

Asia¹⁶. Here we are concerned only with the territories of Eastern Turkestan. The Protectorate of An-hsi which, as we have seen, had in 640 A. D. been established in Turfān (Kao-ch'ang) for the purpose of extending Chinese control over these territories, was in 658 A. D., immediately after the final victory over the Turks, definitely transferred to Kuchā (Ch'iu-tzū)¹⁷.

The 'Four
Garrisons.'

The passage of the T'ang Annals tells us that this Protectorate was intended to govern *Yü-t'ien* (Khotan), *Suei-shih* (Tokmak), and *Su-lê*, the whole of these territories (including Kuchā itself) being henceforth known as the 'Four Garrisons'. There can be no doubt that this term 四鎮 included all Eastern Turkestan, not merely the territories actually enumerated as seats of the 'Four Garrisons'. The official list of the latter subsequently underwent a change, by the substitution of Kara-shahr for Tokmak, at a date variously stated as 670 or 719 A. D.; but the application of the term itself, in the sense above indicated, remained the same as long as the supremacy of the T'angs in the Tārīm Basin lasted¹⁸.

Subjection
of Kāshgar.

The fact that Kāshgar figures from the first in the official list of the 'Four Garrisons' shows the importance which the Chinese attached to this state. The Imperial decree finally ordering the administrative organization of *Su-lê* and *Chu-chü-p'an* or Karghalik, along with a number of Trans-Oxus states, was issued in the year 659¹⁹. But other passages in the T'ang Annals prove that the actual establishment of Chinese authority at Kāshgar was not effected immediately. The authority of the Kagans, who after the capture of Ho-lu had been placed by the Emperor in charge of the defeated tribes of the Western Turks, appears to have been very weak. Tu-man (also designated as *A-hsi-chieh ch'üeh-ssü-chin*), the chief of one of the Nu-shih-pi tribes belonging to the Western Turks, rose in rebellion, and carrying with him the states of *Su-lê*, *Chu-chü-po* (Karghalik), and *Ho-p'an-t'o* or *Ts'ung-ling* (Sarikol), attacked and conquered Khotan. A Chinese force was sent against him, and succeeded in defeating and capturing him in the year 660 somewhere on the Upper Yaxartes²⁰.

First em-
bassies from
Kāshgar.

We have already had occasion to note that the states subject to the Western Turks, but outside the tracts actually occupied by their semi-nomadic tribes, retained their local rulers. The desert regions of the Tārīm Basin and the small oases interspersed between them were by their physical conditions effectually protected against such occupation; and accordingly the Chinese conquest found Kāshgar and the other territories of Eastern Turkestan under the rule of indigenous princes whose allegiance to their suzerain must have depended mainly upon the

¹⁶ The geographical chapter of the T'ang Annals furnishes a detailed list of the protectorates, governments, and districts established in a portion of the territories annexed after the conquest of the Western Turks. This list, first brought to notice by A. Rémusat in his 'Remarques sur l'extension de l'Empire chinois du côté de l'Occident' (*Mémoires de l'Académie des Inscriptions*, vol. viii. 1827), has been exhaustively analysed and supplemented from other sources by M. Chavannes, *Turcs occid.*, pp. 67-71, and again pp. 270 sqq. Unfortunately the original 'treatises with maps on the Western countries', which were presented to the throne in 658 and 661 A. D. by the officer entrusted by imperial order with the survey and organization of the newly-annexed territories (*Turcs occid.*, pp. 119, 156), have not been preserved.

¹⁷ See Chavannes, *ibid.*, p. 118.

From a record in the encyclopaedia *Ts'ê fu yüan kuei* translated by M. Chavannes, in *Notes addit. sur les Tou-kiue occid.*, p. 19, it is seen that a Protectorate of the 'Four Garrisons' was first established by T'ai-tsung at Kuchā in

648 or 649, after the reduction of that territory in the first-named year. Kao-tsung, however, on his accession in 650 A. D., decided to abandon this advanced garrison, and consequently ordered the Protectorate of An-hsi to be re-established at Kao-ch'ang or Turfān.

¹⁸ The history of the term 'Four Garrisons' has been discussed with critical thoroughness by M. Chavannes, *Turcs occid.*, pp. 113 sq., note.

The variation in the records concerning the date when Kara-shahr took the place of Tokmak may possibly be due to the fact that popular usage had anticipated the official alteration of the list consequent upon the abandonment of Tokmak in 719 A. D. by the Chinese. Kara-shahr, by its position within the region defined by the T'ien-shan and Kun-lun, certainly fitted better than Tokmak near Lake Issik-kul into a list of names which probably soon acquired a geographical significance distinct from political conditions.

¹⁹ Compare Chavannes, *ibid.*, pp. 141, note, 268, note.

²⁰ See *ibid.*, pp. 72 sq., 307 sq.