

Westwards from *Hojet-bai* there is a road to *Kara-chukur*, *Beik*, *Min-teke*, *Vakjir* and *Kok-turuk*. East of *Hojet-Bai*, *Shiralji-jilga* comes out from the vicinity of the *Shiralji Peak*; it is inhabited by Tajiks during the winter. *Kutas-soidu* is a *yeilak* (summer grazing ground) or *shevär* (pronounced *shvär*, meadow along the river) now inhabited by Vakhanliks. *Kichik-Sasik-teke* and *Chong-Sasik-teke* are small valleys in the mountains to the west of our valley. Another on the same side is called *Yetim-dube*. Opposite the latter we pass along the rocks of the right or eastern side of the valley, where excellent grass grows on both sides of the river. The place is usually simply called *Masar*, though its name is properly *Sultan-Seid-Asan-masar*. On the right bank of the *Hunserab* there was here an *aul* of ten black tents inhabited by Kesek Kirgizes. Their yaks and sheep were grazing in the neighbourhood. Above this place there is a small Kirgiz cemetery with cupola-shaped tombs, and still higher up is a small *jilga*, *Masarning-bashi*.

At the western side a large tributary valley, *Parpak*, opens, the *yeilaks* of which were used by Tajiks and Vakhanliks; the same is the case with the valley *Teshik-tash*. A projecting rock at the right or eastern side of the valley consists of hard greenstone in 14° S. 30° W., and is called *Burgu-toase*. The living rock crops up from amongst the gravel and the blocks.

Next, to the east, we pass the mouth of the large tributary *Ilik-su* (also pronounced *Ileg-su*) with a pass and a two days' narrow and difficult road to *Raskan-darya*. Some passages on the eastern side of the gorge were said to be filled by blocks amongst which a river flows; the road is passable only when there is little water in the rivers, as now was the case. In the mouth of *Ilik-su* were very good pasturages; its brook had now nearly no water at all, though it may be large after sunny days.

Our road is comfortable, as the ground is hard; consisting of dust and sand with tussocks and grass; sometimes it is gravelly. *Sar-arik* is a region on the left side of *Hunserab* where the grass is particularly good. The valley is comparatively broad. It is still a long way to the black and white crests and peaks in the south. In nearly all directions are magnificent, snow-covered mountains. Those to the south belong to the *Kara-korum*, and on their far side is *Kanjut*. The road across the pass of *Hunserab* was said to go to a place in *Kanjut* called *Gircha*, to which also the *Min-teke* road comes down.

In the lower part of the right tributary, *Kara-su*, where we camped, the grass was good but no inhabitants were seen; only in the upper reaches of the valley Vakhanliks were said to camp. The *Kara-su* valley also leads to a pass. As a rule travellers to *Yarkand* take the road of *Tash-kurgan*. The narrow passage east of *Ilik-su* mentioned above is two and a half days in length and was said to have been very much destroyed by the last earthquake, heaps of blocks and gravel