

branches off to the west to Buptö, but that road crosses the Kanchung-gangri in a high pass. That the two ranges are separated from each other the whole way to the N.W. is clear, but it is difficult to tell whether the Dicha-la is on the continental water-parting or not; most probably it is.

From N.W. over to N.E. the Lapchung range has some low summits with eternal snow. The Sangmo-bertik-la in this range is not the only pass leading to the Teri-nam-tso, for there is said to be another road to the lake a little farther east, which, however, has to cross several passes. To the N. 85° E. there is reported to be a pass, Nakpo-kongdo-la, with a road to Targo-barong-la or Parung-la, the surroundings of which we saw from the Shuru-tso. To the S. 60° E. rise some peaks with snow and ice called Nakpo-gongrong-gangri, obviously a part of the Kanchung-gangri¹; to the same system belongs the higher Tsa-timyang-gangri visible to the S. 38° E. Through a little opening S. 13° E. the Chomo-uchong may still be seen; S. 7° E. is a snow-covered part of the Kanchung-gangri, and S. 6° W. and S. 14° W. other parts of the same. Tsalam-nakta-la is reported to be on the same range as Sangmo-bertik-la and one day farther east. As far as I could judge from my third and fourth lines of crossing, the eastern half of the Lapchung range describes a curve and becomes meridional and parallel to the Targo-gangri. As the country between my lines of crossing is completely unknown, the orography may here be more complicated than I have represented it.

The rise of the Sangmo-bertik valley is not steep, but it is stiff on account of the enormous height. There is no living rock, everything is detritus, and the bottom and the sides of the valley are full of blocks and gravel of gray granite. There are frozen springs, some snow, red and yellow moss, rabbit holes, and some very low grass, such as the wild and tame yaks like. Beyond Camp 403 which is at 5 586 m, all vegetation, except moss, has ceased; everything is gravel and small blocks; all fine material has been washed away, and the ground is therefore extremely uncomfortable for the traveller. This road is obviously not much in use, as more practicable passes are situated to the west and east; still there are two small cairns on the summit of the pass, and signs of old camping places on both sides.

Sangmo-bertik-la is 5 820 m high which may be considered as a respectable height for a road. Just west of the pass there descend three small glaciers, and another comes from the east. The topography is very unfavourable for a distant view; hardly anything can be seen, except, to the south, a little part of the Kanchung-gangri. To the north everything is hidden by near mountains. On the southern side all blocks and gravel are gray granite; on the pass, quartz-porphyry, while north of the pass, appear diabas and porphyritic diabas, which, near Camp 404, stand in living rock. The descent is fairly steep until the bottom of the north-going valley is reached, where the ground appears to be perfectly level. Camp

¹ On my preliminary map in "Trans-Himalaya" this name has been misplaced.