

Siam le royaume de Boutan est composé de plusieurs provinces, gouvernées par des princes particuliers et absolus dans leurs états. Leurs sujets leur donnent le titre de rois; mais le souverain de tout le pays, qui demeure à Lassa, capitale de tout le Boutan, ne leur donne que celui de déba ou de gouverneur Autant que je le puis connoître, ce royaume a de longueur environ trois mois de chemin d'un homme de pied, et quarante jours de largeur. Le pays est tout rempli de montagnes; ce qui fait que le froid y est très-vif, quoiqu'on y soit assez près de la ligne, puisque Lassa, capitale de tout le royaume, n'est qu'au 30me degré de latitude boréale, et par conséquent peu éloignée du tropique. Les montagnes sont, la plus grande partie de l'année, couvertes de neiges, et presque partout entièrement stériles en sorte qu'elles sont inhabitées, non seulement par les hommes, mais encore par les bêtes sauvages.

Thus the unknown author of these lines only in general states the existence of mountains, and has, of course, no idea of the ranges or systems situated north of the Himalaya. To the cartographers of the epoch, the Kara-korum System is likewise hidden in impenetrable clouds. ISBRANTS IDES, for instance, in 1704, has made the orography as simple as possible, joining Ispahan with Kabul by a mighty range, placing its eastern end and Kabul at the source of the Ganges. DELISLE, 1705, has the Himalaya under the name of M. de Purbet ou de Naugracut, stretching N. W. between Royaume du Grand Tibet and Pengab to Petit Tibet, in the neighbourhood of which several of GOËS' names are entered, as Sacritma M., and, to the N. E., M. Ciecialith and Tanghetar. About the same representation is given on the same draftsman's map, *Carte de Tartarie* of 1706, where Tibet is situated between two ranges as it is in reality. To the north of the northern one are Cachgar and Cotan, and east of the latter the old meridional Imaus. On this map the route of Goës is entered, though some of his names are missing. There are, however, Parvan on the Hendoukech, Gialalabath, Talkan, Cheman, Badascian, Ciarciunar, Sarpanil, Sarcil, Tanghetar, Jaconich and Yarkan. About the same conception of the orography returns on Delisle's map of 1723. Petit Tibet and the geography of Goës are the most dominating features in the region where the Western Kara-korum is situated.

From the same year, 1723, dates the little map published by PETIS DE LA CROIX in his edition of SHEREFEDDIN ALI, and of which I have reproduced here Pl. VII.¹ On this map, Caschgar and Hyarkent are shown as *one* town with two different names. East of it is Cotan, situated on a river directed to Acsou. East of Cotan is the considerable mountain range of Carangoutac. To the south of these regions is G. Tebet, the western half of which is filled with mountains, and where we recognize Sarcil P., Badascian and P. Tebet.

¹ *Histoire de Timur-Bec*. Tome second, A. Delf, MDCCXXIII.