

north was called *Sarikol* (*Sarik-kol*). Seventy or 80 tents of Tajiks were said to be located at *Taghdumbash*. Stone huts are not used in these high regions. The inhabitants live under exactly the same conditions as the Kirgizes and have yaks, ponies, sheep and goats, and, of course, dogs; but no camels. Their language is Persian, although they also have a perfect command of Kirgiz.

Regarding roads the following particulars were given to me. Across the pass of *Hunserab* a road goes in five days to *Kanjut*, though the great amount of water in the rivers makes it very difficult during the summer. The *Uprang-davan* which is high and difficult, can be crossed only on foot or with yaks. On its eastern side there is a road to *Raskan-darya*, which only at the end of September can be crossed. The valley going down eastwards from *Uprang-davan*, is also called *Uprang*, and has at its mouth a Chinese *karaul* of 11 men. Here, as lower down, we were told that nomads travelling to *Yarkand* in summer always take the road by *Tash-kurgan* and *Chicheklik*. The pass of *Ilik-su* was not regarded as difficult, but the gorge at its eastern side, which has a brook going to *Raskan-darya*, had been destroyed by the earthquake. It is inhabited only at one or two places, where wheat is grown. Even if a traveller from *Ilik-su* succeeds in reaching the *Raskan-darya* he cannot continue, as the river cannot be crossed during the summer. If he continues upwards along the left bank of the river a four days' journey to a place called *Kok-jilga*, he has to cross *Raskan-darya* three times. This can be done only in the winter. By the *Sänkar-jilga* and its pass, which is comparatively easy, one arrives by *Marian* to *Tong* and *Raskan-darya*. In one word, the latter river blocks all the road to the east.

At the part of the *Uprang* valley where we camped, the winter is said to be very cold and the snow sometimes to reach to a man's knees. If much snow falls the nomads go down to *Masar*, otherwise they remain in the region. The strongest and most frequent winds are said to come from the *Hunserab Pass*, and from the same direction come also the snow clouds. At *Uprang* rain is rare, and nearly all precipitation falls as snow. Not lower down than at *Masar* the greatest amount of precipitation in summer is rain.

The view from our camp at *Uprang* was fascinating in its grandeur; to the N. N. W. the broad valley of *Taghdumbash* bounded by its snow-covered ranges, the *Sarikol Range* to the west and the *Kashgar Range* to the east, and to the south the magnificent snowy peaks and crests of the northern *Kara-korum*.

August 1st was sacrificed for a visit to the Tajiks living in the mouth of the *Korum-jilga*. As members of the Iranian race they have finer and more distinguished faces than the Kirgiz, and as a rule they are better dressed and adorn their women and horses with bright colours and ornaments. But as pointed out before, their conditions of life are otherwise the same as those of the Kirgiz.