

naturally hoard wealth and hold virtue and justice in light esteem. They have no marriage decorum, and no distinction of high or low. The women say, "I consent to use you as a husband and live in submission, (*and that is all*)." <sup>49</sup> When dead, they burn the body, and there is no determined period for mourning. They scar their faces and cut their ears. They crop their hair and tear their clothes.<sup>50</sup> They slay their herds and offer them in sacrifice to the manes of the dead. When rejoicing, they wear white garments; when in mourning, they clothe themselves in black. Thus we have described briefly points of agreement in the manners and customs of these people. The differences of administration depend on the different countries. With respect to the customs of India, they are contained in the following records.

Leaving the old country of Kau-chang,<sup>51</sup> from this neighbourhood there begins what is called the 'O-ki-ni country.

'O-KI-NI.

(*Anciently called Wu-ki.*)<sup>52</sup>

The kingdom of 'O-ki-ni (Akni or Agni) is about 500 li from east to west, and about 400 li from north to south.

<sup>49</sup> This sentence appears to allude to the custom of polyandry, or rather to the custom of the province of Kamul (Yule's *Marco Polo*, bk. i. ch. xli. vol. i. pp. 212, 214). It amounts to this: the woman says, "I consent whilst using you as a husband to submit," or "I consent to use you as a husband whilst dwelling under the roof." Julien translates it: "Ce sont les paroles des femmes qu'on suit; les hommes sont placés adessus d'elles."

<sup>50</sup> They do all this when bereaved, that is, of their relatives, and when they mourn.

<sup>51</sup> Leaving the ancient land of Kau-chang, *i.e.*, the land which had long been occupied by the Uigurs or

Turks. The route of Hinen Tsiang up to this point is detailed in his life. Leaving Liang-chau (a prefecture in Kansuh), he proceeded to Kwa-chau; he then crossed the Hulu river (Bulunghir) and advanced northward and westward through the desert. Having passed Hami and Pidshan, keeping westward, he comes to Turfan, the capital of the Uigur country. He then advances to 'O-ki-ni.

<sup>52</sup> 'O-ki-ni. This may otherwise be written *Wu-ki*. Julien writes *Yen-ki*. The symbol *wu* is said sometimes to have the sound *yen*. This country corresponds to Karshar, or Kara-shahr, near the lake Tenghiz (Bagarash).