

of Ching-chüeh, located above on the Niya River, lies to the west of Chü-mo, though the distance shown as 2,000 li is grossly exaggerated.¹² Chü-mo, with its capital of the same name, is described as a petty 'kingdom', containing '230 families, comprising 1,610 persons, with 320 trained soldiers, a Guardian Marquis, a Right General, a Left General, and an Interpreter-in-chief. The city is distant from the seat of the Governor-General on the north-west 2,258 li. The country joins Hwuy-le on the north, and it is about three days' journey to the kingdom of Little Wan on the south. Grapes and other fruits are produced. The kingdom of Tsing-tseuë (Ching-chüeh) on the west is 2,000 li distant.'

Neighbour-
ing territory
of Hsiao-
yüan.

By Hwuy-le, i.e. Wu-lei 烏壘, is meant the vicinity of Chādir, between Korla and Kuchā, on the great route north of the Tārīm, which served under the Former Han dynasty as headquarters for the Protector-General of the Western Regions.¹³ A reference to the map shows that the bearing here recorded is accurate enough, Charchan being situated in 85° 35' long. according to our surveys (see Map No. 46), while Dr. Hassenstein's map places Chādir in *circ.* 84° 50'.¹⁴ As to the still smaller 'kingdom of Little Wan' or Hsiao-yüan, which lay about three days' journey to the south of Chü-mo, and of which a brief account is given in the succeeding notice of the *Hsi yü chuan*, it is certain that it must be identified with the small settlements of cultivators and herdsmen which are scattered along the foot of the K'un-lun south and south-west of Charchan, from Achchan to the debouchure of the Mölcha and Endere Rivers (see Maps Nos. 43, 47). To judge from the distance indicated, the 'capital' of this tract, the 'city' of Yü-ling, may be placed about Dālai-kurghān, as suggested by Dr. Herrmann.¹⁵ The population recorded for Hsiao-yüan, 150 families, throws light on the modest resources of this hill tract. It is correctly described as 'lying out of the way of the high road' and adjoining on the east the territory of the nomadic Jo Ch'iang, who held the high plateaus south of the Āltin-tāgh, including Tsaidam.

Charchan
in later
Annals.

The annals of the Later Han duly mention Chü-mo 且末 in its proper place between the territories of Shan-shan and Ching-chüeh, on the great southern route from Yü-mên to Khotan.¹⁶ Also the *Wei lio* (composed A. D. 239-265) notes it, along with Hsiao-yüan and Ching-chüeh, among the territories dependent on Shan-shan.¹⁷ No details are furnished by these records, nor does Charchan appear otherwise to receive any special notice in the Annals of the dynasties which intervened between the Han and T'ang periods.

Calmadana
in Niya
Kharoṣṭhī
tablet.

But we have direct and authentic evidence that Charchan was still inhabited and probably a separate chiefship towards the end of the third century A. D. in the Chinese tablet from the Niya Site, N. XIV. iii. 10, which mentions a present offered to a Royal consort from Chü-mo.¹⁸ There is also reason to believe that Charchan is meant by *Calmadana*, mentioned in a Kharoṣṭhī tablet from the same site as the locality from which a messenger is dispatched to *Khotana*, i. e. Khotan,

¹² See above, pp. 219 sq.; cf. also Hermann, *Seidenstrassen*, p. 99, where an endeavour is made to account for this palpable exaggeration. Seeing that the position of Chü-mo and Ching-chüeh are quite certain, this great error in distance serves as a warning against placing too great reliance on the distance estimates in the Han Annals' survey of the Western Regions.

¹³ Cf. Wylie, *J. Anthropol. Inst.*, xi. p. 95; Hermann, *Seidenstrassen*, pp. 38, 86. See also below, Chap. xxx, sec. ii, note 8.

¹⁴ I must leave it undecided how this bearing to the north of Chü-mo is to be reconciled with the statement immediately preceding about the seat of the Governor-General, i. e.

Wu-lei, being to the north-west. Considering the vast distance, almost all impassable desert, which in the direct line separates Charchan from the small oasis north of the Taklamakān, either location is sufficiently correct and suggests the use of some map by the compiler of the 'Notes on the Western Regions'.

¹⁵ See Herrmann, *Seidenstrassen*, p. 99.

¹⁶ Cf. Chavannes, *T'oung-pao*, 1907, p. 170.

¹⁷ See *ibid.*, 1905, pp. 535 sqq. The *Wei lio* by a graphic error shows the name as 且志 *Chü-chih* instead of 且末.

¹⁸ See above, p. 218; Chavannes, *Documents*, p. 203.