

extracted from the great history, *Tzū chih tung chien*.¹⁹ This narrates how the Jabgu of Tokhāristān, Shih-li-tan-ch'ieh-lo, in A.D. 749, dispatched an envoy to the Imperial Court with the following application: 'The king of Chieh-shih, 竭師, has personally attached himself to the Tibetans; he harasses and troubles the Little P'o-lü; he has established an army to obstruct its line of supplies. I, your subject, desire to destroy this perverse man. I pray you to send troops of An-hsi²⁰ which next year in the fifth month will reach the Little P'o-lü, and in the sixth arrive in the Great P'o-lü.' 'The Emperor gave his assent. In the ninth year T'ien-pao (A.D. 750), in the second month, Kao Hsien-chih, general of An-hsi, triumphed over the kingdom of Chieh-shih and made its king P'o-t'ê-mo prisoner. In the third month Su-chia, elder brother of P'o-t'ê-mo, was appointed king of Chieh-shih.'

Chieh-shuai
(Chieh-shih)
identified
with Chitrāl.

In discussing in *Ancient Khotan* the bearing of these records on the story of the Chinese occupation of Yasin and Gilgit, I have already set forth in detail the reasons which have convinced me that by the territory called *Chieh-shih* or *Chieh-shuai* must be meant Chitrāl.²¹ The most conclusive proof is supplied by a record in the detailed notice which the T'ang Annals contain on T'u-ho-lo or Tokhāristān. After the mention of an event which belongs to the year A.D. 729, there follows the statement that a 'neighbouring barbarian people, that of Chieh-shih, proposed to lead the Tibetans (*T'u-po*) to an attack upon T'u-ho-lo.²² Thereupon the Jabgu Shih-li mang-ch'ieh-lo²³ prayed that troops of An-hsi might come to his help to meet it. The Emperor, by his favour, caused troops to move which defeated the enemy.' As the notice proceeds in chronological sequence to mention the military help which T'u-ho-lo rendered to the Emperor in A.D. 758 in his struggle with rebels, it may be considered certain that the expedition against Chieh-shih here mentioned by the T'ang Annals is identical with the one of A.D. 750, by which, as seen, P'o-t'ê-mo, king of Chieh-shuai or Chieh-shih, was defeated, and his elder brother Su-chia set up as king in his place.

Notice of
Chitrāl in
T'ang
Annals.

The mention here made of Chieh-shih as a territory adjoining Tokhāristān, and one through which the latter was exposed to Tibetan aggression, would by itself suffice to suggest the identity of Chieh-shih with Chitrāl; for a glance at the map shows that for the Tibetans, already established on the Indus as far as Baltistān and struggling for the possession of 'Little P'o-lü' or Gilgit-Yasin, the line of advance against Badakhshān would necessarily have led through Chitrāl. But this identification is made still more certain by a subsequent passage in the T'ang Annals' notice of Tokhāristān describing the territory of *Chieh* 劫, a manifest abbreviation of Chieh-shih.²⁴ 'It is situated in the midst of the Ts'ung-ling mountains; to the west and the south it is bordered by (the territory of) Shê-mi; to the north-west are the I-ta or Hephthalites.' As the seats of the latter are placed by the same notice in Tokhāristān, which in its main portion south of the Oxus undoubtedly corresponds to Badakhshān,²⁵ it is clear that Chieh or Chieh-shih which adjoined this on the south-east must be represented by the present Chitrāl.

¹⁹ See Chavannes, *Turcs occid.*, p. 214, note 2.

²⁰ By An-hsi 'the West-protecting [garrison]' is meant Kuchā, then the administrative centre of the 'Four Garrisons', representing the Chinese protectorate in the Tārīm Basin and to the north of it.

²¹ The graphic difference in the second character 帥 or 師 is very slight.

²² See Chavannes, *Turcs occid.*, p. 158, where the name of *Chieh-shih* appears in the form of 羯師.

²³ The texts previously quoted replace *mang* 杭 by *ch'ang* 嘗 or *tan* 怛.

²⁴ See Chavannes, *Turcs occid.*, p. 159. In note 3 M. Chavannes had duly recognized *Chieh* 劫 as a form, abbreviated after the fashion usual in Chinese texts, of the name which appears as *Chieh-shih* 竭師 or *Chieh-shuai* 去帥 in the encyclopaedias previously quoted (see above, p. 29) and as *Chieh-shih* 羯師 in the preceding passage of the T'ang Annals. But he had not attempted to locate the territory intended.

²⁵ Cf. Chavannes, *Turcs occid.*, pp. 155, 158; also *Voyage de Song Yun*, p. 24.