

the right without a road, *yeilaks* or tents. At the junction with the right tributary *Kismak-jilga* two tents were pitched, and higher up nine amongst the *yeilaks*; *Kismak-jilga* has a road to *Kismak-davan* and, on its S. E. side, to the *Chumbus-jilga* which joins the *Keng-kol*. *Kismak-davan* is flat and snow-covered. Finally from the right, or S. W., enters the *Suget-jilga* which is considerable and has groves of willows. Here a road goes to the pass of *Ike-bel-davan*, leaving *Kara-tash-davan* to the left and joining the *Yalpak-tash-jilga*, *Ike-bel-su* and *Keng-shvär*. *Ike-bel-davan* is said to be covered by ice and gravel, and practicable only on foot.

The *aul* of *Suget* consisted of five tents of *Kara-teits*. They intended to remain here four months, nearly the whole winter, after which they would wander to upper *Merke*, where they pass the summer. There is a good deal of snow in the winter at *Suget*, but no hard wind. I got some information about the *Ulug-art Pass* farther N. W., and of the *Buru-kös-davan* which was said to be closed by snow 5 or 6 months every year. In 1895 I was to make a nearer acquaintance with the *Ulug-art*. The *Kusen-darya* was said often to be so swollen in the summer that it could not be crossed except at a few well-known fords.

From *Suget* we had 11.5 km. N. N. E. down the same valley to *Chat*, where the altitude is 2,876 m.; the descent is thus 139 m., and the rate as 1:83. The road is good, there is alternating grass and gravel; the valley is rather narrow, the snow gradually disappears, flocks of yaks are seen on the meadows. Only on the mountains the snow still remains. The rock is as hitherto black crystalline schist. The erosion terraces are well developed and pierced in vertical gorges by the tributaries. Below *Kara-tash-jilga*, which enters from the left, the main brook has about 4 cub. m. clean water per second in a bed full of gravel and blocks. From the right or east enters the *Khan-dösö-jilga*. Just below comes *Kara-tash* from the left; it has 8 tents higher up; and on the pass, *Kara-tash-davan*, two *karaul* tents. Below *Kara-tash* enters, also from the left, the *Kalmak-masar-jilga*, without habitations, and a road. The same is the case with *Bilauli-jilga* from the right. At *Chat* four tents were pitched inside of a wall of stone and earth. The people arrived a month ago and would soon move to *Suget*, where the wood is plentiful. The summer they pass at upper *Merke*.

The chief of *Chat*, Muhammed Tokta Bek, was Chong Bek or Grand Bek of *Kara-tash* and *Merke* with 70 tents, *Gäjek* with 40 tents, *Chimgan* with 60 tents, *Khan-terek* with 40 tents and *Kara-kul* and *Su-bashi* with 50 tents. Most of his subjects were *Kara-teits*, though at *Chimgan* *Yaman-teits* also were living.

At *Chat* there is not much snow in the winter. The cold is not bad and the wind not hard.

Before reaching *Chat* we had left to our left side, or W. N. W., the continuation of the main valley which we had been following ever since *Merke-bel*. All the water from *Merke*, *Boramsal*, *Kara-tash* and other valleys pierces here the mountains