

of dinner. They are quick at their work, talkative and merry. You hear no quarrelling or swearing, nor do you see any discontented looks. Their movements are slow, but this is probably due to their awkward boots and heavy furs, for you often see a man or woman running quickly and lightly down a steep mountain side. After dinner, or rather, supper they say their prayers and then do some more scrubbing with ashes (without using water), talking and laughing until late at night. They sleep stark naked on a blanket spread on the ground, covering themselves with a blanket of felt and wool covered with homespun cloth and a fur coat or only with a fur.

The tents they live in are far less comfortable than the yurts of other nomadic tribes. They are 3—4 paces in diameter, but so low that you cannot stand upright in them. They are made of coarse homespun, greyish-white canvas with dark brown edges and are supported by poles, the two poles in the middle being joined by a crossbar. On the outside they have ropes that fasten them to a fence. This was the case, at any rate, with the tents I saw, which had a foundation of small logs, laid lengthwise, and caulked with manure. I was told that they did not take the foundations with them when they moved, but only used the canvas to cover the ground. At the top of the tent there is a long rectangular opening to allow the smoke to escape. A kettle is placed in the middle of the tent on some lumps of clay; facing the entrance there are a couple of Buddhas and some brass vessels on a low table and along the walls their very meagre collection of household utensils, blankets, saddles etc.

The Shera Yögurs are of medium height and not badly built. Those whom I measured had rather well-shaped hands and feet and thin wrists and ankles. There is nothing of the Kalmuks' coarse appearance about them. I saw no stout people, but some very thin ones. Their faces are neither exceptionally long and narrow nor short and broad. The cheekbones were slightly prominent in some cases. Very few had very prominent cheekbones and in most cases they were perfectly normal. Their mouths were normal, the lips being neither exceptionally thin nor thick. Their teeth were well shaped and beautiful. Their noses were usually straight and well shaped. A few individuals had broad, turned-up noses with, as it were, a sunken bridge. The distance between the eyes was normal, though, perhaps, slightly wide in the majority of cases, and the position of the eyes was normal. The corners of the eyes were slightly covered by the Mongolian fold. This peculiarity disappears entirely, or almost entirely, as they grow older. The colour of their eyes is black or dark, though with lighter shades. I did not see anyone with blue eyes. Their hair is black or very dark, in some cases curly. Both the children I saw had brown hair. I saw no bald people, but several who were very grey. Judging by the women I saw, their hair does not grow very thick. The men have thin beards, and judging by 12 measurements, there is practically no hair on their bodies.

The Yögurs are dirty, but who would not be, who had to spend the winter in a small, cold tent? It seemed to me that the household utensils were scrubbed more carefully than among the Kalmuks and I saw that the majority washed themselves, a thing that never occurred in my presence among the latter, even in summer. I did not see a single person spit. It is rare for any of the Yögurs to smoke, but they take snuff. About a dozen are said to be opium smokers.