

went to pay my visit to Chang-Darin, the Amban, at his official residence or Yamen. I was received with all the ceremony due to the occasion, a salute of three popguns included, and soon found myself face to face with my host in his neat little reception-room. Chang-Darin impressed me very favourably with his liveliness and unmistakable intelligence. He had heard from the Tao-tai at Kashgar of my visit and its object.



YETIMLUKUM MAZAR WITH CEMETERY, NEAR KARGHALIK.

So no lengthy explanations were required as to what I was looking for along the route to Khotan, and all needful help about transport and supplies was readily offered.

Chang-Darin insisted on treating me to a light kind of lunch consisting of only a few plates. In addition to these I had to taste a good deal of wine. Fortunately it was not the strong Chinese spirit that appeared on Liu-Darin's table, but a kind