

Aibeg's representative commissioner in the South-east, and with his aid eventually defeated Muhammad Shīrān and the other confederated Khiljī chiefs.¹ On the definite appointment of 'Alī Mardān Khiljī to the kingdom of Bengal by Kutb-ud-dīn Aibeg, he paid his devoirs to the new Viceroy by meeting him on the Kūsi, and accom-

after his first success against the King of Bengal at Nuddea (lat. 23° 25', long. 88° 22'), contented himself with destroying that town, and withdrew his troops nearer to his base of communications, to a position about 90 miles to the northward, somewhere about the site of the future Lakhnauti, Deokót again being some 50 miles N.N.E.

Minhāj-us-Sirāj, in describing Lakhnauti, at a later date (641 A.H.), mentions that habitations were located on both sides of the Ganges, but that the city of Lakhnauti proper was situated on the western bank. The author adds, that an embankment or causeway (بُل) extended for a distance of ten days' journey through the capital from Deokót to Nagore in Bīrbhūm, (lat. 23° 56', long. 87° 22').—Stewart's Bengal, p. 57. Persian text of Tabakāt-i-Nāsiri, pp. 161, 162, 243. Ain-i-Akbari, ii. p. 14. Elliot's Historians, ii., p. 318; iii. p. 112. Rennell's Map, p. 55. Wilford, As. Res. ix., p. 72.

The subjoined curious notice of the distribution of the boundaries of the kingdom of Bengal shortly before the Muhammadan conquest has been preserved in Hamilton's Hindustān. The compiler does not give his specific authority.

"During the Adisur dynasty the following are said to have been the ancient geographical divisions of Bengal. Gour was the capital, forming the centre division, and surrounded by five great provinces.

"1. Barendra, bounded by the Mahananda on the west; by the Padma, or great branch of the Ganges, on the south; by the Kortoya on the east; and by adjacent governments on the north.

"2. Bangga, or the territory east from the Kortoya towards the Brahmaputra. The capital of Bengal, both before and afterwards, having long been near Dacca in the province of Bangga, the name is said to have been communicated to the whole.

"3. Bagri, or the Delta, called also Dwīpa, or the island, bounded on the one side by the Padma, or great branch of the Ganges; on another by the sea; and on the third by the Hooghly river, or Bhagirathi.

"4. Rarhi, bounded by the Hooghly and the Padma on the north and east, and by adjacent kingdoms on the west and south.

"5. Maithila, bounded by the Mahananda and Gour on the east; the Hooghly or Bhagirathi on the south; and by adjacent countries on the north and west."

"Bollal sen, the successor of Adisur, is said to have resided partly at Gour, but chiefly at Bikrampūr, eight miles south-east of Dacca." Bollal sen was succeeded by Lakshmana sen, who was defeated by Muhammad Bakhtyār. The author continues, "It is possible that the Rāja only retired to his remote capital, Bikrampūr, near Dacca, where there still resides a family possessing considerable estates, who pretend to be his descendants. We also find that Soungong, in the vicinity of Bikrampūr, continued to be a place of refuge to the Gour malcontents, and was not finally subjugated until long after the overthrow of Rāja Lakmana."—Hamilton's Hindustān (1820), i., p. 114.

۱. وچون او [محمد شیران] مهتر امرای خلیج بود همکنان اورا

خدمت می کردند و هر امیر بر سر اقطاع خود می بود.

Stewart's Bengal, p. 51. Elliot's Historians, ii., p. 315.