

The interior of the same house afforded a typical illustration of the curiously elaborate arrangement of the hall which serves as the living-room for the whole large household in the winter. Every one of the wooden pillars supporting the timber ceiling has its particular name, and each part of the sitting platform as divided by the pillars has its special use. It was amusing to observe that a raised recess just below the ceiling serving as the sleeping-place for the children was provided with a kind of hypocaustic heating by the calves being accommodated in a closet below it.

The women of Roshan are said to be famous for good looks and particularly for the fairness of their complexion. I had a wayside chance of verifying this reputation when in company of the village headman I passed three generations of his family gathered in a group near his home (Fig. 145). Wife and mother were as fair of face as if they had been ladies of Europe, and the two little girls looked very pretty. In order to increase the attraction of the elder's complexion according to local fashion, her grandmother was just then busily engaged in smearing her rosy cheeks with some wild berries intended to bleach the skin.

On September 27 I left Kala-i-Wamar in order to make my way towards Kara-tegin across the easternmost valleys and ranges of what until 1877 had been the principality of Darwaz and had since passed under the rule of the Amir of Bukhara. The season was now closely approaching when the high passes on the route I had planned to follow might become blocked by snow. So I felt obliged to travel here rapidly. To this I could reconcile myself more readily since a considerable portion of this alpine portion of Bukhara had