

The difficulty in comparing the three latitudinal valleys becomes most evident when we begin to deal with the absolute altitudes. In the northern valley we found a fall of hardly 300 m. from Selling-tso to Panggong-tso, a distance of 930 km.; in the second valley the fall to the west and east from the meridional range of Targo-gangri is extremely slow. In both cases we meet the great evenness that is characteristic of a plateau-land. In the Tsangpo valley we find a continuous fall which, though very slow in itself, is considerable when compared with that of the two northern valleys. It is therefore inadequate to talk of a mean altitude of this valley, which east of Shigatse gradually assumes more and more of the wild morphology of the peripheric regions. In the following examination I have entered some of my altitudes along the Tsangpo from Changtang, opposite Shigatse, to the source where the Kubi-tsangpo comes out from below the glacier snout. The five first altitudes are from the lowest part of the course, the five next from the midst and the five last from the uppermost part of the course.¹

Above Changtang	3815 m.
Changtang	3820 »
Between Shigatse and Sadung	3850 »
Between Rungma and Sta-nakpu	3891 »
Between Ye and Rungma	3908 »
Between Ye and Pusum	4019 »
Confluence of Dok-chu and Tsangpo	4013 »
Confluence of Chaktak-ts. and Tsangpo	4524 »
Confluence of Tsachu-ts. and Tsangpo	4565 »
Camp CLXXXVIII	4583 »
Between Camp CXCII and Camp CXCIII	4612 »
Camp CXCII	4608 »
Chärok	4657 »
Shamsang	4697 »
Source	4864 »

The mean altitude thus is 4295 m., or 169 m. lower than the Selling-tso—Panggong-tso depression and 397 m. below the Nganglaring-tso—Tengri-nor depression. Taking the highest portion of the Tsangpo valley from the source to Camp CXCII we get a mean altitude of 4689 m., which is nearly exactly the same as that of the Nganglaring—Tengri-nor depression (4692 m.). This portion of the

¹ There cannot be any appreciable difference between the three first altitudes, as they are taken very near one another, and it would give a better result to take the mean of them. But they are founded on direct observation, and they are needed here as a counter-balance to the five from the middle and the five from the uppermost part.