

gets closed by snow. Lapta-la, farther north, gets closed; both are situated in the same range as Jukti-la.

Leaving the Lung-karpo valley to the right our road rises gradually amongst hills and gravel of porphyry, granite and dark crystalline schist, and finally reaches a little secondary threshold, 5 171 m high. Camp 249, Takto-serpo, is at a height of 5 166 m and situated on the bank of Jukti-loän-chu, which comes down from Jukti-hloma-la, and is probably one of the highest feeders of Lang-chu.

From this point the rise becomes somewhat steeper, though still slow; the valley is fairly broad, bounded by rocks of quartz-porphyry and porphyrite. In its upper part the valley opens out and receives tributaries from several sides, especially from the snow-fields and small glaciers to the south. Here alpine nature prevails, with frozen springs, moss, low grass, and *Arctomys*, — all a sharp contrast to the dry and desolate desert to the N.E. From a left tributary, Changsang-karpo, the rise becomes steep, and the road miserable, as it is full of blocks of all sizes. The road, if it can be called so, turns at right angles to the south, where four or five small glacier tongues hang on the steep black sides of the rocks. Finally, the road ascends to the N.W. and reaches Jukti-la, 5 825 m high, forming a wide, open convex plateau between ridges and crags.

From the pass the Jukti valley descends to the west; the road from Jukti-changma-la joins our road through a little right tributary. From the left enters the tributary Dungleung-chenmo; other deep-cut gorges open on both sides; only from the Dungleung-chenmo does a brook descend, fed by the snow fields and small glaciers visible at its upper part. The bed in the main valley is some 50 m deep between sharp and steep terraces. It is a wild and deep valley between bare rocks and with a bottom full of gravel and blocks. At Dungleung-sumdo the height is 5 171 m. Here enters from the right or north the tributary Lasar with the road from Lasar-la. The rock is porphyrite, quartz-porphyrite and biotite-granite.

So far the road has followed the right side of the valley; below Camp 250, or Dungleung-sumdo, it follows the left, for here the river keeps to the right side where the rocks fall steep down to the valley. From the left enter the tributaries Taka-taso, Nima-tingting, Chogelung-ringbo and Nälung. A place where four cairns are built on the road is called Hlande-tsogra. Granite and porphyrite prevail. Where the valley opens out into the great Gartang valley the height is 4 620 m, and at Gartok it is 4 467 m.

At Hlasar some snow usually falls in winter: about 10 cm, seldom 20 cm. The Indus here is hard frozen, but there is always some running water under the ice. After strong rains the Indus may sometimes become unfordable at Hlasar.

The population is as usual very scanty. I saw only 13 tents on the banks of the Indus, and 6 at Nyanda. The animal life was the ordinary one; antelopes are not rare, and kyangs numerous, once 120 in one flock. On the Jukti-la and its sides were many *Arctomys*.