

For an absolute, reliable comparison it would be necessary to know some other factors regarding the Hwang-ho lakes which now are unknown. It would be very important to know the drainage areas of the Saloma and the Jagiyn-gol as well as the volume of water they carry. Both the drainage area and the volume of water seem to be greater in the case of the Jarin-nor than in that of the Manasarovar. On the other hand, the Jagiyn-gol loses less water by evaporation as it joins the channel directly, than it would have done if its water first had been spread over the surface of the Jarin-nor. It is quite natural that the channel between the lakes should possess a greater vitality than the outflowing river, as is proved by the Ngangga, as compared with the Satlej. Therefore, if the desiccation continues, the Orin-nor will cease to deliver any water to the Hwang-ho centuries before the channel from Jarin-nor has become dry.

At any rate the two pairs of lakes offer a very beautiful example of geographical homology.

The Panggong Lakes present a combination very different from the two pairs of lakes we have considered hitherto. The Panggong-tso itself is salt, whereas the Tso-ngombo, and the small lakes which are parts of it are fresh; — the problem will be easier if we regard this chain of freshwater lakes as only one lake.

Still, there is a certain resemblance between these lakes and those at the sources of the Hwang-ho and the Satlej. There are two lake basins separated from one another by a neck of land, and joined one with the other by a channel through which the water flows from the upper to the lower basin. This channel, which is in function the whole year round, just as the channel between the Jarin-nor and Orin-nor, corresponds to the Ngangga which, however, is only periodical. The upper lake which corresponds to the Manasarovar and Jarin-nor, receives in its upper part, called Tso-nyak or Niag-tso, some affluents, one of them called Tsanger-shar. The superfluous water of the Tso-ngombo flows to the Panggong-tso which corresponds to the Rakas-tal and Orin-nor and which perhaps a thousand years ago or more was cut off from the Drugub river, a tributary to the Shayok. Therefore the river by which the Panggong-tso once delivered its superfluous water to the ocean was not the Indus itself, but only a tributary of the second class.

At present the Panggong Lakes are thus, as the Satlej Lakes, cut off from the Indus system. But the isolation of the Panggong Lakes is much older, as is proved by the salinity of its water, whereas the water of Rakas-tal is perfectly fresh. The different stages of maturity reached by the three pairs of lakes are due to the extent of the drainage areas and the quantity of precipitation falling on them. The drainage area of Panggong-tso is small, and the greatest part of the rain and water from melting snows goes directly to the Indus and the Shayok, while the lake remains in the «wind-shadow» of the S. W. monsoon. The affluents of the Tso-ngombo flow