

wenn wir seine Route weiter verfolgen. Nach seiner Angabe darf die Station Yü-mo nicht weit vom Ts'ung-ling gesucht werden. Diese Bedingung erfüllt durchaus das jetzige *Bazar-dara*, das nur 40 km vom Chiragh-saldi-davan im langgestreckten Tale des Raskem-darya liegt (3700 m) und eben wegen seiner beherrschenden Lage heute zu einer chinesischen Grenzstation erhoben ist.¹

4. FROM YÜ-MO TO CHIEH-CH'Ä.

When the pilgrims had kept their season of retreat at Yü-hui or *Yü-mo*, which according to Stein took place during the summer of 402 A. D., »they went on among the hills for twenty-five days, and got to *Chieh-ch'ä* . . . ».² It would take us too far to follow here the ingenious way in which Chavannes has identified Kie-tch'a (Chieh-ch'ä) with the present *Kashgar*. Stein has related Chavannes' arguments, and corroborated them by his own observations on the place.³

As regards the climate and products of Chieh-ch'ä as given by Fa-hien, there is nothing that would not agree with what we know from *Kashgar*. But all other statements oppose this identification. First the remark that »the country is cold» is surprising.⁴ In comparison with *Tash-kurgan* and the rest of *Sarikol* it is certainly not cold, neither in summer nor in winter. In all probability it cannot be said to be colder than other cities of Eastern Turkistan. Very much depends upon the season in which Fa-hien came down to *Kashgar*.⁵

At *Tash-kurgan* he may easily have experienced rather hot days during the summer. At 10 o'cl. a. m. July 27th, 1895, I had 19,6° at *Tash-kurgan*, and 10,3° in the following night. At *Hazret Begim*, near Kizil on the road from *Kashgar* to *Yarkand*, and situated at nearly the same height as *Kashgar*, I observed a minimum temperature of -18,3° Dec. 18th, 1895. Stein refers to the statement in the »Report of a Mission to *Yarkand* in 1873», where it is said that rice is imported to *Kashgar* from *Aksu* and *Yarkand* districts, as a proof that the climate of *Kashgar* is not warm enough for cultivating rice on a large scale. But as far as the observation series go the climate of *Kashgar* is even a trifle warmer than that of *Yarkand*. The following is the average temperature for every month of the year in *Kashgar* and *Yarkand*:

¹ Cf. DEASY, In *Tibet and Chinese Turkestan*, London 1901, p. 118—123.

² Legge's transl., p. 22.

³ Ancient *Khotan*, p. 67 et seq.

⁴ HSÜAN-CHUANG says regarding *Kashgar*: »The climate is soft and agreeable . . . » — Beal, *Si-yu-ki*, Vol. II, p. 306.

⁵ LORD CURZON'S argumentation regarding the itinerary of Fa-hien is much sounder and more reasonable than that of Chavannes. He observes, amongst other things, that *Ladak*, which is on the extreme eastern fringe, could scarcely be described as in the middle of these mountains, »that Fa-hien's description of the Ts'ung-ling climate and conditions exactly accords with those of the Pamirs: that he employs the same name, *Snowy Mountains*, as is unmistakably applied by his successor *Sung Yün* to the main *Hindu Kush* range, south of *Wakhan*; and, that a month after leaving *Chieh-ch'ä* he speaks of having crossed Ts'ung-ling, which he could only have done if coming from the north, and which he would nowhere be said to have done if coming from *Ladak* or *Baltistan*. It is further to be noted that the remaining Chinese pilgrims, of whose similar journeys the records have been preserved, all travelled on their outward or return journey by the Pamir line; and that there is no contemporary witness to a *Karakoram* route. I hold, therefore, that Fa-hien did traverse some portion of the Pamir region, though what track he followed, or by what passes he crossed the main range, we have no means of ascertaining . . . » — *The Pamirs and the Source of the Oxus*, London 1896, p. 65.