enclosure of reeds and wood-work higher than the heap and make a narrow entrance,-the wind enters and carries up the sand like a whirlwind as high as the eye can reach,-no injury is thus sustained.

Report says, in the days of the Persian empire, there existed a great city between Kerman and Segestan, lying from the citadel in the direction of Rasek, on the left of the road to Kerman, at a distance of three marches; some houses and buildings are standing in these days;-it was call Ram Shuhrestan; the Segestan canal ran to it from a bund on the Helmund,-but its banks were destroyed and cut up into breaches; the waters escaping, it became useless. The population migrated and built Zurunj.

The Helmund is the chief river, springing behind the country of Ghoor: it flows by Kundahur Zumeendawur and under the walls of Bost, to Seestan, where it joins the Zuruh Lake.

This lake is a large expanse of water, increasing or diminishing according to the seasons. The length of the lake is about thirty fursukhs from Kuweed on the Kohestan road, to the bridge of Kerman on the road to Fars; while its breadth is about one march, the water ever sweet abounds in fish and reeds. Round the lake except on the side of the desert are situated villages.

The Helmund flows from Bost unto a march's distance from Sees$\tan$; different portions of its water are turned off at various points. The first canal is called the Tam, it flows to the villages and ends in the district of Meeshuk. The next canal is the Bashtrood watering many hamlets; next is turned off the Seyarood, which runs within one fursukh of the capital, and by that canal come down the boats from Bost, but only in the season when the rivers rise. All the various smaller canals of the city are derived from this Seyarood. The Helmund flows on until the Shabuh rood watering thirty villages is turned aside, after which the Meelan canal is taken, to water much cultivation. What is left of the water is carried in to the canal called Burg. Sometimes a bund is built on this canal to prevent any water running into the Zeruh Lake, until arrives the season of the river's rising, when the bund is cut and the surplus water allowed to run into the lake.

At the gate of Bost, a bridge of boats is built over the Helmund, as is the custom over the rivers of Erak.

The surplus waters of the valley of Furruh and surrounding country
also flow into the Zeruh Lake. The river of Furruh rises in the country of Ghoor, as does the stream called Meeshuk also flowing into the lake.

Seestan is highly productive, abounding in grain and fruits and grapes. The inhabitants to appearance are comfortable. Large crops of Assafoetida are gathered in the deserts which lie between Seestan and Mukran ; the people often eat it as food; and mix it very generally in all their cooking.

Buloochistan is the name of a country in which is the town called Seewee, but the chief resides at Quetta; Espongulee is larger than Quetta. Rukhuj is the name of a district of which a town is Punjwaee and another Kohuk, this district lies between Buloochistan and Zumeendawur ; the inhabitants are mostly weavers of woollen cloth; much money is paid as revenue from this district; much grain is also produced, as the country is both fertile and extensive.

Zumeendawur is a productive spot being bounded by Ghoor, Bugnee, Khuluj Bishling and Khash; the town of Zumeendawur is without walls but has a citadel; it is also the name of the district of which are towns called Gurmabuk and Dez Guz both situated on the banks of the Helmund. But in Bugnee, Khuluj, Zabul, and Ghoor with their dependencies, some of the people are on terms of alliance, and some have become Mohummedans. These places are all very cold locations.

The Khuluj is a Toorkee tribe, which for ages, has wandered between India and Seestan to the South of Ghoor ; they are rich in cattle like other Toorkee tribes, their dress and language are similar to those of Erak ; they wander to Meroe and visit India as merchants.

Bost is a city larger than any other in the government of Seestan, except Zurung-but it is not salubrious; although very fertile at all seasons; having both dates and grapes.

Kooheen is a small place, but having villages and hamlets attached; it is situated one march from Seestan on the left of a traveller to Bost, about two fursukhs from Suroor; the family of Suffar which ruled over Fars, Kerman, Khorasan and Seestan came originally from this place. They were four brothers called Yakoob, Omur, Taher and Ulee, sons of Lues. Taher was killed at the gate of Bost; his grave is there. Yakoob died at Jund Shapore on his return from Baghdad, at which place he is buried. Omur was killed and buried at Baghdad.

Ulee contrived to win his way to safety in Joorjan, he departed life in the Dehestan where he was interred. Yakoob was the eldest in years and a slave in some of the Sufar families. Omur was by trade a carrier, and it is said worked for some time as bricklayer. Ulee was the youngest in years, but he was the cause of their rebellion and subsequent rising in the world. They had a maternal uncle called Kubeer, the son of Rumadegan, who was a leader of a party against the Khowarej.

He was shut up in a Fort called Kufeel but escaped, and then went on to Bost; at this time there was a man called Dērhem, the son of Nusr, in these parts, who was as the head of a number of men who were outwardly anxious for a holy war and for the destruction of the Khowarej. The above four brothers were followers of this chief.

They advanced into Seestan; the Governor, on the part of Taher had not any great force, so they held a conference at the gate of the city, where Derhem-ben Nusr apparently professed his allegiance and proceeded on to attack the Khowarej : he then caressed the people, until they joined him; when he returned and obtaining entrance into the city, ejected the Governor, established himself and then destroyed many of the Khowarej party.
Ammar son of Yaser was the leader of this sect-Yakoob proceeded and killed him.

This circumstance caused his rise in rank ; the people were delighted with him, while he so won the affections of those in authority round Derhem-ben Nusr, that they placed him in the government. Every affair centered in Yakoob, until Derhem became his servant, but he did not behave well to Derhem who took leave on excuse of making a pilgrimage to Mecca.

After a residence of some time in Baghdad, Derhem returned to Seestan as an ambassador, from the Khalef, he was immediately killed by Yakoob. The affairs of this leader then so prospered, that he became chief in Seestan, and the confines of Scinde and India. In those countries many received the religion of Eslam from the hands of Yakoob; he then rose to power in Kerman, Fars, Khozestan, a portion of Erak and Khorasan.

Tak is a town one march behind a person going from Seestan to Khorasan, a small place, but with villages, which produce a vast quantity of grapes used by the people.

Khash is at a distance of one march from Koheen on the left of the road to Bost about half a fursukh; larger than Koheen; producing dates and trees, both places are well watered by streams and Kareez.

Furuh is larger than any of these places; having villages at least to the extent of sixty; with dates, fruits and corn, watered by the Furuh rood; its houses are built of clay, but the surface is level.

Churub is near to the boundary of Furuh on the rights of the Khorasan road, about one march; a small place like Koheen, but with villages and hamlets; very fruitful, watered by Kareez. The houses are made of mud.

Serwan is a small place like Koheen, but better peopled, producing fruits, dates and grapes; at a distance of two marches from Bost; the first march being Ferooz Mund, and the second Serwan on the Zumeendawur road.

Zalkan is one march from Bost; producing fruits, dates and corn, most of its inhabitants are weavers; its waters are from canals, but its houses of clay; about as large as Koheen.

Zurkan is less than Koheen, it is near Feroozmund on the right of the Rukhuj road. Much salt is produced, with corn and fruits; water is plentiful.

## Marches between Seestan and Herat.

Kurkoonuh,................ 3 f.
Bashtur, $\ldots \ldots \ldots . .\left\{\begin{array}{c}4 \text { f. crossing the bridge of a canal from } \\ \text { the Helmund. (The Bashtrood). }\end{array}\right.$

Joween, ................. 1 m. Map.
Busunt, ................. 1 m. unknown.
Kufjur, ..................... 1 m. ditto.
Sershuk, .................. 1 m. ditto.
Bridge over the Furruh river, 1 m. Map.
$\left.\begin{array}{l}\text { Koosar,.................. } \\ \text { Kookshekar,........... }\end{array}\right\} \quad 1 \mathrm{~m}$. doubtful.
Jashan, ................... 1 m. Chah Juhan?
Kareez Seree, ............. 1 m. Seraee, Map.
Jubul-ol-uswud, ........... 1 m. Seyahkoh.
Haman, ................. 1 m.
Herat, .................... 1 m.
Marches from Seestan to Bost.
Dahook, ................. 1 m .
Suroor,............... $\left\{\begin{array}{l}1 \mathrm{~m} . \text { a royal populous village; Chag. } \\ \text { nasoor. }\end{array}\right.$

| Horooree,. . | 1 m . over a brick bridge on the Meeshuk river. |
| :---: | :---: |
| Dehuk, | 1 m . District. |
| Abshoor, | 1 m. Map. |
| Guzre dubeer | 1 m . doubtful. |
| Huft Chah, | 1 m . Map. |
| Ubdallah, | 1 m. Map. |
| Bost,.... | 1 m . Map. |
| From Dehuk <br> Marches from | rsukh of Bost, the whole country is desert. znee. |
| Feerooz Mund, | 1 m . unknown. |
| Mueghoon, | 1 m . doubtful. |
| Kuebur, | 1 m . ditto, a fragment apparently. |
| Punjwaee, | 1 m . a town of Rukhuj. |
| Tukeenabad, | 1 m . |
| Khoomsunuh | I suggest Homuk the district of Kulate Gulzaee. |
| Sereusp, | Map. |
| Ukool, | Map. |
| Chungulabad, | A native acknowledged he had heard the name. |
| Urmur, | Doubtful, may be Ghoojan. |
| Khast, . . <br> Khoomuk, | Introduced from three other books, unknown, I suggest Khost, and Mokur, the last is well known and about where these marches would fall. |
| Khabser, | Frontier of the Ghuznee territory, unknown. |
| Khusajee, | I suggest Karabagh. |
| Hudwah, | A well peopled place; Huzardeh, I suggest. |
| Guznee, |  |
| From Punjw | istan. |
| Robat Hujur, |  |
| Tungee, | A robat towards the Khojuk range. |
| Bur, | Unknown. |
| Esjab, | Espungulee, I suspect. |
| Marches to |  |
| Haroot robat, | 1 m . |
| Daruk, | 1 m . |


| Buzur-deen, . | 1 m . |
| :---: | :---: |
| Gaomeshuk, | 1 m . Gaopulung, Ouseley. |
| Rasek, | 1 m 。 |
| Kazee, | 1 m . |
| Gooraghan, | 1 m . |

Mushtuk, 1 m .; the half-way town between Seestan and Kerman. On leaving Gaomeshuk half-way to Kondur exists a robat, built by Omur : the place is called the Bridge to Kerman although there is no bridge whatever on the spot.

Various distances.
From Seestan to Furruh, 3 marches.
From Furruh to Churruh, 2 marches.
From Furruh to Kooheen, 2 marches.
From Noh to Furruh, 1 easy march ; near the desert
From Keyun to Seestan, 30 fursukhs; on the borders of Kerman.
To Tak on the Keyun road, five fursukhs.
Khash; from the road to Bost, one fursukh, and from Koheen one march.

From Bost to Serwan two marches on the Zumeen dawur road.
The Helmund is crossed one march beyond Serwan; when you enter the district of Buk (Gurmabuk)-and proceed on one march to Dez Guz both on the same bank of the river. From Gurmabuk to Bugnee one day's march among the Khuluj tribes; Beshling is to the South of Bugnee.

Punjwaee is at the back of Guznee; while Kohuk is about one fursukh from Punjwaee from the South.

From Punjwaee to Espungulee, three marches.
Quetta is opposite to Espungulee at a distance of a fursukh.
From Espungulee to Seewee two marches."

## Notes.

Having premised, that there exists no possible form within reasonable limits into which proper names in manuscript may not be traced and that several liberties have been taken to obtain from the text even a shade of meaning, I proceed to offer my authorities for the readings I have adopted.

Before me lie four copies of this work; Sir Wm. Ouseley's from the Persian : Sprenger's copy of Ibne Huokul; Estukhuree as edited by Moeller ; the printed copy of Edresee translated into French.

I do not touch on those places whose histories are well understood.
Meeshuk.-This is the gate leading to the districts watered by the river of this name. Edward Conolly calls the river Chabulk; but adds, that it rises at a spring called Meeshuk.

Urk, or Urg.-Is the Greek $a \rho \chi$.
Kundahar.-The identification of Kundahar with the Greek Arachotia is acknowledged.

Kuweed.-The written word is Kureen, but a native who knew the country suggested the name I have given.

Burg.-I have taken in preference to Lool; doubtful.
Assafoetida.-The district is, to this day, celebrated for this drug.
Quetta.-So I read قصر as a corruption or translation of dỉ
Espangulee.-I offer, for a word written differently in each book; it is a well known village at the exit from the Koochlag range, whence two main roads diverge, one to India viâ the Bolan, -one to Sonmeyanee viâ Khozdar.

Kohuk.-Is situated as indicated subsequently ; is a place on a hill, the scene of one of General Nott's battles.

Punjwaee.-Is a celebrated village or rather town ten miles West of Kundahar. I never understood it had any claims to antiquity, or to the honour of being the capital of the district; though ancient mounds were said to exits near it. Nor do I think the sense of the Arabic warrants the assumption of its being the capital.

Bugnee.-Is a district bounding Zumeendawur; visited by Captain G. L. Cooper.

Bishling.-Is so written and is so noted as a district next to Baghran by Captain Cooper in the sketch of his route.

Khash.-Is the district at the head of the Khash river.
Gurmabuk.-Almost all the books indicate Buk or Bug; which appears to have a district acceptation, as Bugnee, Bughran, Bukwa : but I treat it as the final fragment of the word given; because it states subsequently, "at one march from Serwan, you cross the Helmund on the road to Zumeendawur ; and enter the district of Bug on the banks;" this our Artillery under Captain Hawkins did; marching from Serwan to Zumeendawur and crossing at Germabuk. At the same time the ruins of forts are numerous, and the capital has no other proper name than that of the district.

Dez Guz.-But for being declared on the banks of the river, I should have read this word Durghosh which exists as a large place some thirty or forty miles East of the river. Colonel Sanders in his survey down the Helmund, 10 miles above Serwan, places the district of Guz. Dez or Dezh, is Puhluwee for a fort.

Zabul.-Most books have Kabul, but the word given is clearly the one required, as the old name for the districts of Subswar and Furruh.

Kooheen.-Distinctly so written in a copy of the Nozut ol Koloob, as the birth place of the Suffar family.
Suroor.-Now called Chugnusoor: Edward Conolly halted at the fort; and says, the definition given to him was, Khanuhesoor or the house of gladness; Rostum having at it celebrated his marriage.

Tak.-Now exists ; was visited by E. Conolly.
Khash.-The present fort; as located.
Churruh.-Was seen and determined by Colonel Sanders.
Serwan.-The fort of the modern Serban or Serwan district; as placed.

Zalkhan.-Is now one of the first canals taking off from the Helmund, in the district of Gurumseer.

Zurkan.-Unknown.
Bashtur.-Is, I have no doubt, the correct reading-all our copies differ. I can understand, as knowing the irrigation system that the canal called Bastrood ran to this place.

Road to Guznee.-The most unsatisfactory of all the identifications are of this route; few of them are complete or happy : and yet our surveyors have been constantly up and down the road. Tukeen or Tugeen is, I suspect, the chief who built or resided in the old city of Kundahar, if the two places mentioned are to be considered one city. Near the Turnuk are ruins of a place called Jukan, about 12 miles higher up the road; Shuhre-Sufa would better break the distance. Homukee is the district of Kulate Gulzaee. It must be remembered, that words much used and often quoted by Europeans, have but little currency. I give this route entire as written in each of the four copies; a specimen of the dependence to be placed in manuscript.

Keyun.-The ruins of Keyunabad near Bum.
The greatest indulgence is craved for these attempts ; nothing but local knowledge will ever be sufficient to correct such vitiated manuscript. If individuals from the countries would each undertake to correct the portion within his immediate knowledge, we might hope at last, to obtain a correct version of the orginal. I anticipate that it will ultimately be found, that the names of places have changed much less than is supposed.

Route from Bost to Guznee as copied from Ebne Huokul, Estukhree, Edreesee and Ouseley.


Note by A. Sprenger. The original MS. from which this account of Afghanistán and the account of Sind which has been published by Major Anderson with most valuable remarks and identifications in p. 49 of this volume, have been taken is in the Moty Mahall library at Lucknow. It is a volume in folio of 276 pp .17 lines in a page. We are informed in the postscript that it had been copied in A. H. 589 from a "very correct" MS. The first leaf of the book and consequently the beginning of the preface is wanting, and we are therefore leftin ignorance as to the name of the author. The title of the book is according to the postscript Ashkál albilád or Diagrams of the country (of the Islám). The diacritical points are wanting in most instances and many letters cannot be well distinguished from each other. The book was copied for me in 1847 with great care, and subsequently it was compared with the original, but the copyist has in doubtful instances decided in favour of the most likely reading, and no doubt sometimes he has gone wrong. It is therefore much to be regretted that this copy is the only one available for Major Anderson.*

Though the beginning of the preface is wanting, the greater portion of the Introduction is preserved.

It contains the plan of the work which I give here in a translation. "Then (after having given a map of the world), I have devoted a separate Diagram to every country of the Islám, in which I show its frontiers, the shape of the country, the principal towns, and in fact every thing necessary to know. The Diagrams are accompanied by a text. I have divided the dominions of the Islám into twenty countries; I begin with Arabia, for this peninsula contains the Ka'bah, and Makkah which is unquestionably the most important city and the centre of the peninsula; after Makkah I describe the country of the Bedouins, then I proceed to the description of the Persian gulph which surrounds the greater part of Arabia, 3. the Maghrib, 4. Egypt, 5. Syria, 6. the Mediterranean, 7. Mesopotamia, 8. the 'iráq, 9. Khuzistán, 10. Fáris, 11. Kermán, 12. Mançúrah and the adjacent countries, $\dagger$ which are Sind, India and part of the Mohammadan territory, (in India,) 13. Adzarbayján, 14. the districts of the Jibál,

[^0]15. Daylam, 16. the sea of the Khazar (i. e. the Caspian), 17. the steppes between Fáris and Khorásán, 18. Sijistán and the adjacent countries, 19. Khorásán, 20. Má-wará-lnahr."
Of every one of the above countries there seems to have been originally a map, but two have been lost (viz. No. 6 and 10) and some have been transposed (as well as several leaves of the text) by the book-binder. A full notice of the book has been given by Sir H. Elliott, Ind. Historians, I. p. 61.

On comparing the Ashkál albilád with Möller's Içtakhry it appears that it is somewhat fuller. There are details in the former which are omitted in the latter, thus we find in it the names of the gates of Ghaznah, which are omitted by Içtakhry.

In like manner we find in other instances that where there are names and facts in the Ashkál we meet in Içtakhry with a general account, I therefore conclude that Iẹtakhry is an abridgment of the Ashkál. A man who is able to give new facts on every country of the Islam, if he had lived after Içtakhry would certainly have written an original work and would not have added them to the meagre account of Içtakhry. We find most of the clerical errors in the orthography of proper names in Içtakhry which are in the Ashkál. If the Ashkál was an enlarged edition of Ic̣takhry it would certainly be also an improved one, for a man who can add is able to improve whereas an epitomator does not necessarily possess such a qualification.

Ion Hawqal seems to be a more recent edition of the Ashkál albilád. There are, as far as I know, few if any new facts mentioned in Ion Hawqal but the expression is in a few instances changed.
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\end{array}\right\} \text { of the 2; hours. }
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[^0]:    * Since writing the above, I sent the proof-sheet of the original text to Capt. H. F. Hayes, Asst. Resident at Lucknow, who has obligingly compared it with the original MSS. in Moty Mahall.
    $\dagger$ Here a space of about six inches is left blank, and in the margin are the words; صورة الكل تقعدهت فی الورقّة التي يتلوها هذها
    "This space is for the Map of the World (but it is not large enough, therefore the copyist has deviated from the original from which he transcribed) and it stands in the opposite page."

