

R.S. rejoined his family. He here held a *Cúrultáy*, and celebrated his conquests by magnificent festivities. After these rejoicings he marched against Shandarca, the rebel Chief of Tangút, devastated his country and reduced him to subjection, but, restoring him to favour, gave him one of his daughters in marriage. This Chief, however, it appears, again rebelled, and Changíz taking the field against him was wounded by an arrow, and died from its effects in *Ramzán* 624 H.=18th August 1227 A.D. (Y.C.), aged seventy-three years, having reigned twenty-five. He was buried, by his own desire, without ostentation, at the roots of a tree in his favourite hunting grounds. He had more than five hundred wives, but only five were noted for birth and beauty combined. They were Parta Cochín, a noble lady of the Cúnghrát tribe, the mother of his noted sons. In his early wars she was taken prisoner by the Makrít, and delivered to Aong Khán. He kept her sometime, and on a cessation of hostilities restored her to Changíz, whom, shortly after her return, she presented with the son named Jújí= stranger. A stigma always attached to his parentage, and was the cause of his disagreement with his brothers, and subsequent separation from them. He died during the life of Changíz, and his son, Bátú Khán, inherited his share of the empire. Parta Cochín after him bore Changíz three sons, viz., Aoktáy, Chaghtáy, and Túlí, and five daughters.

The other noted wives were Konjú, daughter of Altán Khan, King of Khitá; Kormay Sún, daughter of Táyang Khán; Mysolon, the daughter of Jámkabúd; and Cúlán, the daughter of Táyrasún. The offspring of Changíz in a few generations exceeded ten thousand souls. He first instituted his celebrated *Yasá-Yúsún* code after the death of Aong Khán. On his coronation he confirmed it, and had it written in the Uighúr character, which he adopted for the Moghol language. He first established the decimal system of military organization, and the several ranks and offices for the civil administration of the Moghol empire, and instituted the hunting circles, called *Jirga*, with the rules and regulations for their conduct, and the pains and penalties for their infraction. He was a just ruler, protected merchants and encouraged commerce, tolerated all religions, and was liberal to those who unconditionally surrendered to his authority; but to those who opposed him his only course was one of utter ruin and extermination. On the death of Changíz some confusion followed in the succession to the Chiefship, and it was not till the spring of the third year after, that Aoktáy was acknowledged *Khán* at a *Curultáy* held in his camp. At this assembly he was crowned King, and divided the treasures left by Changíz amongst his sons, and nobles and chiefs and troops. He performed the funeral obsequies of the departed conqueror, and sacrificing forty noble virgins to his manes consigned them to his grave as companions in the world he had gone to. On this occasion Aoktáy received the homage of his brothers and nobles nine times on bended knee (according to the *Tártár* observance of that number), after which they went out and knelt three times to the sun as witness to their sincerity. All criminals were pardoned up to date, and the *Yasá-Yúsún* of Changíz ordained as the rule of government. And thus was inaugurated the succession to the throne of Changíz.

After this *Cúrultáy*, in the spring of 627 H.=1229 A.D., Aoktáy with Chaghtáy, and Túlí, marched to the conquest of Khitá. Túlí died during the campaign from the effects of a fever contracted through an act of brotherly devotion, of which instances are not uncommon amongst *Tártár* tribes. He had, to save the life of the sick Aoktáy, voluntarily taken his disease to himself by drinking a cup of water in which it had been typically washed away from his afflicted brother. The Moghol army suffered great losses in this campaign from the effects of climate and disease, but their booty in captured women was so great that the districts depopulated from these causes were soon re-peopled by their offspring.

From the conquest of Khitá, Aoktáy returned to Karákoram, and in the spring of 633 H.=1235 A.D. sent his son Kúyúk, and Batú, the son of Jújí, and Mangú, the son of Túlí, and all the sons of Chaghtáy to the conquest of Rús, Charkas, and Bulghar, whilst he devoted his time to the restoration of the principal cities destroyed by his father, and the erection, at Karákoram, of a magnificent palace for himself.