

times Tibet was divided into 3 parts: Chamba, Juiba and Dsanba. In these names it would perhaps be difficult to recognise Kam, U and Tsang, unless we were told that their resp. capitals were Dsiamdo, Chlassa and Dshessilumbu. Of U he says that it is to the west bordered by the western sea, i. e. Terkiri or Tengri-nor. He reckons 8 days between Lhasa and Tashi-lunpo. The three provinces, which he later on more correctly calls Kam, Ju and Dsan, have 3 000 temples and 84 000 Lamas. He gives much interesting information of the ethnology, religion and history of Tibet, which he has probably got from P. Hyacint and other members of the Russian mission in Peking.

As Timkowski's description is rather short and vague, one cannot, of course, expect any news of the mountains north of the Tsangpo.

The Hungarian ALEXANDER CSOMA DE KÖRÖS is another great traveller who has written on the geography of Tibet, though never visited Tibet Proper. However, his *Geographical Notice of Tibet*<sup>1</sup> contains some rather interesting hints about the great mountain-ranges north of India, and described from an entirely Tibetan point of view. He says:

»Tibet is bounded on the north by the countries of the Turks and Mongols, whom the Tibetans call Hor, and Sok-po (Hor-sok).»

»From the first range of the Himalaya mountains on the Indian side to the plains of Tartary, the Tibetans count six chains of mountains running in a north-western and south-eastern direction, when viewed from Kangri in Nári (a lofty mountain running from south-west<sup>2</sup> to north-west), whence the ground commences to take on one side a north-western and on the other side a south-eastern inclination. In the spacious valley, which is between the third and fourth range of the before mentioned mountains, is the great road of communication between Ladak and U-tsang . . . It is here likewise, that the two principal rivers, the Sengé k'há-bab, and the Tsánpo take their course; that by Ladak to the north-west, and may be taken for the principal branch of the Indus; this to the south-east, and forms afterwards the Brahma-putra.»

»Beyond the fourth range of the Himalaya mountains, or in the next valley to the north of Ladak, there are the following districts, counting them eastward: Nubra, Rudok, Tso-tso, Bomba, Chang-ts'ha-k'há, Chang-ra greng.»

Of the six ranges which are thus regarded as crossing the Tibetan highland between India and Tartary no less than three are placed south of the great Indus-Tsangpo valley. The fourth range may be easily identified with the Transhimalaya, though Csoma reckons it to the Himalaya, a view in which he has been followed by Markham. North of this fourth range is a new great valley in which Rudok and Bomba (Bongba?) are situated, a conception which is very near reality.

<sup>1</sup> Journal Asiatic Society of Bengal, N:r 4, April 1832, p. 121 et seq.

<sup>2</sup> Must be a misprint for south-east.