

In the western section of his route Benedict Goës has thus crossed the Hindu-kush, and farther east he has at least been in close contact with the Kara-korum System.

The Tangi-i-Badakhshan or Defiles of Badakhshan, an expression that also had been found in the Akbar-namah, Yule places along the Oxus in Darwaz and Shagnan. The Ciarciunar he certainly correctly identifies with »The four plane trees», in Persian. Serpanil he takes to be Sir-i-Pamir, »the head of Pamir», Sacrithma he thinks may be the Sarikbaee of MACARTNEY'S map. Yule believes it is the ridge which separates the Sirikul from the headwaters of the Yarkand River. Sarcil or Sarcil is Sarikol as Ritter suggested.

Yule first believed that Goës' Tanghetar was meant to be Yangi-hissar, but he abandoned this view after having found a Tungeetar in Macartney's map. Iaconich he could not trace.

In spite of the scanty notices given in Goës' notebook, M. A. STEIN states them to be quite sufficient for tracing his steps to Tash-kurghan. Stein identifies the hamlets of Sarcil or Sarikol with Tash-kurghan, and Iaconich with Yaka-arik,¹ as had already been done by Father J. BRUCKER who says of Iaconich: »nous croyons qu'il faut lire Yakarik, nom d'une localité un peu à l'ouest de Yarkand, à laquelle les officiers anglais attribuent 700 maisons».²

This statement Brucker has got from the abridged German translation of FORSYTH'S Report 1873 in *Petermann's Mitteilungen*, where the village is really called Jakarik, instead of Yakka-arik as in the original.³

Before the geography of the Pamir became known it was, of course, impossible to trace the route of Goës. ATHANASIUS KIRCHER has an abridged version of his narratives, in which some of the interesting names are missing, others spelt in a different way, and he makes no attempt to place them. There we read:

.... tandem Ciarciunor tenuit, & post decendium Sarpamil desertum locum, transeuntes per altissimum montem viginti dierum itinere in Sarcil provinsiam pervenit, post biduum ad pedem montis Cecialath, in quo ob nivium multitudinem multi frigoris vehementia periëre, pervenit, sex diebus in nive peractis in Tamgheran Regnum Cascar, & post 15 dies Jaconich, & post dies quinque Hiarcham Cascaris metropolim & finem Cabulensis pervenit.⁴

In this passage we miss the mountain Sacrithma, whilst Tanghetar is called Tamgheran. Tanghetar is correct, as there is still a Tangi-tar in the valley. It, therefore, must be by a mere chance that there is a Tamghara as well, *viz.* in the valley of Keng-kol, and not far below Tangitar. When, June 28th and 29th 1894, I stayed at the aul of Keng-kol, I first heard the name of Tamghara, the river Keng-kol being formed by three sources: Kashka-su, Tamghara and Bura. On

¹ *Ancient Khotan*, Vol. I, Oxford 1907, p. 40 *et seq.*

² *Benoit de Goës missionnaire voyageur dans l'Asie Centrale 1603—1607*, Lyon 1879, p. 24.

³ *Pet. Mit. Ergänzt. H. No. 52*. Gotha 1877, p. 72.

⁴ *China illustrata*, Amstelodami 1667, p. 63.