

tso. The lake is completely frozen. The water is slightly brackish. A meridional range follows the eastern shore of Chunit-tso. Leaving the lake the road slowly ascends amongst hills with some ravines going to the lake; there are also some springs surrounded by great ice-sheets. The prevailing rock is light yellow granite; otherwise all hills and slopes are full of detritus, fine gravel and coarse sand. Camp 372 is at 4 846 m and a little further south is Nima-lung-la at 4 920 m. The view to the south is surprising: a gigantic range closes the horizon in that direction and there is a series of peaks with eternal snow and with glaciers between. A great plain separates us from this range, and there are no obstacles between Nima-lung-la and the northern foot of the range.

From the pass the road goes gradually down to the plain, where the soil is sometimes covered with gravel and dark sand, and perfectly arid, sometimes with swamps and grass; at some places it is yellow clay formed into tables and ridges by wind and water. The swamps are called Kole, a little brook with bad water Churu, and the region round Camp 373 Gyamra, 4 784 m. high,

From Camp 373 the road goes S.W. to avoid the hills on the left side, where a little pass, Dung-la, is situated. The soil is generally perfectly arid, fine, hard gravel; sparse, yellow patches of miserable grass are seen; good grass is only found round the springs and on swampy ground. It is surprising that these parts of Tibet are so completely arid, whereas in some of the great latitudinal valleys of northern Chang-tang there are places with excellent grass; but there the ground consists of fine dust and sand, here only of gravel.

Quite close to the east of our route rises a considerable, snowless range of prismatic form, which seems to be the N.W. end of the Kanchung-gangri. To the west are lower, arid hills, bounding in that direction the plain and its extensive swamps. To the W.N.W. and N.W. we see the very great valley of Buptsang-tsangpo, between a moderate range to the N.E. and the very mighty Lunkar range to the S.W.; far to the W.N.W. are seen some high peaks and ridges with eternal snow, being parts of the Lunkar. At Camp 374, 4 806 m high, a spring issues in a ravine with some grass; such places amongst the hills are real oases in this very arid land.

Where my route first touches the Buptsang-tsangpo the river was divided into several branches, some of which were frozen; the volume of water could amount to 5 cub. m. a second and the breadth of the valley was about 6 km, and its soil very level. At the right side the hills, covered with gravel and sand, fall fairly steep down to the valley; at the left the slopes rise to the high regions of the Lunkar- and Lunpo-gangri range. From the right side a few ravines open out, one of which was deep-cut and full of ice. Near Camp 375 the Buptsang-tsangpo flows straight north. The fall is very slow. The region of Camp 375 is called Monlam-kongma; Monlam-yogma is the place where I first reached the river. Both belong to the district of Bongba-kebyang.