

and in 747 the famous general KAO HSIEN-SHIH 高仙芝 at the head of an army was sent from Kucha, and arrived in 35 days at Kashgar, from where he continued 20 days to the military post of Ts'ung-ling¹, after which he marched across the Pamir, the Baroghil and Darkot passes to the valley of Gilgit, where the king was beaten, and the Chinese army covered with glory. It remained to assist the prince of Tokharistan against the Tibetans and the king of *Chieh-shih*, who interrupted the communications between Gilgit and Kashmir. In 750 these enemies were beaten by Kao Hsien-shih.

As a hundred years before, the Chinese dominion over these parts of the Western Countries did not last long. In 751 Kao Hsien-shih was himself in a disastrous way beaten by the troupes of the *Abbassids* who had joined their victorious arms with those of the *Karluks* tribes. This defeat, inflicted upon Kao Hsien-shih at the banks of the river *Talas*, marks the end of the Chinese power in the Western Countries.²

2. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA.

The *T'ang-shu*, available in CHAVANNES' translation, is very rich in information regarding our mountains (see Pl. IIa). Under the heading »Notice sur le *K'ieou-tse* (Koutcha)»³ we find them mentioned thus:

Dans les pays qui sont à l'est des *Ts'ong-ling*, on se plaît communément à la débauche; à *K'ieou-tse* (Koutche) et à Yu-fien (Khoten) on a établi des maisons de femmes sur lesquelles on lève des taxes.

Here both *Kucha* and *Khotan* are regarded as situated east of *Ts'ung-ling*, which, therefore, marks the western boundary of Eastern Turkistan. Further it is said:⁴

Trois cents li plus à l'ouest, on traverse un désert de pierre et on arrive aux montagnes Ling qui sont les plateaux septentrionaux des *Ts'ong-ling*; les rivières y coulent vers l'est; même au printemps et en été les gorges de ces montagnes sont remplies de neige.

Here we learn that the western part of Tien-shan, situated south of the Issik-köl, called the *Ling mountains*. Ling being pass in Chinese, it seems was a contradiction to call them plateaux. At any rate the western part of the Tien-shan is reckoned as a member of the *Ts'ung-ling*, or as an apophyse from its block. The eternal snow of the *Ts'ung-ling* is mentioned.

In the same book and under the heading »Notice sur *Sou-le* (Kachgar)»⁵ we read:

Le *Tchou-kiu-po* (Kökyar)⁶ est appelé aussi *Tchou-kiu-p'an*; c'est le royaume de Tse-ho de l'époque des Han. Il s'est annexé et possède le territoire des quatre peuples appelés Si-ye, P'ou-li, I-nai et To-jo. Il est à mille li droit à l'ouest de Yu-fien (Khoten) et à trois cents li au nord des *Ts'ong-ling*. A l'ouest, il touche au *Ho-p'an-t'o* (Tach-kourgane); à neuf cents li vers le nord, il se rattache à *Sou-le* (Kachgar); à trois mille li au sud se trouve le royaume des femmes.

Then it runs:

En partant de *Sou-le* (Kachgar), si on se dirige vers le sud-ouest, on entre dans la gorge *Kien-mo* et dans les montagnes *Pou-jen* et, au bout de six cents li, on trouve ce royaume (*Ho-p'an-t'o* = Tach-kourgane). (Le *Ho-p'an-t'o*) est à quatre mille cinq cents li de l'arrondissement de *Koa* Ⅲ;

¹ Chavannes, op. cit., p. 152, note.

² Chavannes, op. cit., p. 298.

³ *T'anghsu*, book CCXXI, a, p. 8r^o et seq.-Documents sur les Tou-kiue (Turcs) occidentaux, St. Pétersbourg, 1903, p. 115.

⁴ Op. cit., p. 120.

⁵ Chavannes, *T'ang shu*, book CCXXI, a, p. 9 v^o, loc. cit., p. 123.

⁶ *V. supra*, p. 19.

6. VIII.