far from Nak-chu.¹ In the following passage we recognize almost word for word what della Penna wrote of this region: »Damna, quæ inter Civitates Sericæ a Ptol. numeratur eadem esse videtur ac Dam, unde nomen accepit Ducatus Dam in hac Provincia situs. Præter ædem Regiam ac Nobilissimam Ducis, nullæ sunt domus. Habitant Populi in tentoriis, partem maximam Tartari, reliqui Tibetani. Dam octiduum distat a Lhasa. Post Dam, biduo pervenis Nak-cihu-kha . . .»² The following is a quotation from Huc:

»On nous raconta, qu'à une époque très-reculée, un roi du Koukou-Noor, ayant fait la guerre aux Thibétains, les subjugea en grande partie, et donna le pays de Na-Ptchu aux soldats qu'il avait emmenés avec lui. Quoique ces Tartares soient actuellement fondus dans les peuples thibétains, on peut encore remarquer, parmi les tentes noires, un certain nombre de iourtes-mongoles. Cet événement peut aussi expliquer l'origine d'une foule d'expressions mongoles, qui sont en usage dans le pays . . .»³

The same is still the case as I heard on my journey in 1901.

In all these quotations and although we are so near the Transhimalaya, there is not a word about these mountains. Both the roads to the N.W. and N.E. are shortly described or, at any rate, mentioned and both cross the Transhimalaya. And still the mountains are not mentioned at all. On the map which accompanies Klaproth's translation⁴ »Pays de Dam» is situated direct north of Tengri-nor. In our days both the village of Dam and Dam-largen-la are situated south of the same lake. The village of Dam is south of Transhimalaya, but the old Duchy of Dam is north of it. But we have seen before, that Transhimalaya itself is very hard to recognize on this Chinese map. Only that part of it which is situated between the southern shore of Tengri-nor and Chaktak-tsangpo is fairly correct. But this range has no western continuation at all. What is in reality its western part, with M. Gandis, has been placed south of the upper Tsangpo. In the interior of Tibet there are some ranges drawn on the map, and the range south of »Frontière de Yarkiang» is obviously Kwen-lun. In this range we find Keri ye, N.W. of Lhasa. The route from Khotan and Keriya diagonally to Tengri-nor was entered on Chien Lung's map. Dutreuil de Rhins suggests that this road in reality went to Panggong-tso and Noh and thence to Tengri-nor.

¹ Köppen, op. cit. Band II, p. 153.

² Georgi, op. cit., p. 422.

³ Huc: Souvenirs d'un voyage . . . Tome II, p. 238.

⁴ Vol. I, Pl. VI.