

is about 100 m. in length, but not well-built. At *Tarchen-labrang* several white tents of merchants were pitched. There were no buildings at this place, and we did not continue up the valley. Of the four monasteries surrounding the *Kang-rinpoche*, *Nyandi*, *Diri-pu*, *Tsumtul-pu* and *Gyangta*, I do not know anything of the last-mentioned, which probably has a more hidden situation at the side of the pilgrims' road. I got the impression that the *Gyangta-gompa* was situated in the upper reaches of the valley of *Tarchen-labrang*, through which a road comes down. At *Tarchen-labrang* we had an altitude of 4,710 m. In the background of the valley of *Tarchen* a part of the peak of the *Kailas* is visible. Then it disappears again until we have approached *Khaleb* at some distance.

At the N. W. corner of *Rakas-tal* or *Langak-tso*, a curious local wind was blowing, whirling up greyish white clouds of dust along the ground, whereas other parts of the plain were untouched by the wind.

We cross many dry erosion beds. The ground consists of clay and gravel and there are many bushes. The river from the *Nyandi* valley is streaming in its 6 or 7 m. deep bed, the erosion terraces of which consist of gravel, sand and small blocks.

From this place we had still 4 km. W. S. W. to *Khaleb*, *Camp CCXXX*, where the caravan was waiting, and from where the next crossing of the *Transhimalaya* was to start.