

# ATLAS

OF THE

NORTHERN FRONTIER OF INDIA

Ministry of External Affairs  
Government of India  
NEW DELHI





## ATLAS OF THE NORTHERN FRONTIER OF INDIA

This atlas contains a representative collection of maps from which it will be clear that the northern frontier of India, as shown on official Indian maps, is the traditional boundary between India and China. Official and unofficial Indian, Chinese, British, French and German maps have been showing this boundary alignment for many years past.

It is only during the last thirty years or so that Chinese maps have departed from the traditional boundary and included large areas of Indian territory as part of China. Even the Chinese maps published during this period have not been consistent in this regard. As will be clear from the maps in Section IV, different alignments have been shown in different maps. The broad trend in recent Chinese maps has been to push the alignment deeper into Indian territory.

January 15, 1960.



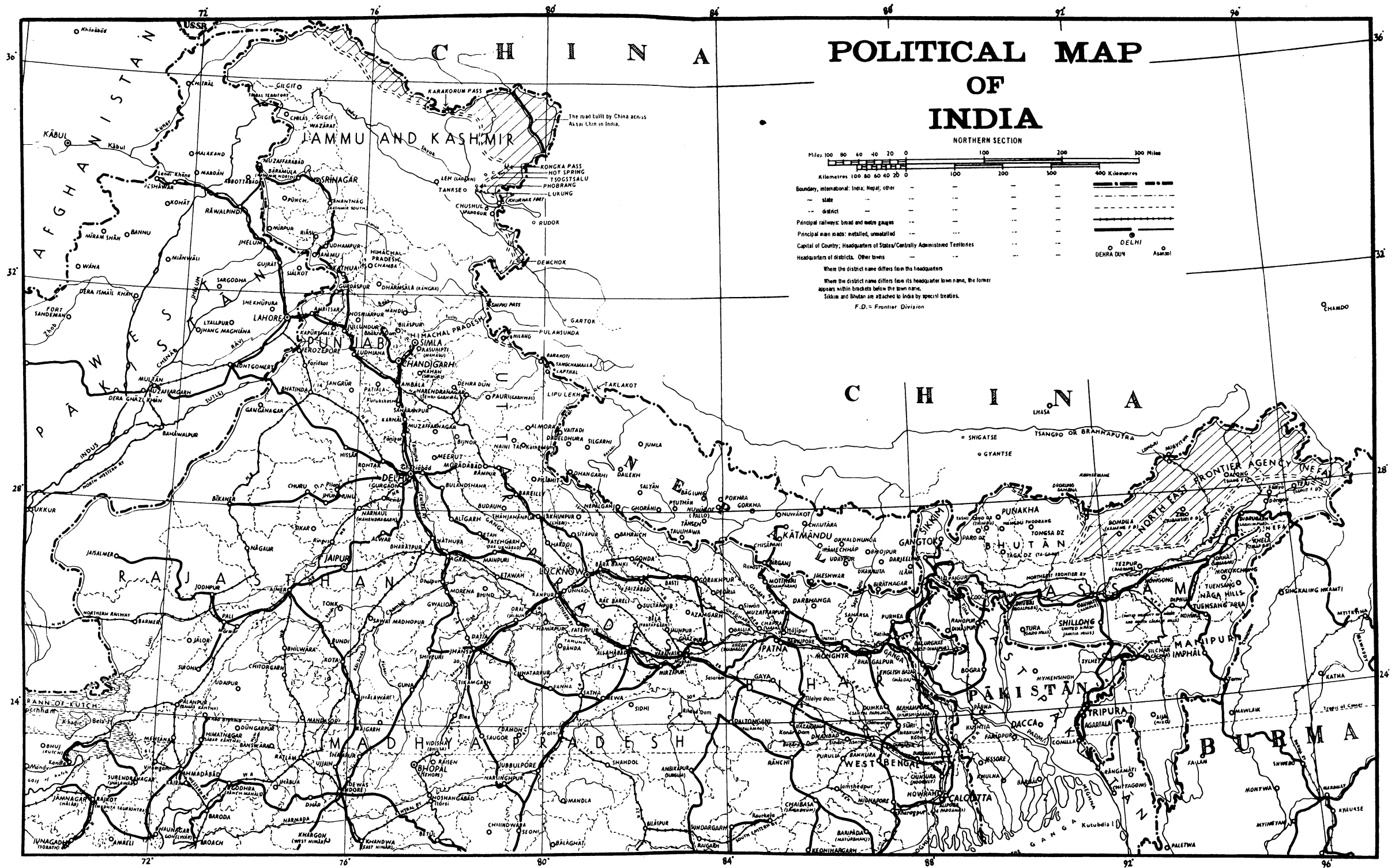
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# SECTION I

## GENERAL



The precise nature of the Chinese claim to Indian territory has not been stated by Chinese authorities and is not known to the Government of India. In the Chinese maps some parts of Indian territory have been incorrectly shown as part of China. These areas are roughly indicated by slanting lines // in this map and the southern border of these areas as they appear in Chinese maps has been roughly shown by a broken line - - - - -

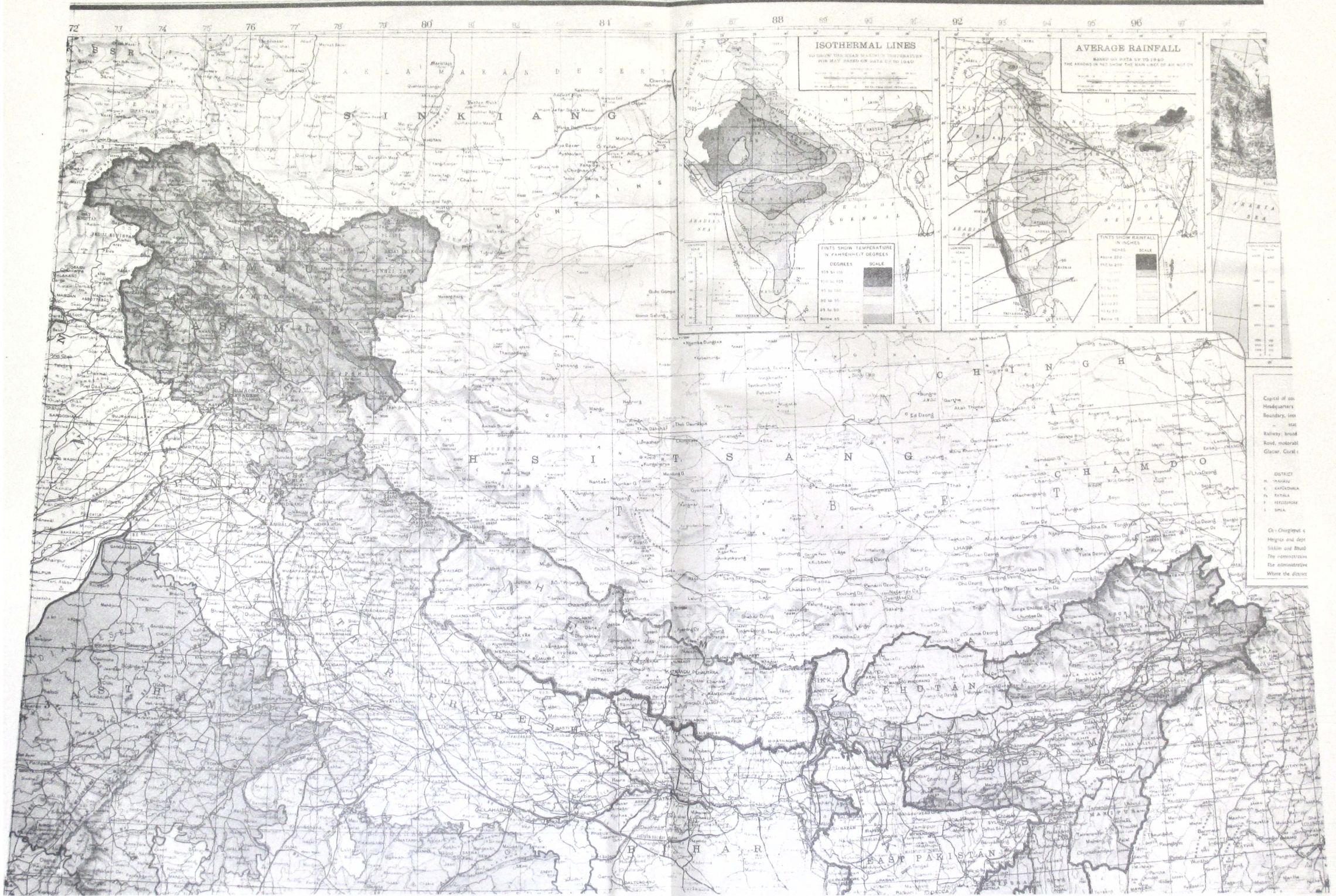
2. The places on the traditional international border where disputes have arisen have also been roughly marked in the map. So is the road built by China across Aksai Chin in Ladakh in North-West India.

This map was published by the Government of India in their White Paper No. 11 - Notes, Memoranda and Letters exchanged between the Governments of India and China during the months September to November 1959. It shows the Indian territory included in China by most Chinese maps since 1947.

Reproduced and Printed by the Manager, Photo-Litho Ring, C.I. Press, New Delhi, For the Ministry of External Affairs.



# INDIA & ADJACENT COUNTRIES



India and Adjacent Countries, published by the Survey of India in 1959. This shows the traditional northern frontier of India.

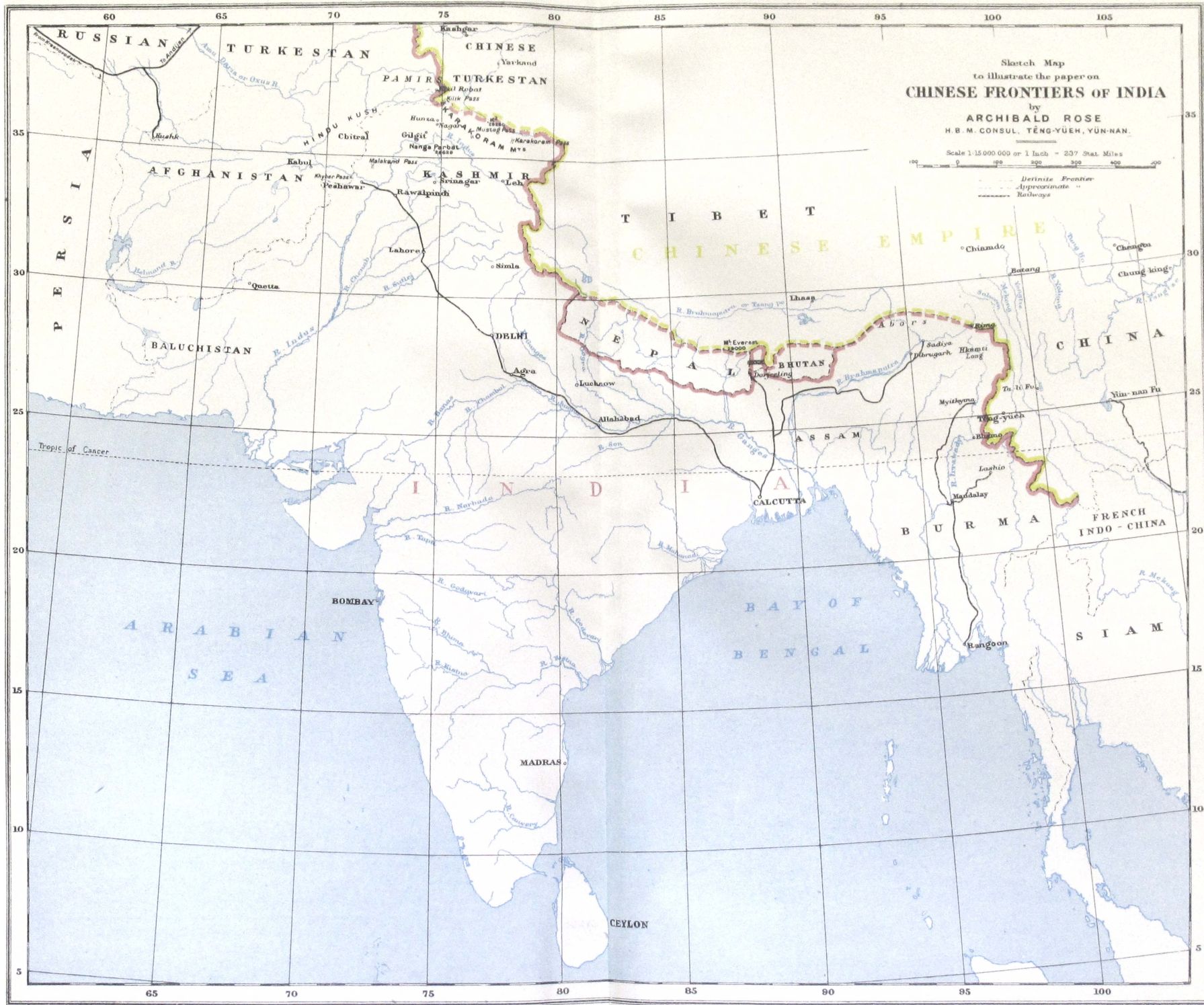




Stanford's Geog. Estab. London

The map of Tibet in the Atlas of the Chinese Empire, published by the China Inland Mission (1908), shows the whole Indian boundary more or less in consonance with the traditional boundary.



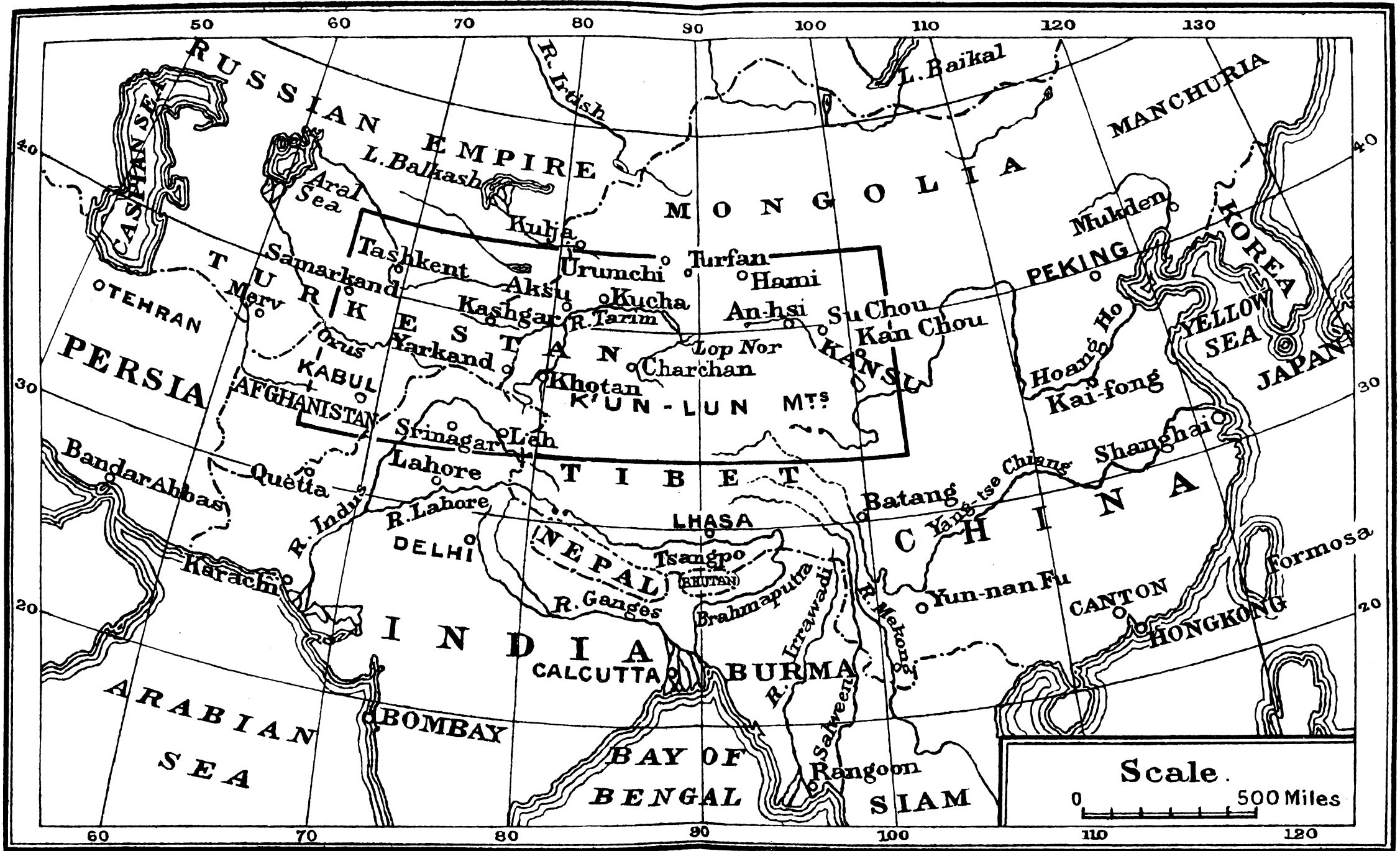


Modified Mercator Projection with True Meridians and Semicircle Parallels 10° & 34° 15'

Published by the Royal Geographical Society.

Sketch map in the March 1912 issue of the Geographical Journal ( published by the Royal Geographical Society, London). It shows a boundary which approximates closely to the traditional alignment.





Enlargement of a sketch map in the Geographical Journal (published by the Royal Geographical Society, London) September 1916. It shows the traditional northern boundary of India.





藏西  
**TIBET**

Compiled from the Latest and Most Authentic Surveys by the Geographical Establishment, Shanghai.

**REFERENCE.**

Railways Opened Telegraph Stations   
 Railways under Construction Elevation in Feet   
 Railways Projected

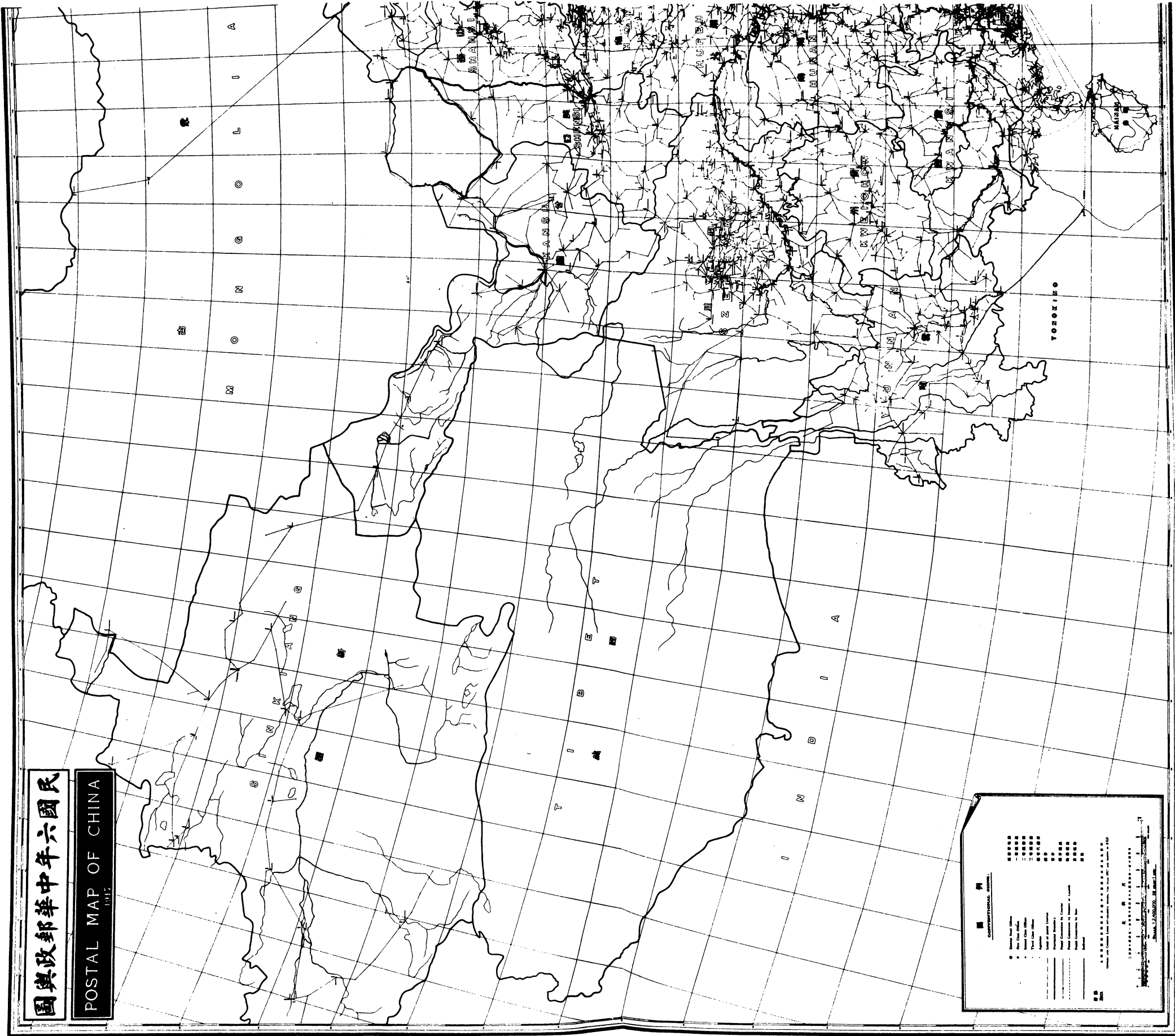
SCALE: 1:4,501,300-72.63 Miles=1 Inch.  
 SCALE OF KILOMETRES.  
 All Rights Reserved by Edwin J. Dingle and H. J. Frazer.

For latest information regarding Railway Development in China see the F.E.G.E. Railway Map of China.

Map of Tibet in the *New Atlas and Commercial Gazetteer of China* published in Shanghai some time after 1917 on the basis of authoritative surveys. It shows the boundary in the Ladakh area more or less similar to the present Indian alignment and a boundary east of Bhutan which approximates to the present boundary.

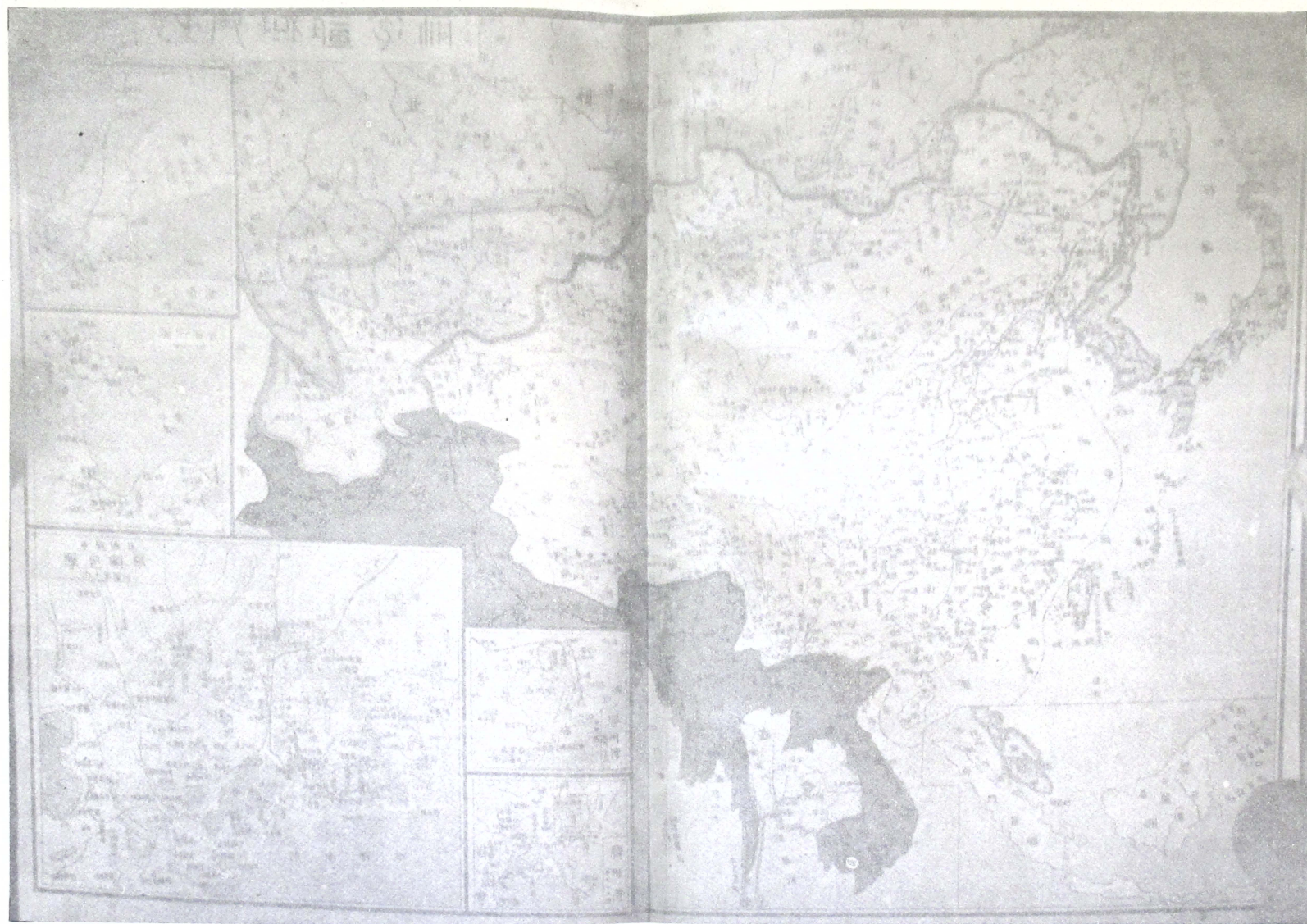
會華理地東海上





Postal Map of China published by the Government of China (Peking 1917).  
 It shows the whole northern boundary of India more or less according to the traditional Indian alignment.





Map published by the Peking University in November 1925 depicting the maximum extent of China in the days of the Ching Dynasty (before 1911). This shows that even then the whole of Ladakh including Aksai Chin was included in India ; and east of Bhutan the frontier of India ran approximately along the present Indian boundary.



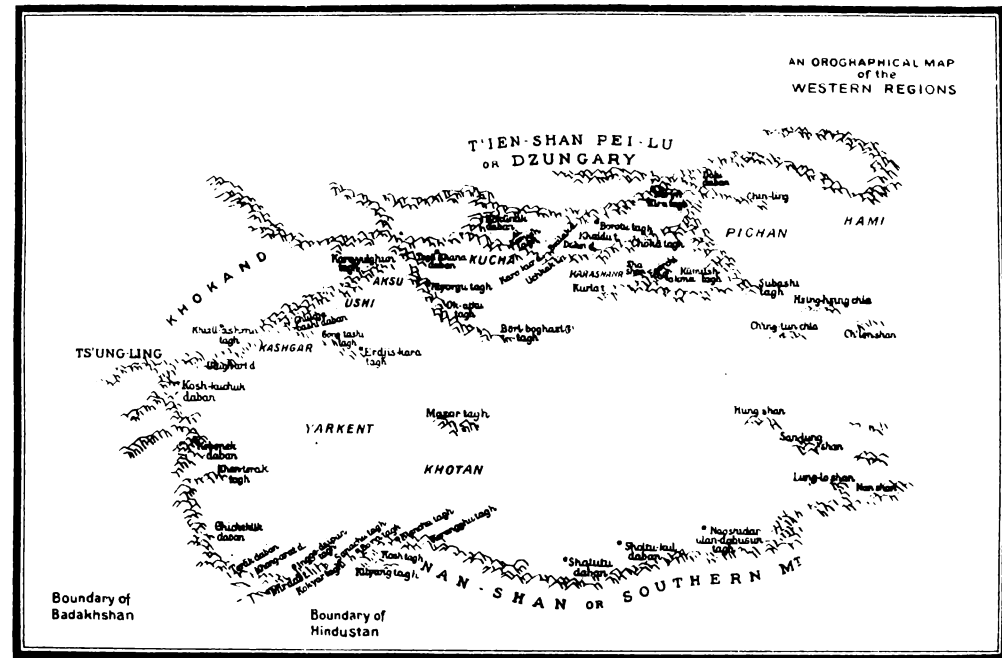
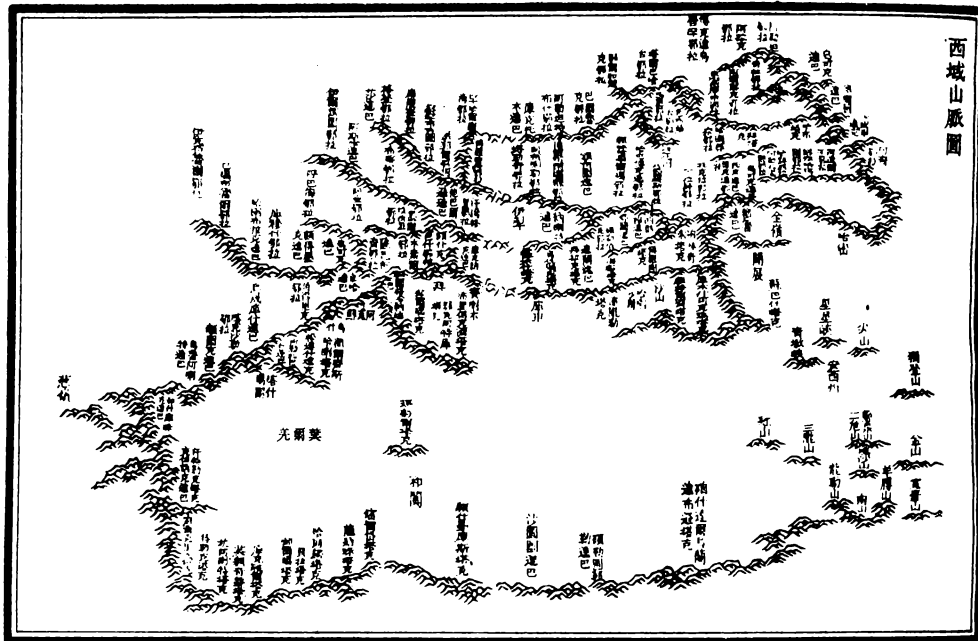


Map of China published by the National Geographical Society (Washington 1945). It shows the traditional boundary of India. (For convenience of study the India-China boundary line on this map has been emphasized in yellow).



## **SECTION II**

**MAPS SHOWING THE BOUNDARY IN THE LADAKH  
SECTOR**



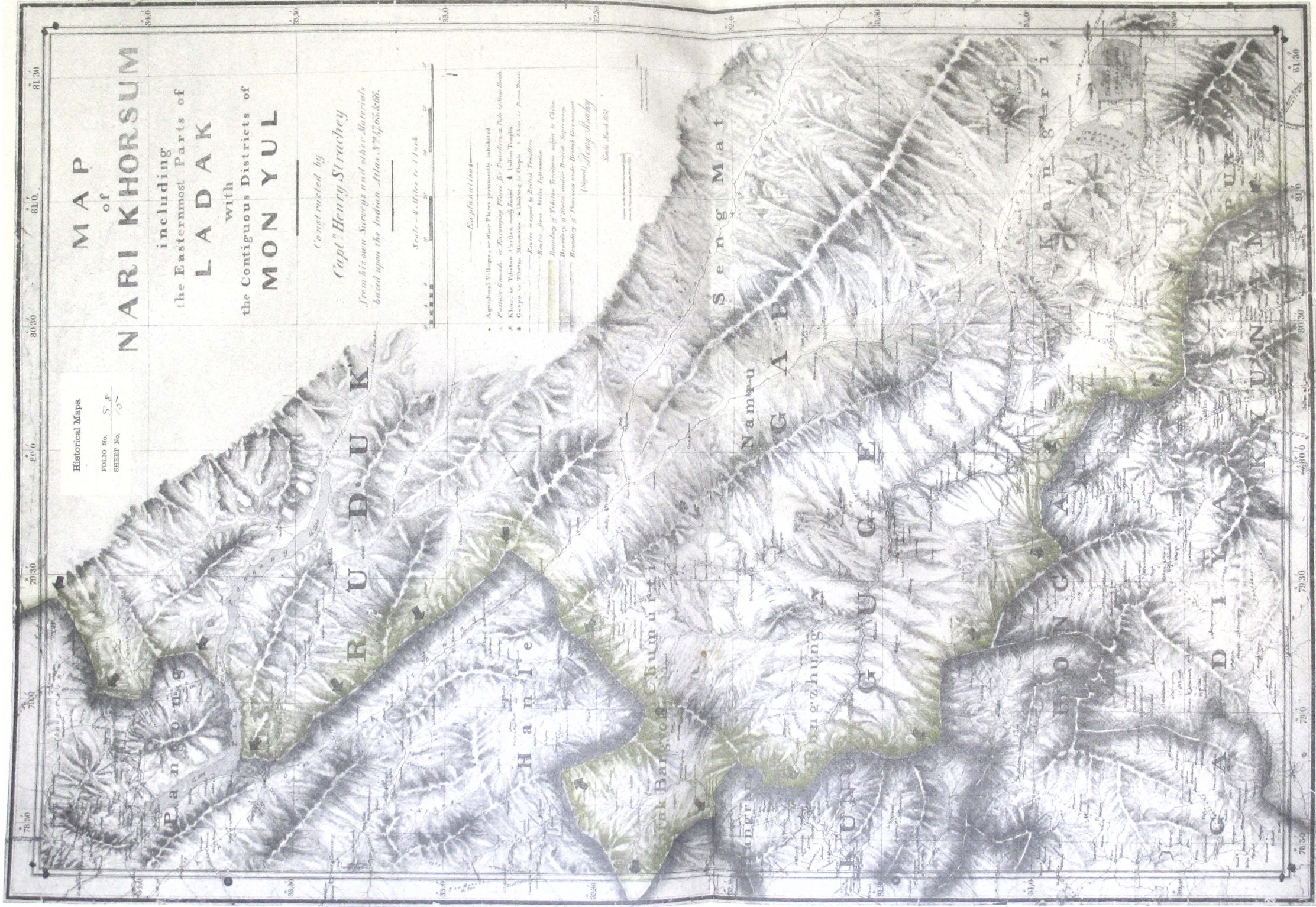
Map of the Western Regions (of China) appended to *Hsi-yu-tu-chih*, compiled on the orders of Emperor Chien-lung in 1762. An English version of the map is also given. The map makes clear that Sinkiang extended in the south only upto the Kuen Lun Range.





Map of Ladak with the adjoining Parts of Balti and Monyul constructed by Captain Henry Strachey in March 1851. This map makes clear that Strachey knew nothing of Aksai Chin, for he does not even attempt to show it on the map.





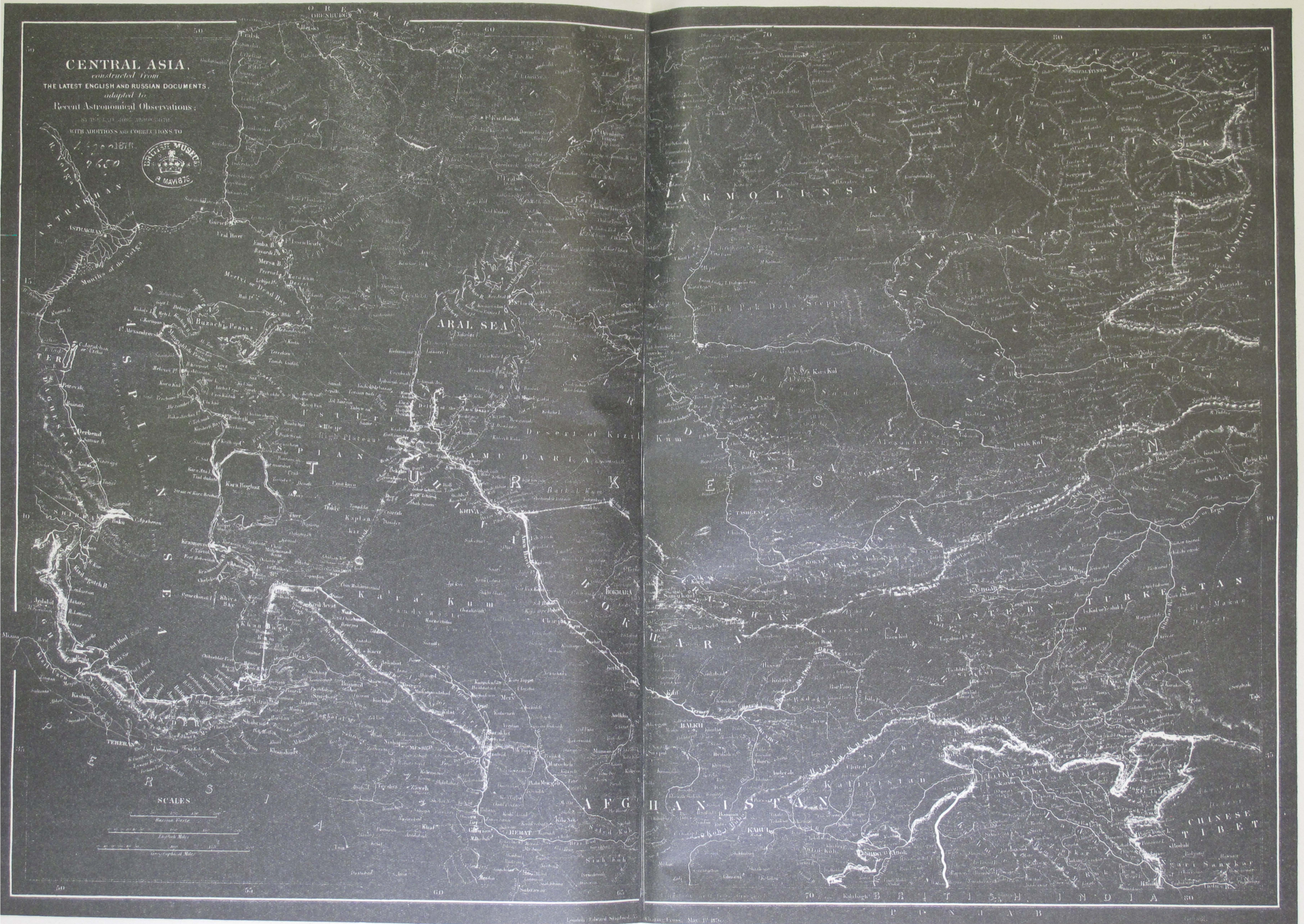
Map of Nari Khorsum including the Eastern most Parts of Ladak constructed by Captain Henry Strachey in March 1851. This map which covers the areas that Strachey visited, shows the boundary from the Chang Chenmo Valley down to the Lipu Lekh Pass in Uttar Pradesh, more or less as it is shown in Indian maps to-day.





Map illustrating the routes taken by Johnson to survey the Aksai Chin area of Ladakh. This shows that even then Aksai Chin was part of India and that the customary boundary was a well-known one.





Central Asia by John Arrowsmith, 1876. The boundary, shown from a point north-west of Mustagh Pass to Hanle, corresponds to the traditional boundary in this area.



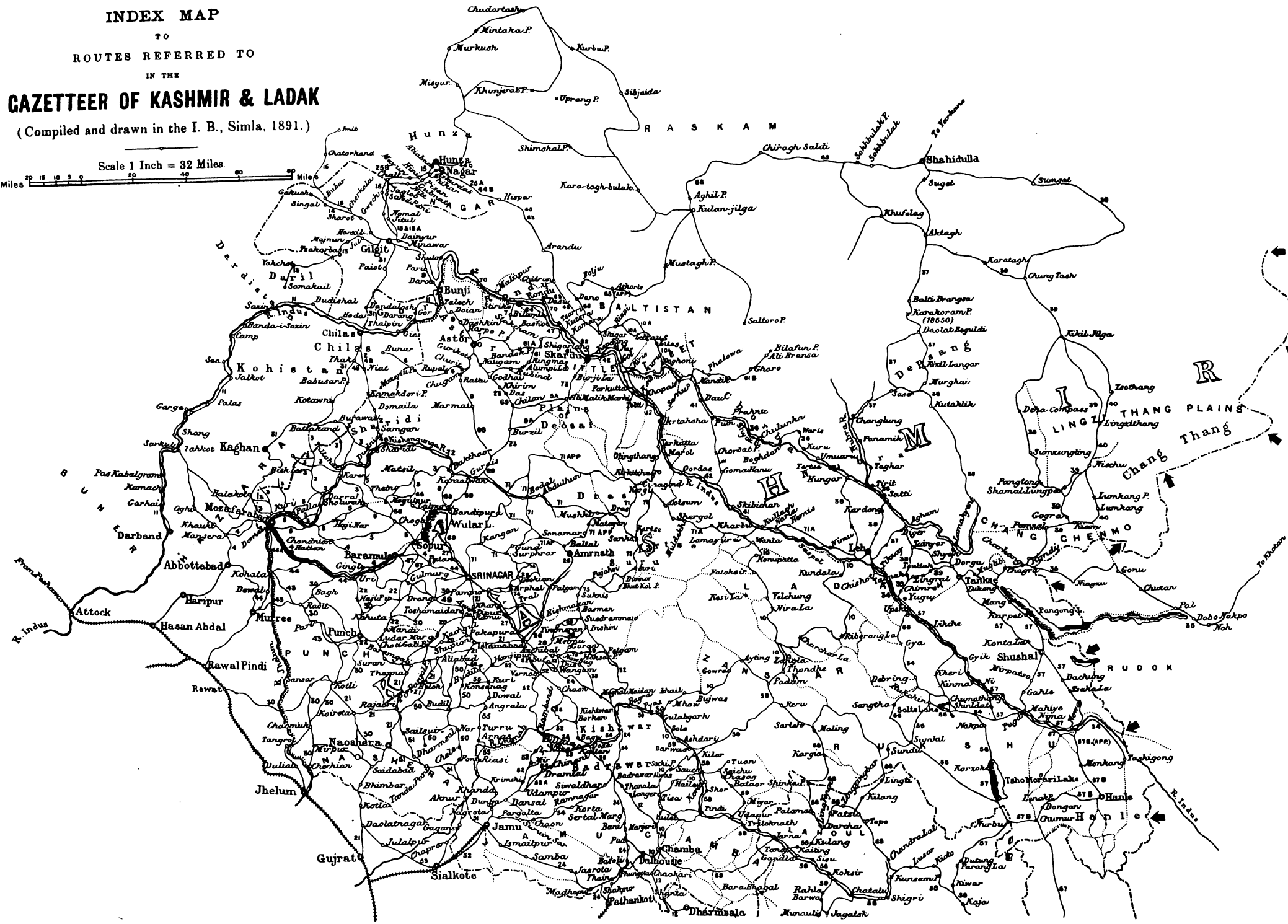


The map of Central Asien compiled from latest sources by Dr. Joseph Chavanne (Leipzig 1880). It shows an alignment which approximates very closely to the traditional frontier of India from the north-western extremity of Kashmir to Nepal.



INDEX MAP  
 TO  
 ROUTES REFERRED TO  
 IN THE  
**GAZETTEER OF KASHMIR & LADAK**  
 (Compiled and drawn in the I. B., Simla, 1891.)

Scale 1 Inch = 32 Miles.  
 Miles 20 15 10 5 0 5 10 15 20

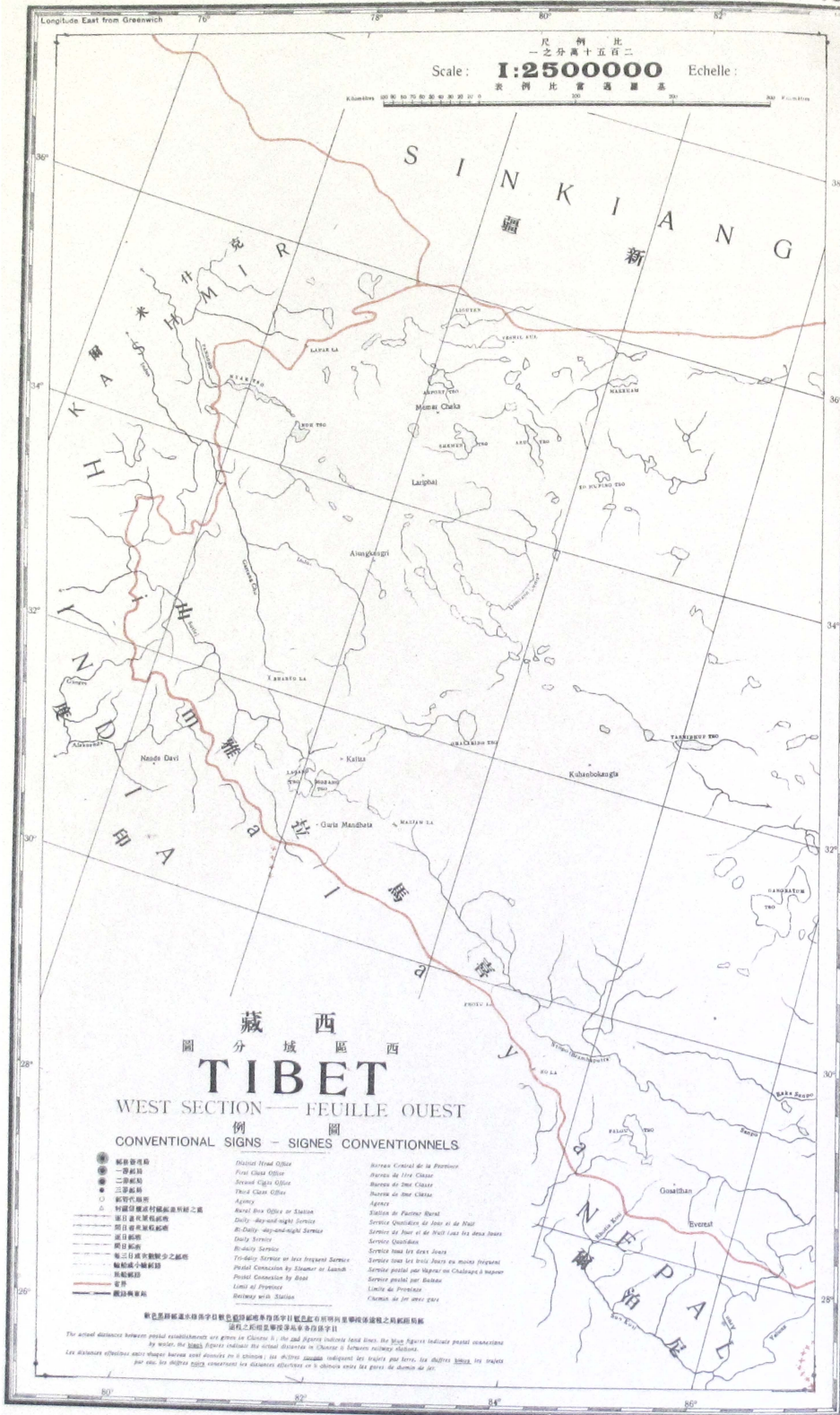


Map appended to the Gazetteer of Kashmir and Ladak 1890. The eastern boundary of Ladak delineated in this map approximates closely to the traditional boundary so as to include Aksai Chin in India.



TIBET W 45

西藏 四十五



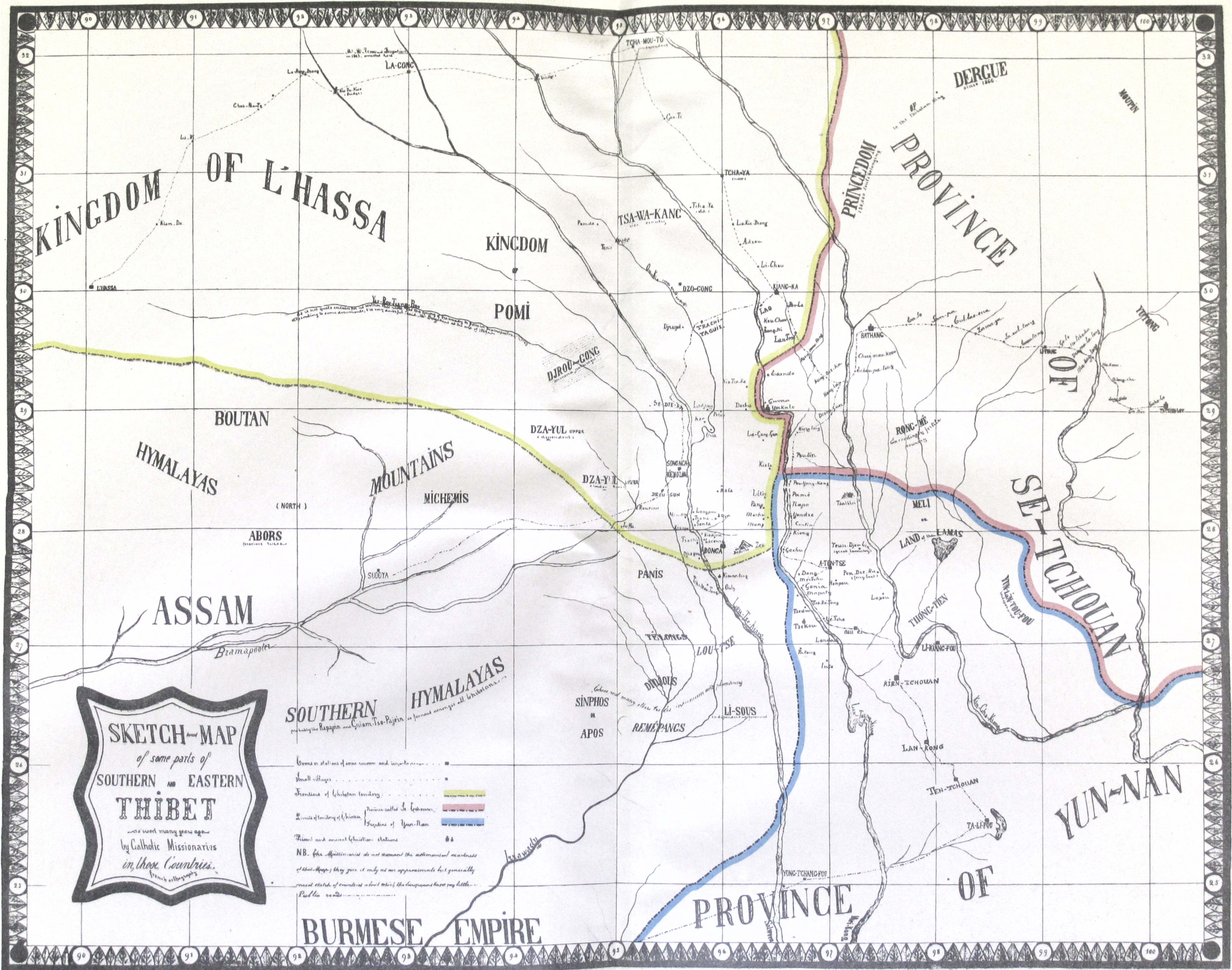
← Tibet: West Section in the *China Postal Album* published by the Government of China (Peking, 1919). The boundary shown in this map approximates closely to the traditional Indian alignment.



## **SECTION III**

**MAPS SHOWING THE BOUNDARY IN THE ASSAM SECTOR**

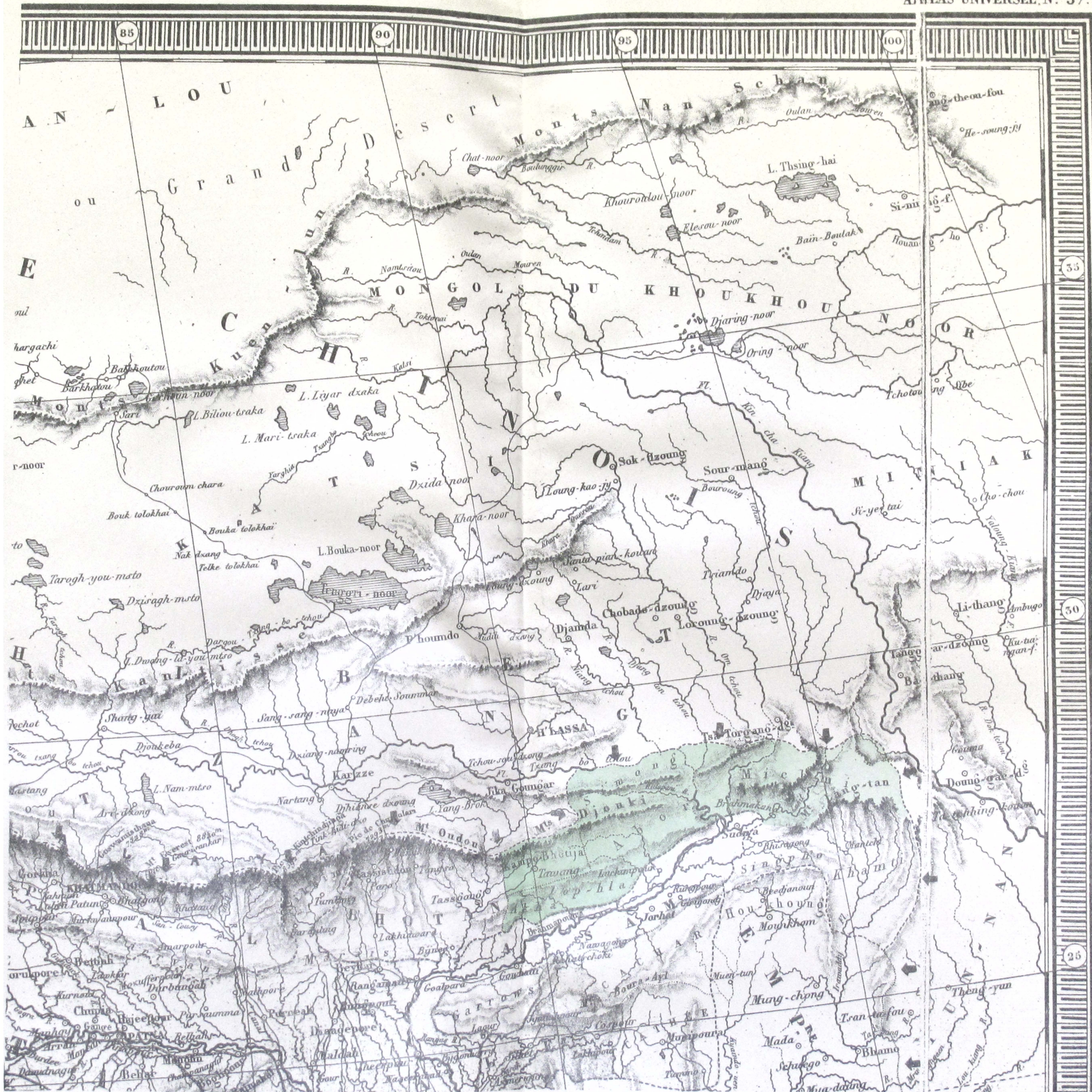




Sketch map of some parts of Southern and Eastern Thibet as used many years ago by Catholic Missionaries in those countries, 1871. This map shows a boundary which approximates to what later became known as the McMahon Line.

*Discovered by the Missionaries under the Superintendance of Licent J. Waterhouse at the Surgeon General's Office, Calcutta.*





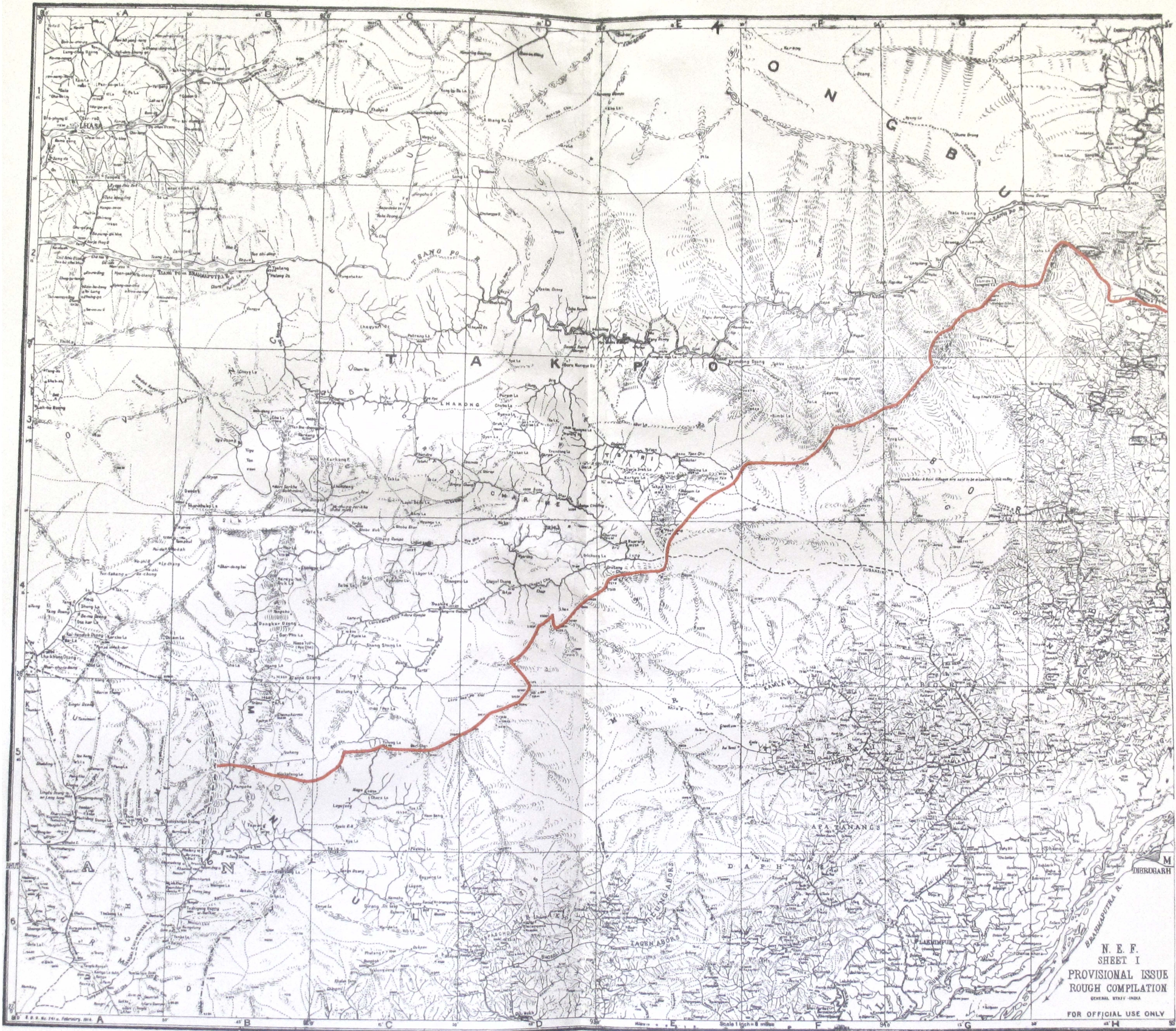
Part of map of *Asie Meridionale* published by Andriveau-Coujon (Paris 1876).  
It shows the whole tribal area (shaded green) outside Tibet.





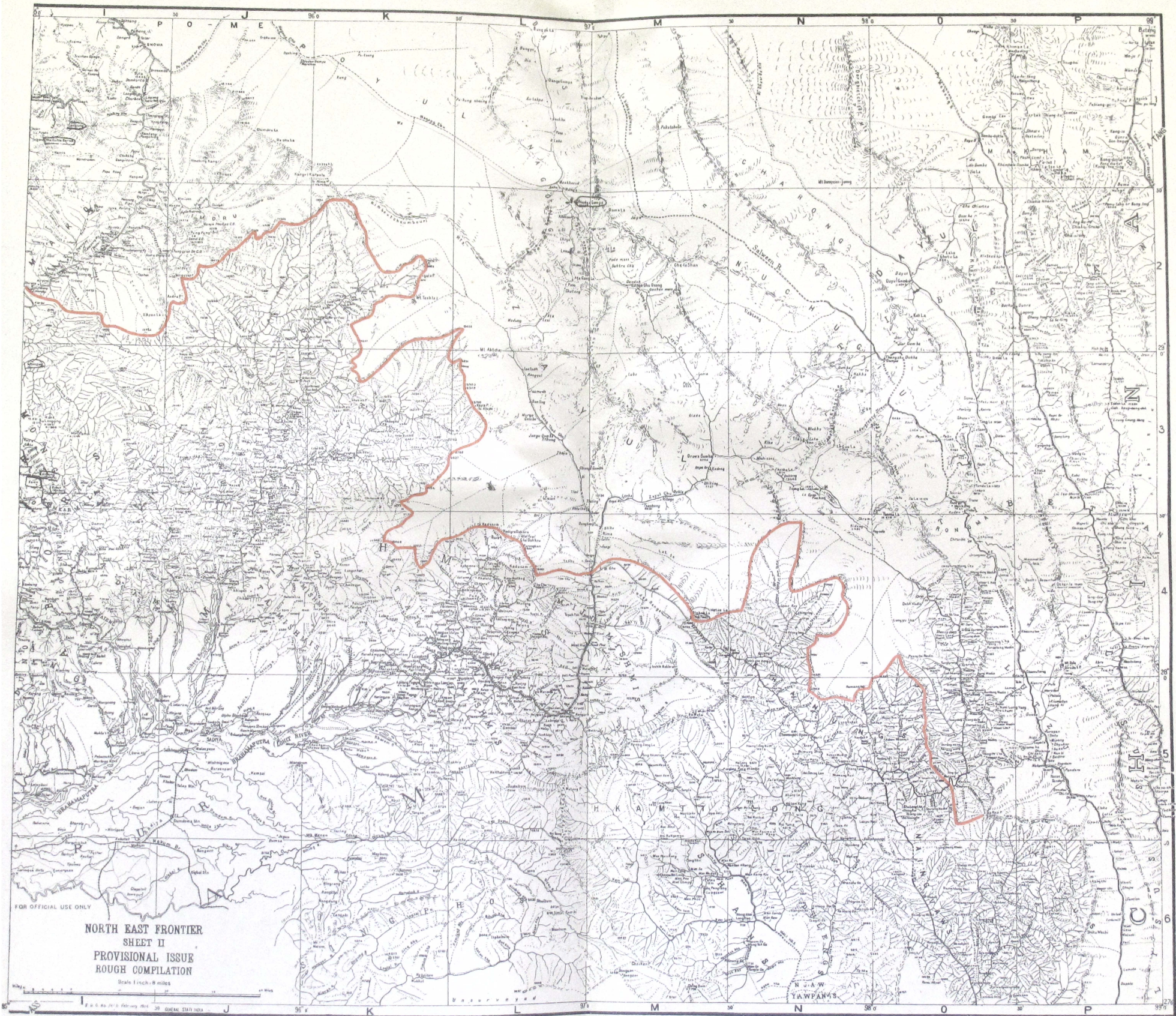
India, published by the Survey of India in 1883. It shows the unadministered tribal territories in the north-east by a colour-wash. This illustrates the general practice of British cartographers of showing the boundary upto the areas where the administration had reached, and showing the unadministered areas beyond it by a colour wash as distinct from the deeper colours used for the rest of Indian territory.





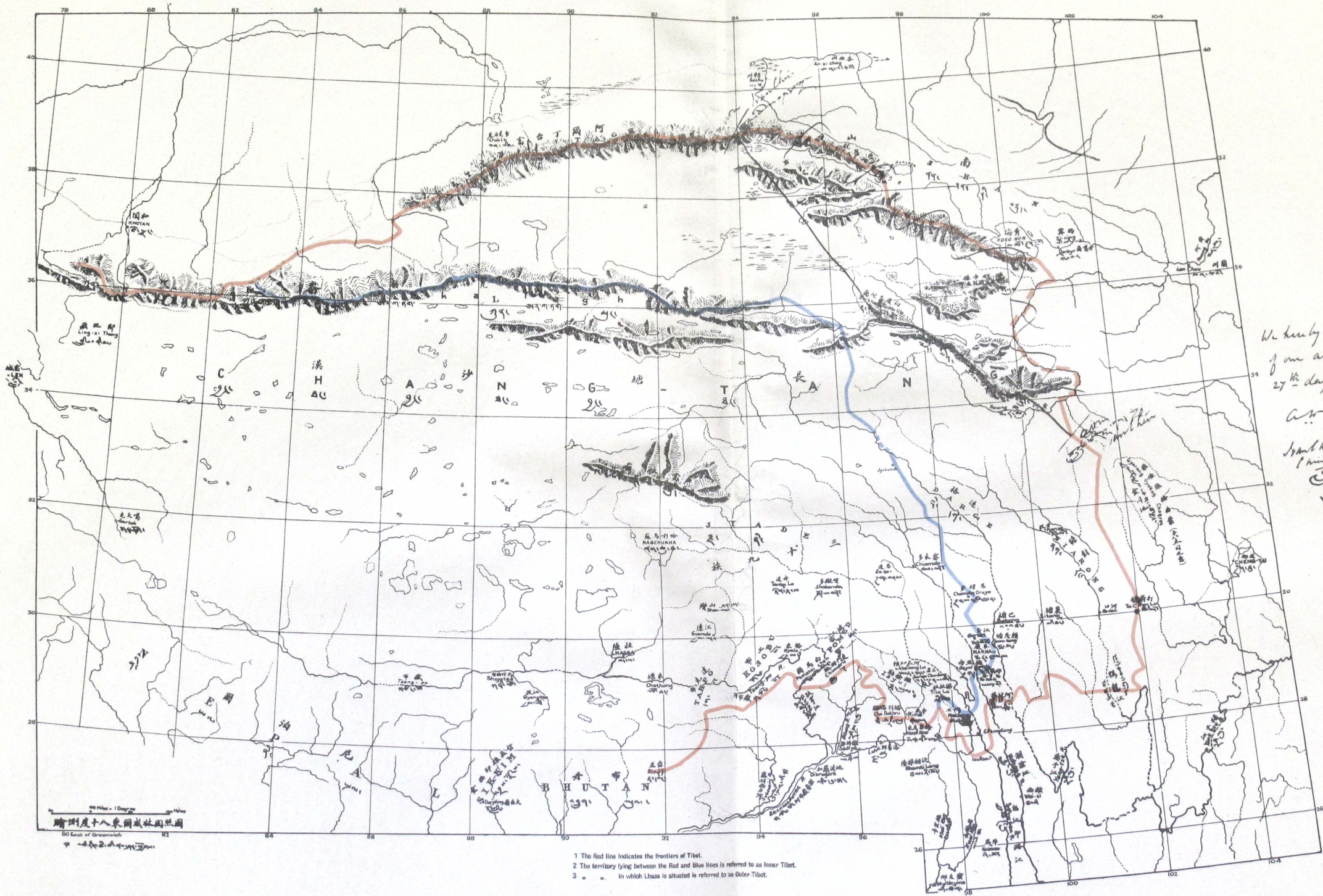
Sheet I of map of the North-East Frontier of India as settled at the Simla Conference, March 1914 (the McMahon Line).





Sheet II of map of the North-East Frontier of India as settled at the Simla Conference, March 1914 (the McMahon Line).





*We hereby initial in token  
of our acceptance, this  
27<sup>th</sup> day of April 1914*

*Chen  
British Plenipotentiary*

*Shank-hsin  
Chinese Plenipotentiary*

*Ngawang  
Tibetan Plenipotentiary*

- 1 The Red line indicates the frontiers of Tibet.
- 2 The territory lying between the Red and Blue lines is referred to as Inner Tibet.
- 3 " " " in which Lhasa is situated is referred to as Outer Tibet.

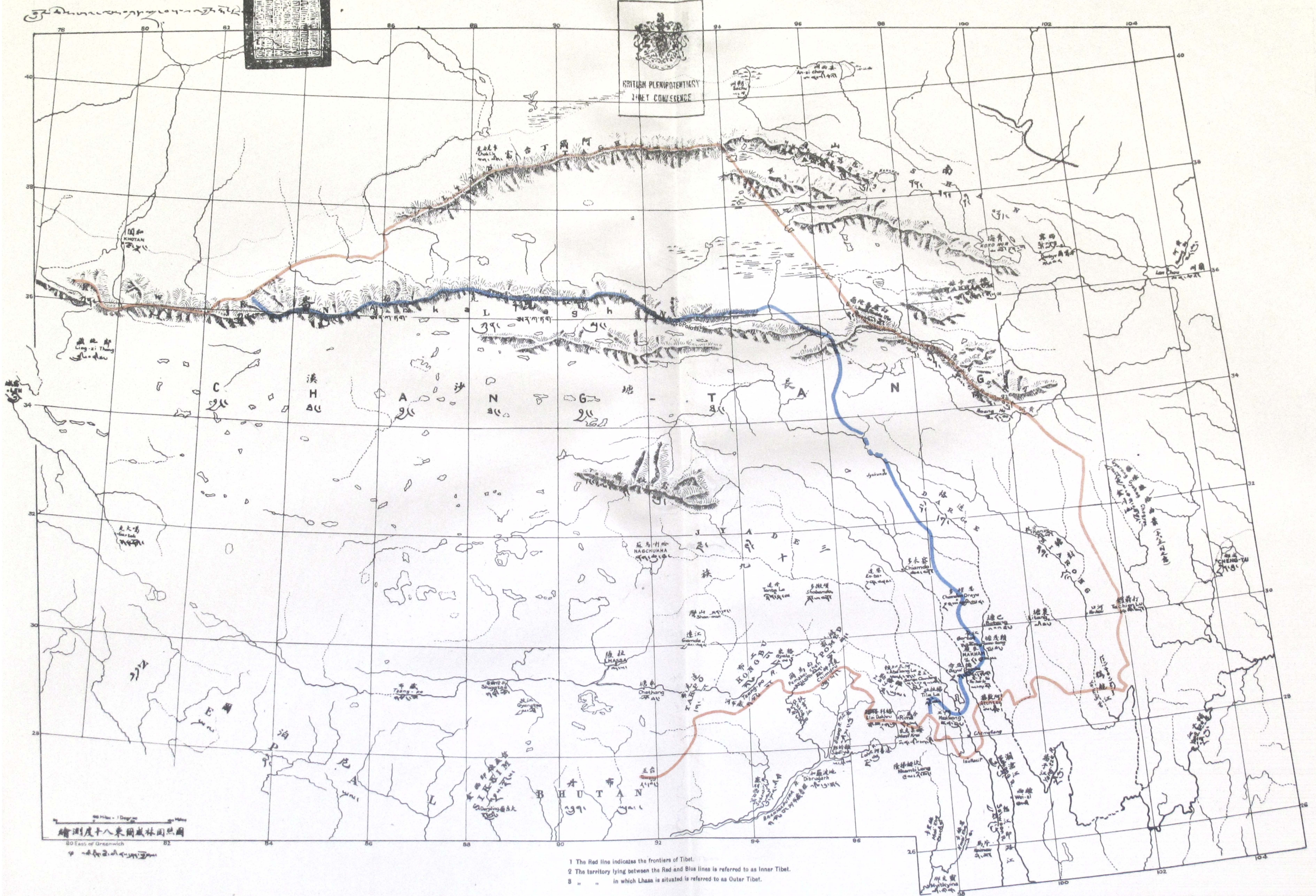
Map to illustrate Article 9 of the Simla Convention, 1914, initialled by the British Representative and signed by the Chinese and Tibetan Representatives. The two latter did not merely initial the Convention but signed it.



MAP REFERRED TO IN ARTICLE 9 OF THE CONVENTION BETWEEN GREAT BRITAIN, CHINA AND TIBET, DATED THE 3<sup>rd</sup> JULY 1914

WE HEREBY SIGN AND SEAL IN TOKEN OF OUR ACCEPTANCE THIS 3<sup>rd</sup> DAY OF JULY 1914

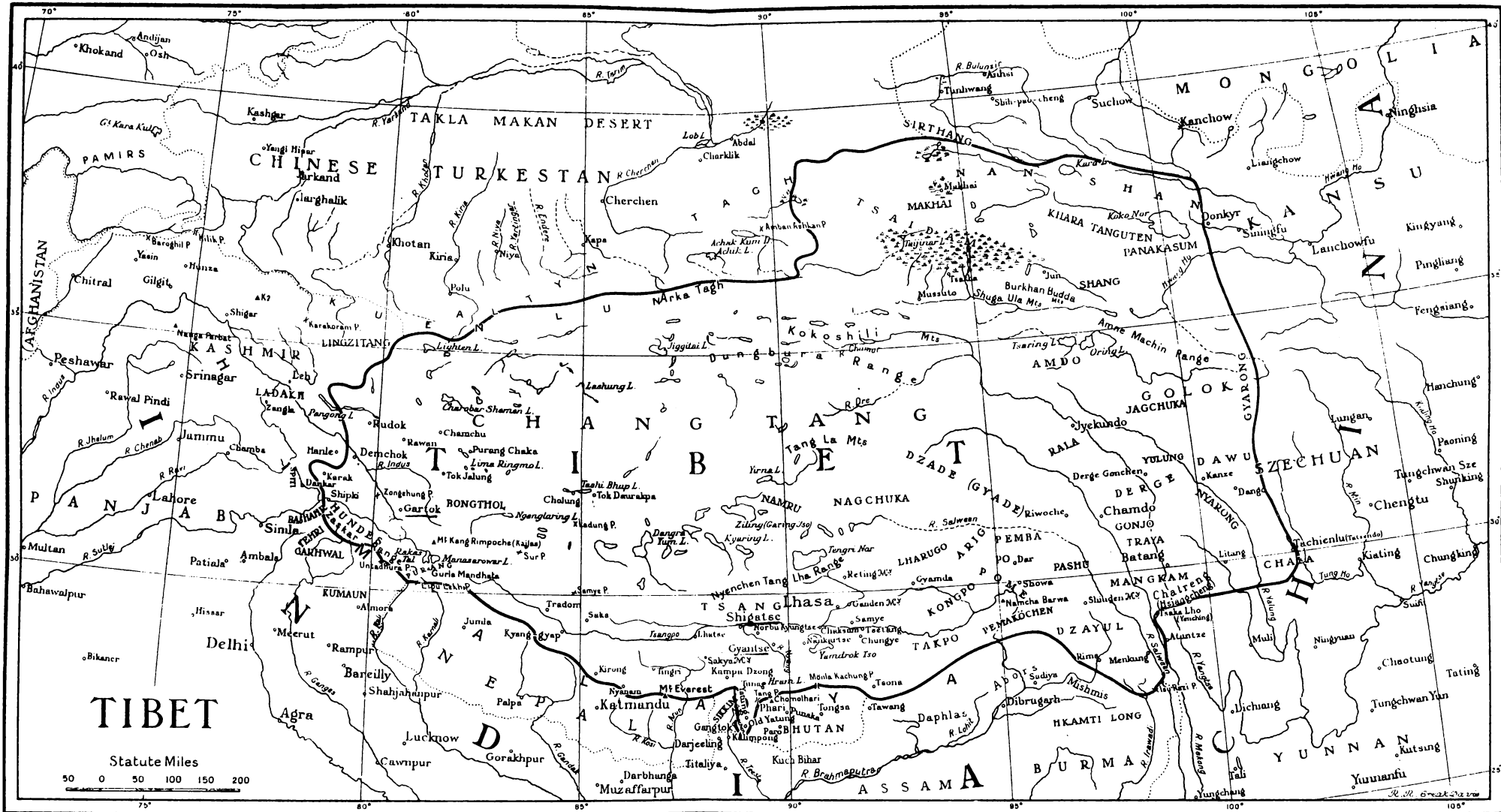
*Chen*  
British Plenipotentiary



- 1 The Red line indicates the frontiers of Tibet.
- 2 The territory lying between the Red and Blue lines is referred to as Inner Tibet.
- 3 " " " " in which Lhasa is situated is referred to as Outer Tibet.

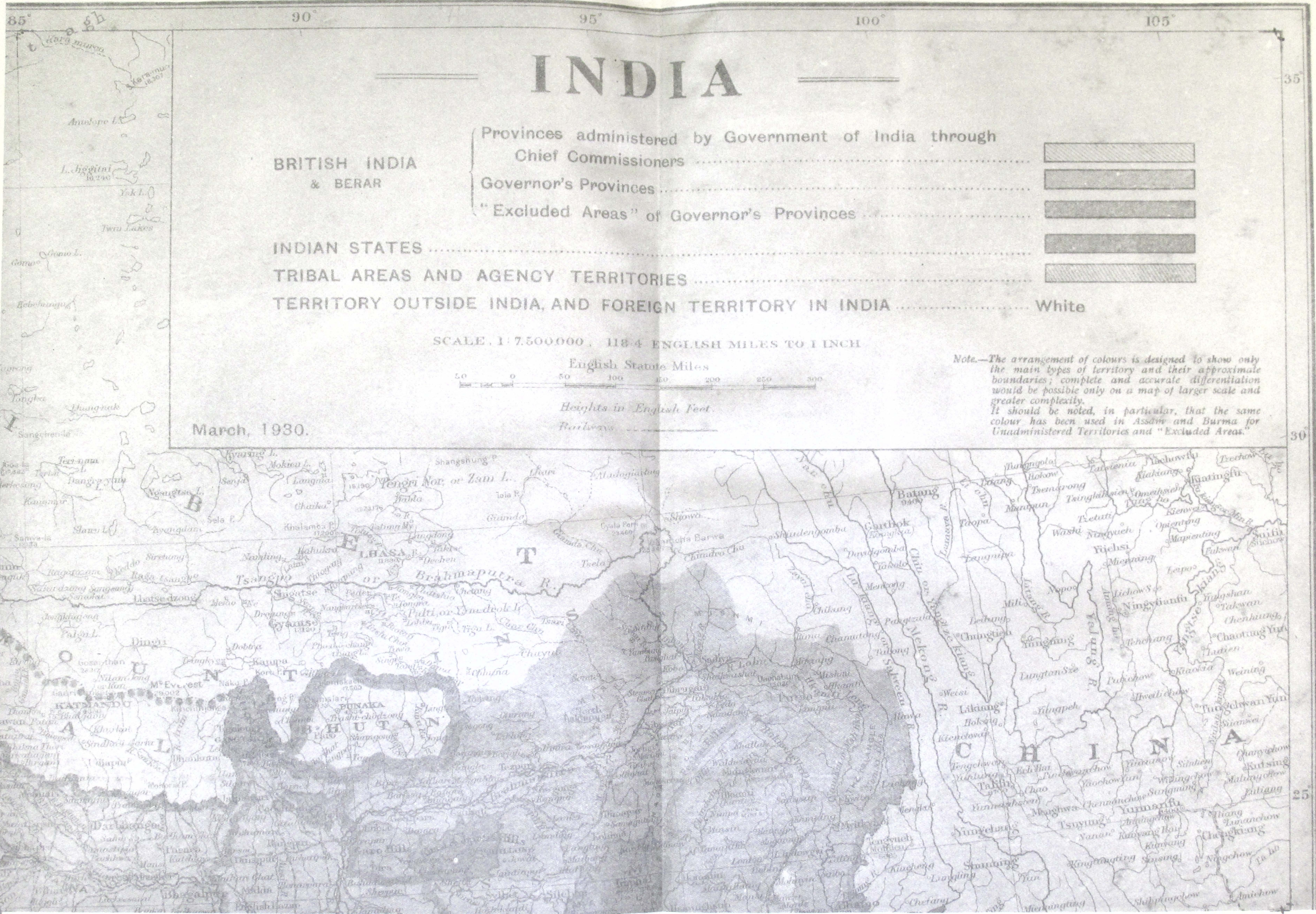
Map attached to the Simla Convention signed by Great Britain and Tibet on 3 July, 1914.





Map of Tibet included in *Tibet Past and Present* by Sir Charles Bell (Oxford 1924). It shows the McMahon Line.





**INDIA**

Provinces administered by Government of India through Chief Commissioners ..... [diagonal lines]

Governor's Provinces ..... [horizontal lines]

"Excluded Areas" of Governor's Provinces ..... [cross-hatched]

INDIAN STATES ..... [dotted]

TRIBAL AREAS AND AGENCY TERRITORIES ..... [horizontal lines]

TERRITORY OUTSIDE INDIA, AND FOREIGN TERRITORY IN INDIA ..... White

SCALE 1:7,500,000 118.4 ENGLISH MILES TO 1 INCH

English Statute Miles

0 50 100 150 200 250 300

Heights in English Feet

Railways

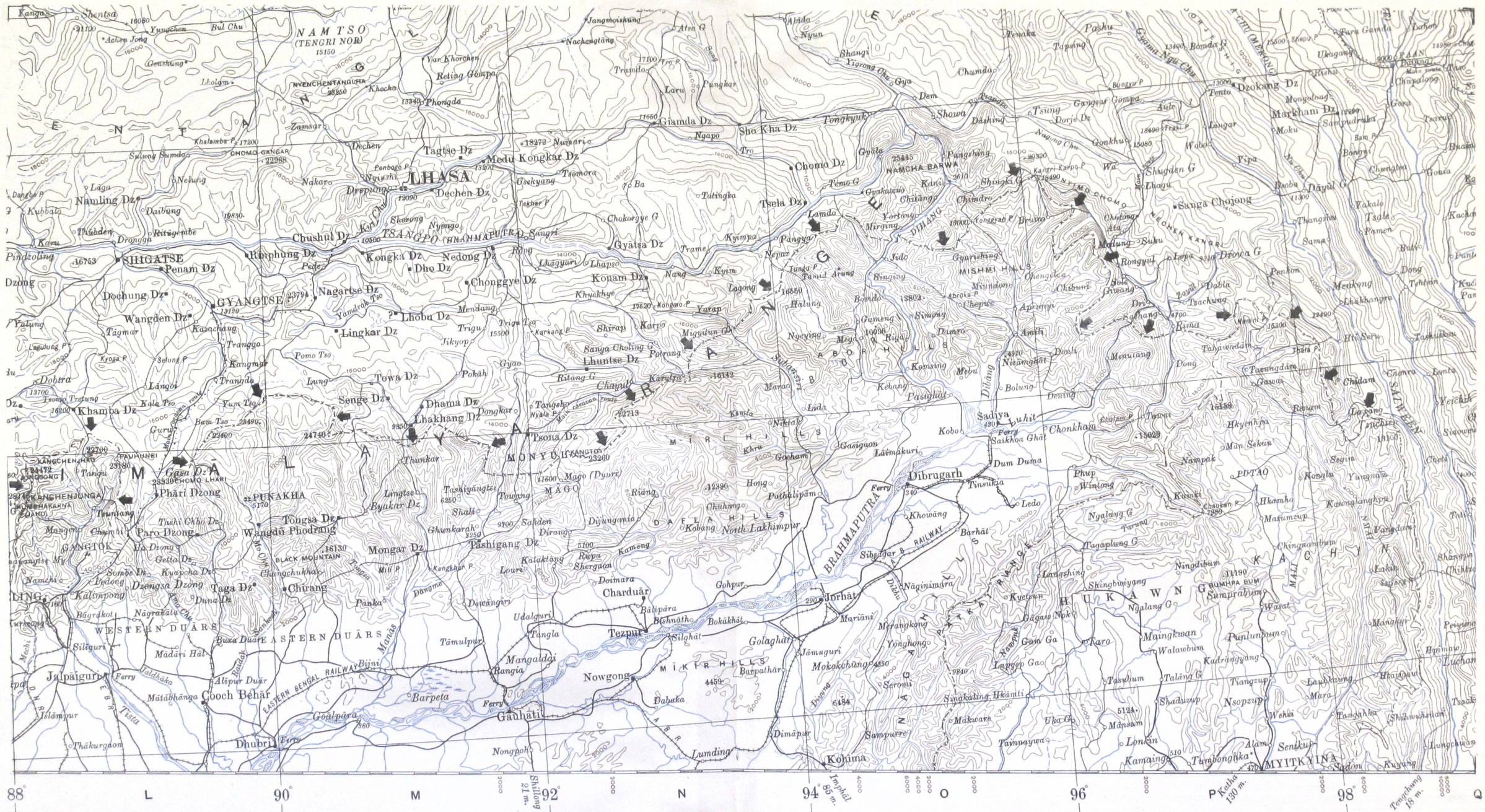
Note.—The arrangement of colours is designed to show only the main types of territory and their approximate boundaries; complete and accurate differentiation would be possible only on a map of larger scale and greater complexity.

It should be noted, in particular, that the same colour has been used in Assam and Burma for Unadministered Territories and "Excluded Areas."

March, 1930.

Map of India showing the administrative divisions, published by Stanford's Geographical Establishment (London, 1930). It shows as the traditional boundary of India in this region a line which corresponds to the McMahon Line.





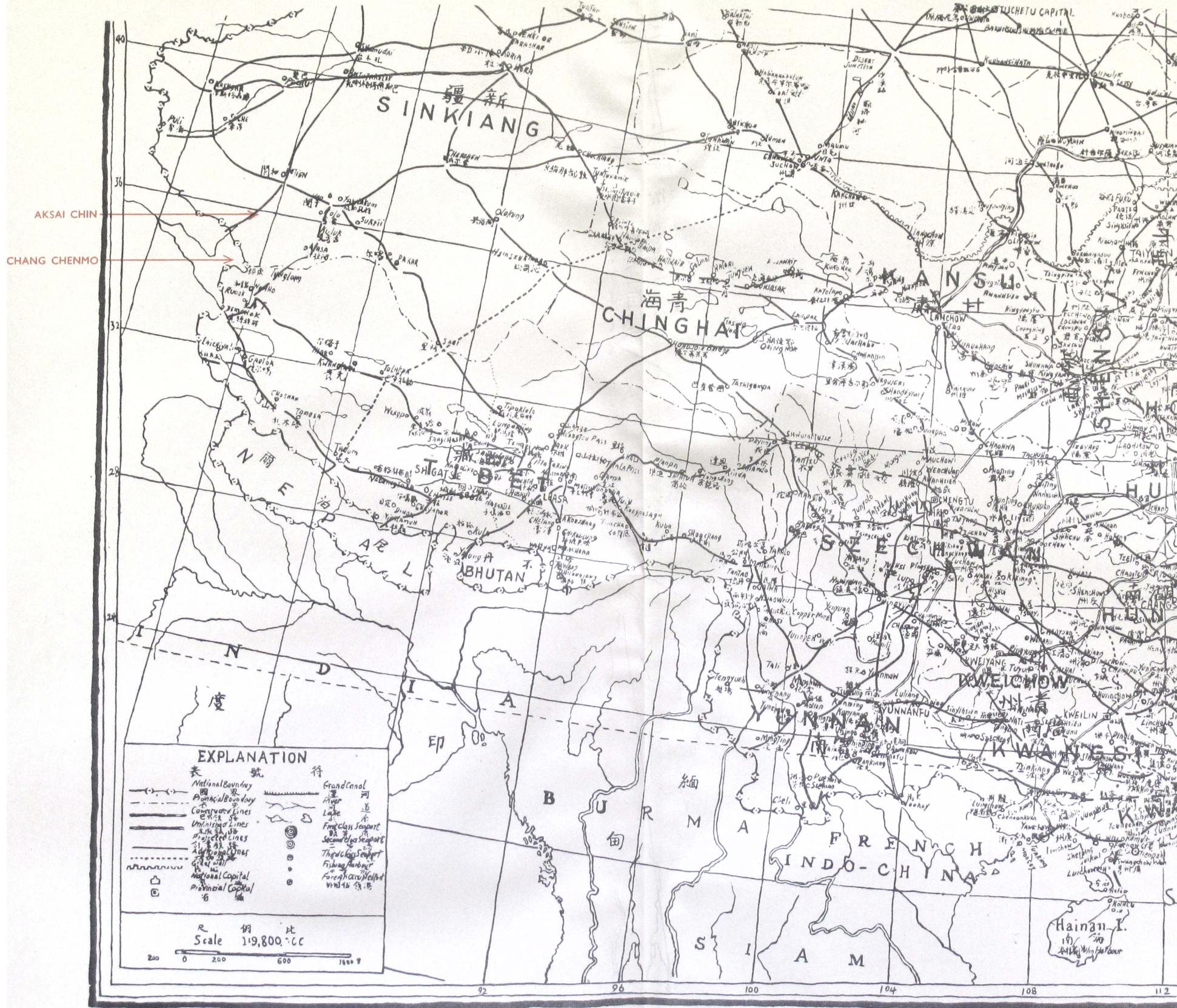
Part of the Map of Highlands of Tibet and Surrounding Regions published by the Survey of India (1936). It shows the north-east frontier as settled in 1914.



## SECTION IV

VARIATIONS IN CHINESE MAPS FROM 1928 ONWARDS





Map of China attached to *The International Development of China* by Sun Yat-sen (London, 1928). This map departs from the traditional alignment of the Indian boundary shown in earlier Chinese maps (see maps 7 and 8). It shows Aksai Chin outside India and the Chang Chenmo valley within India.



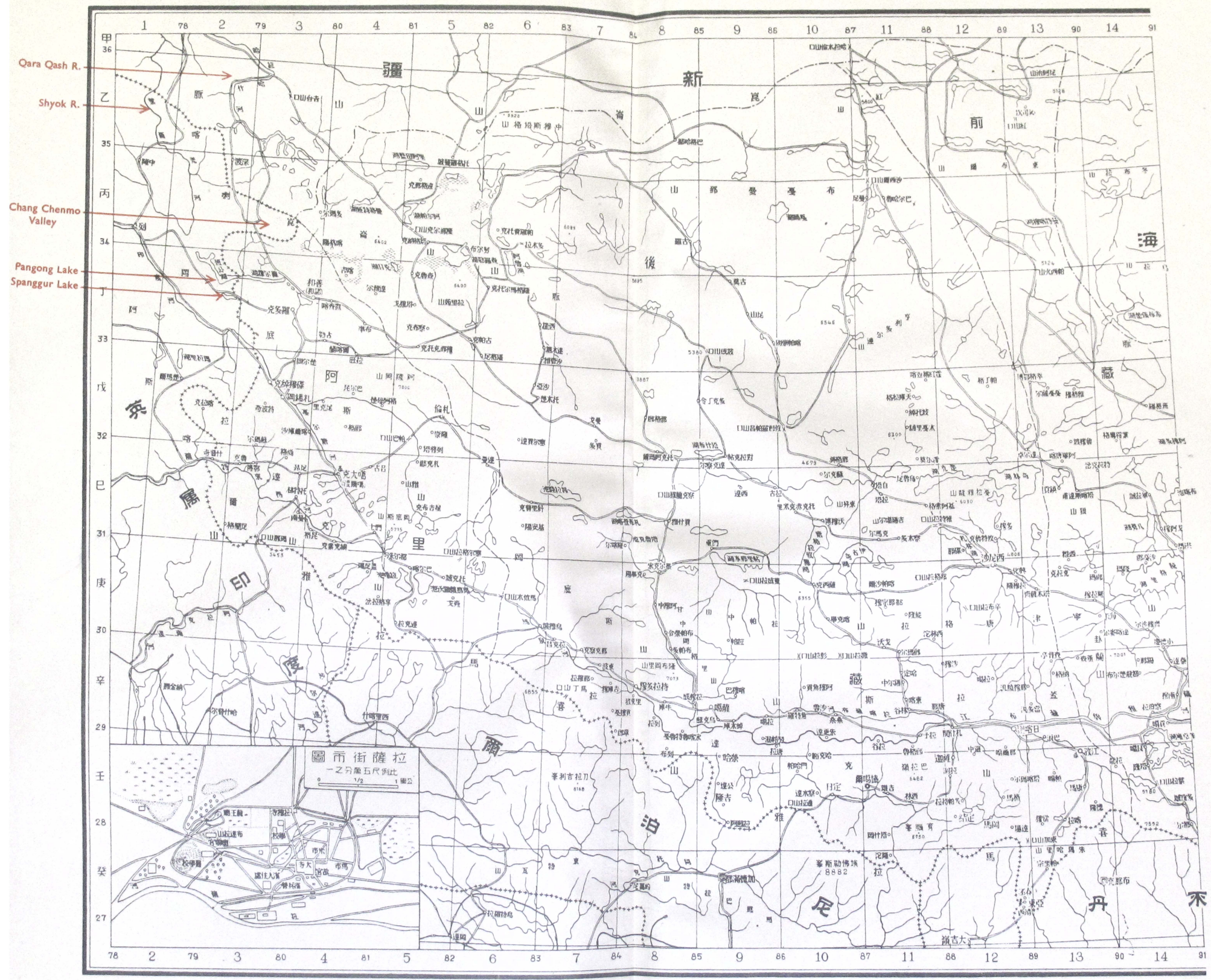
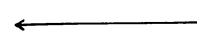
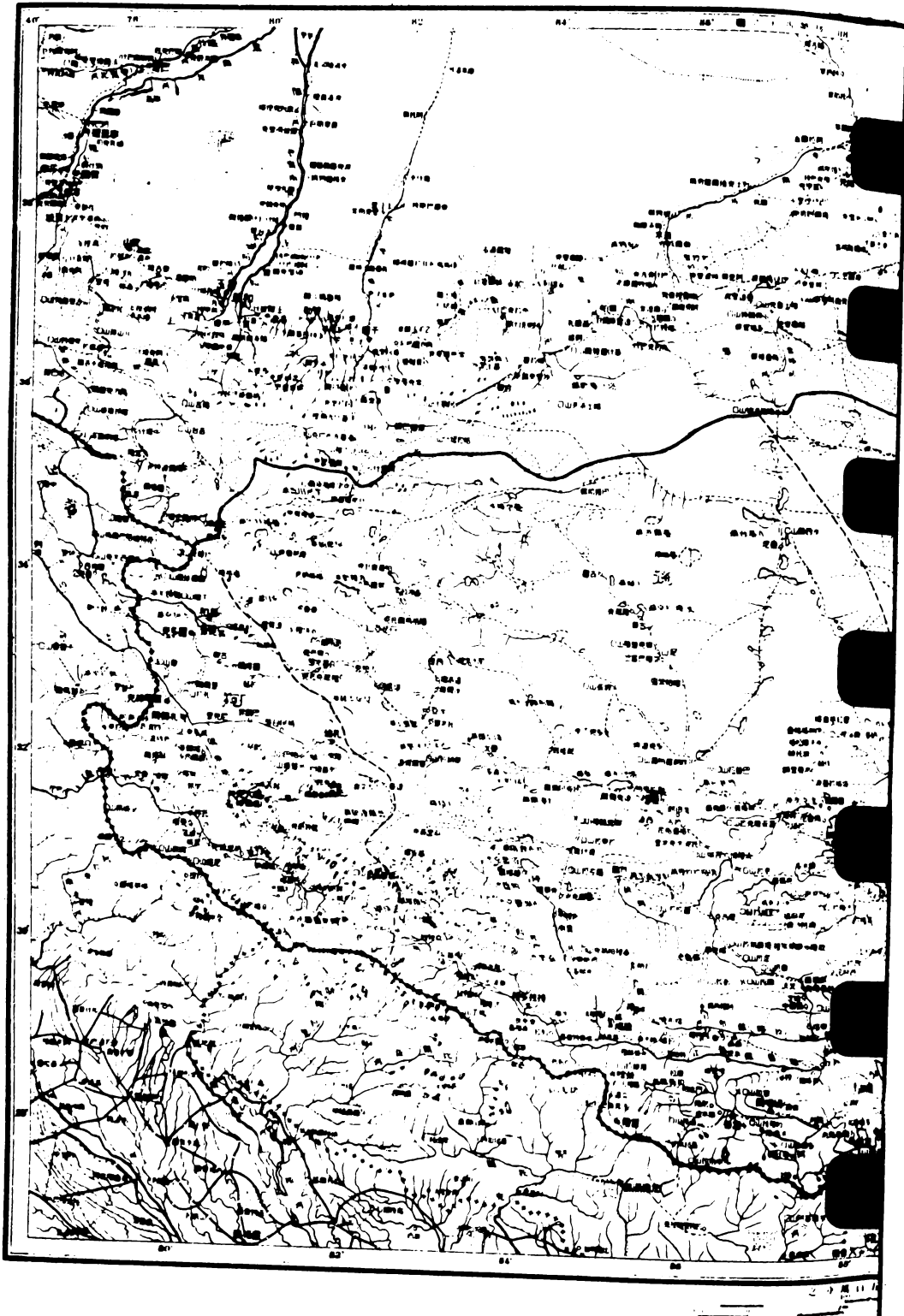


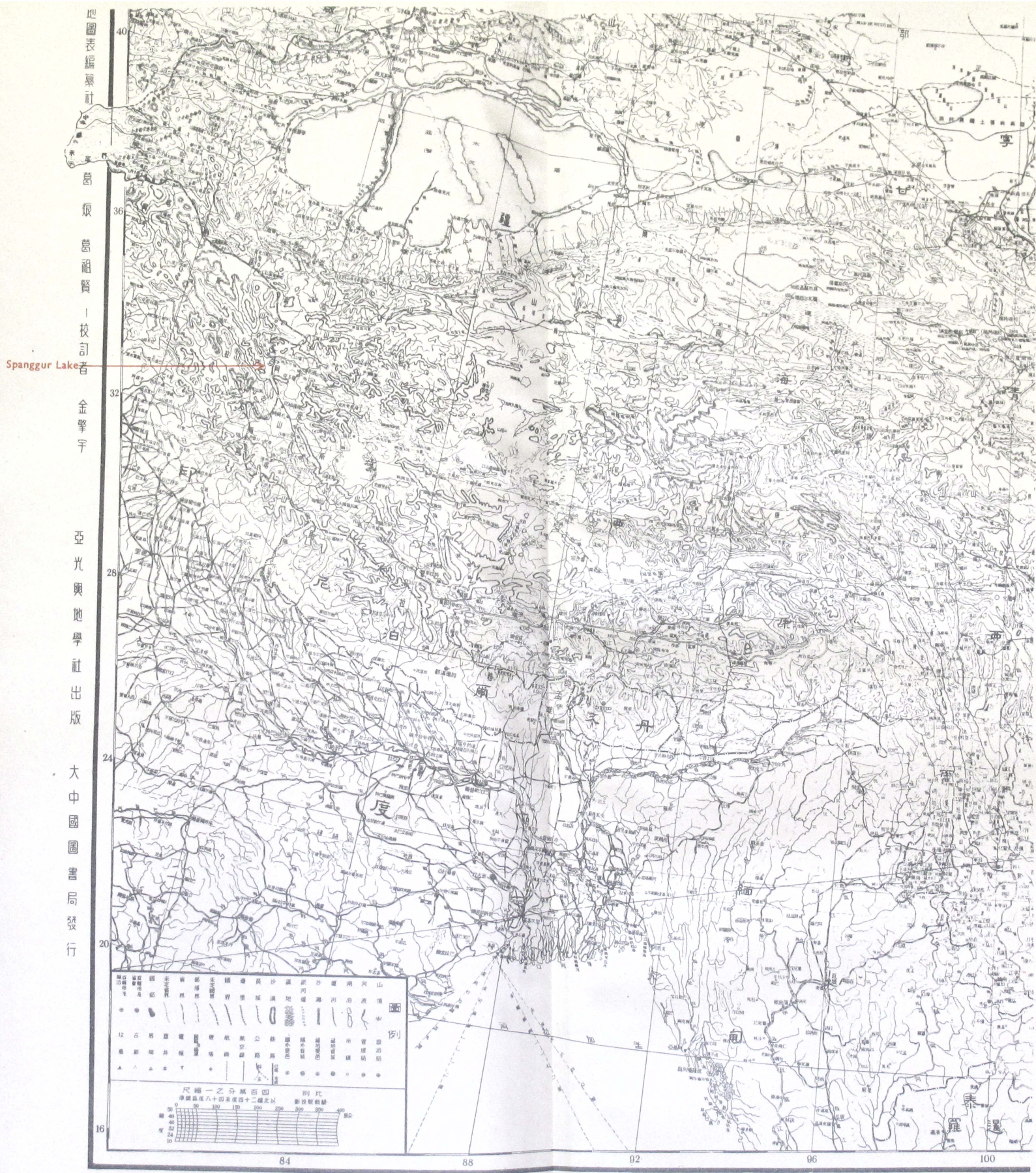
Plate 25 in the *Atlas of Provinces of China*, compiled under the direction of the Chinese Board of Direction for Education and Literature, 1933. In this map the line follows the Qara Qash-Shyok watershed in the north-east. The Chang Chenmo valley, western Pangong Lake and Spanggur Lake are shown within India. Thereafter the boundary upto Nilang follows the Sutlej-Ganges watershed as in present Indian maps.





Map in the *New Atlas of China* compiled by V. K. Ting, S. Y. Tseng and W. H. Wong, and published by the Shun Pao, Shanghai, 1935. The Atlas claims to be "not a more reproduction of the published maps but a new compilation from all available data which have been thoroughly studied". However, the delineation of the international boundary is the same as in Map 29.



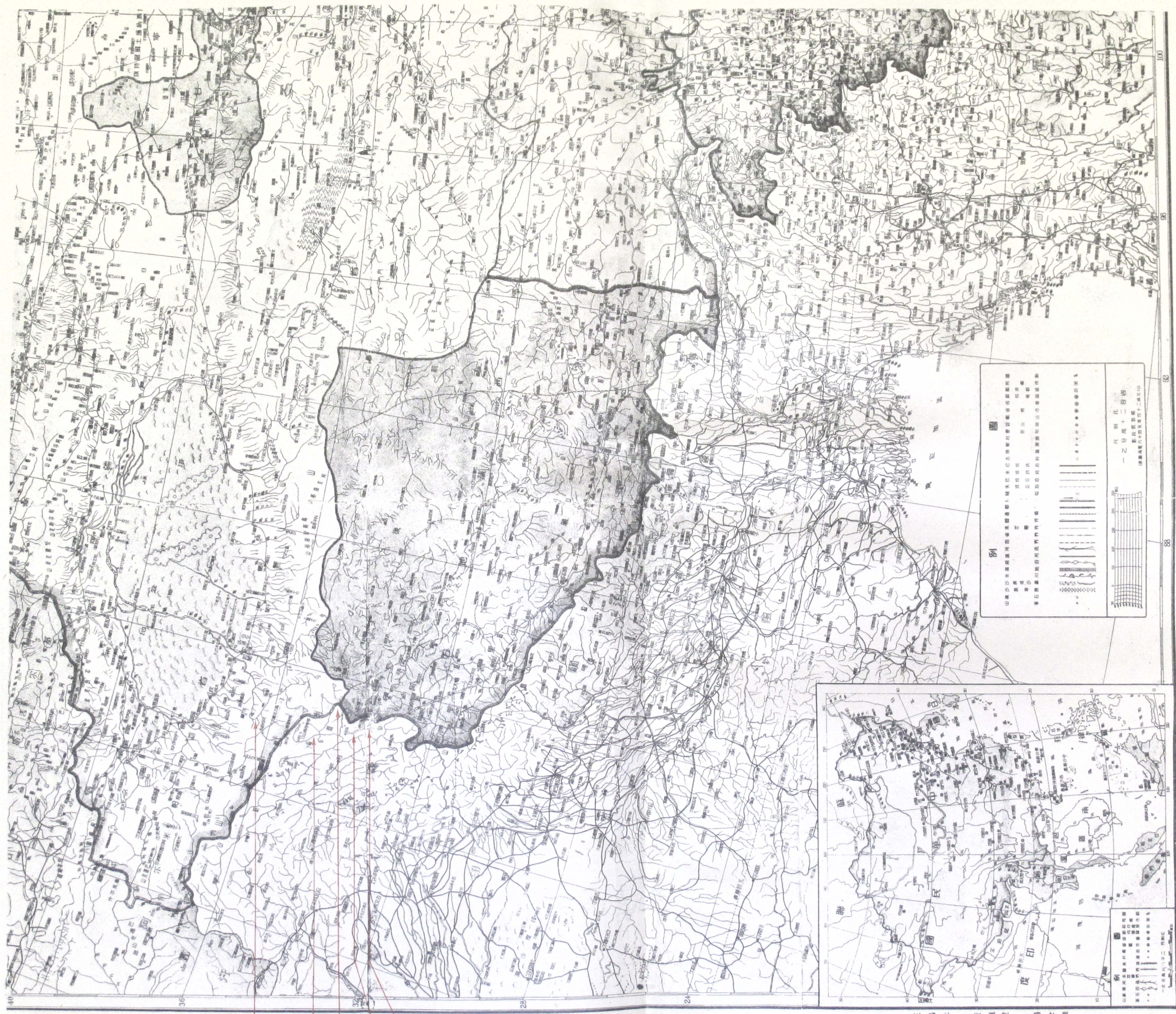


地圖表編纂社  
葛煥 葛祖賢 校訂者  
金肇宇  
亞光輿地學社出版  
大中國圖書局發行

Wall Map of Modern China published by Ya Kuang Map Publishing Society, 1947

The boundary shown in this map is the same as that shown in the Shun Pao Atlas 1935.



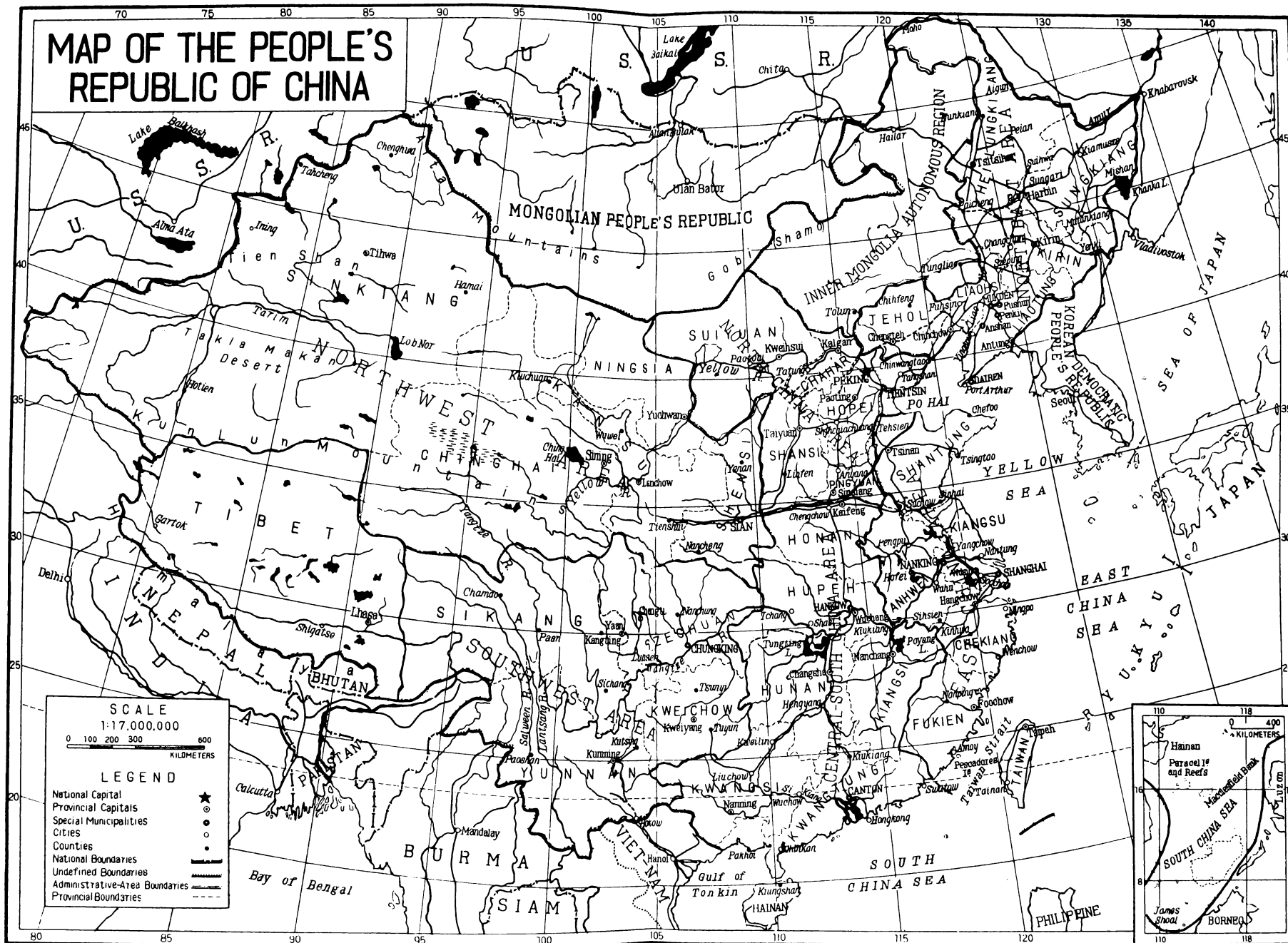


內政部區域司編製 傅角今主編 黃玉錫 黃鏡湖 黃鏡在 楊金如 編繪

行 印 館 書 印 務 商

Map of the Administrative Areas of the Chinese Republic, issued by the Chinese Ministry of the Interior (December 1947). In this map the boundary follows the Qara Qash-Shyok watershed, includes a part of the Chang Chenmo valley in India, and passes through the middle of the Pangong Lake. Spanggur Lake is shown entirely within Indian territory.





Map of the People's Republic of China published in *People's China*, 1 October 1950. The alignment reverts to that shown in the *Shun Pao Atlas*, 1935.





Qara Qut R

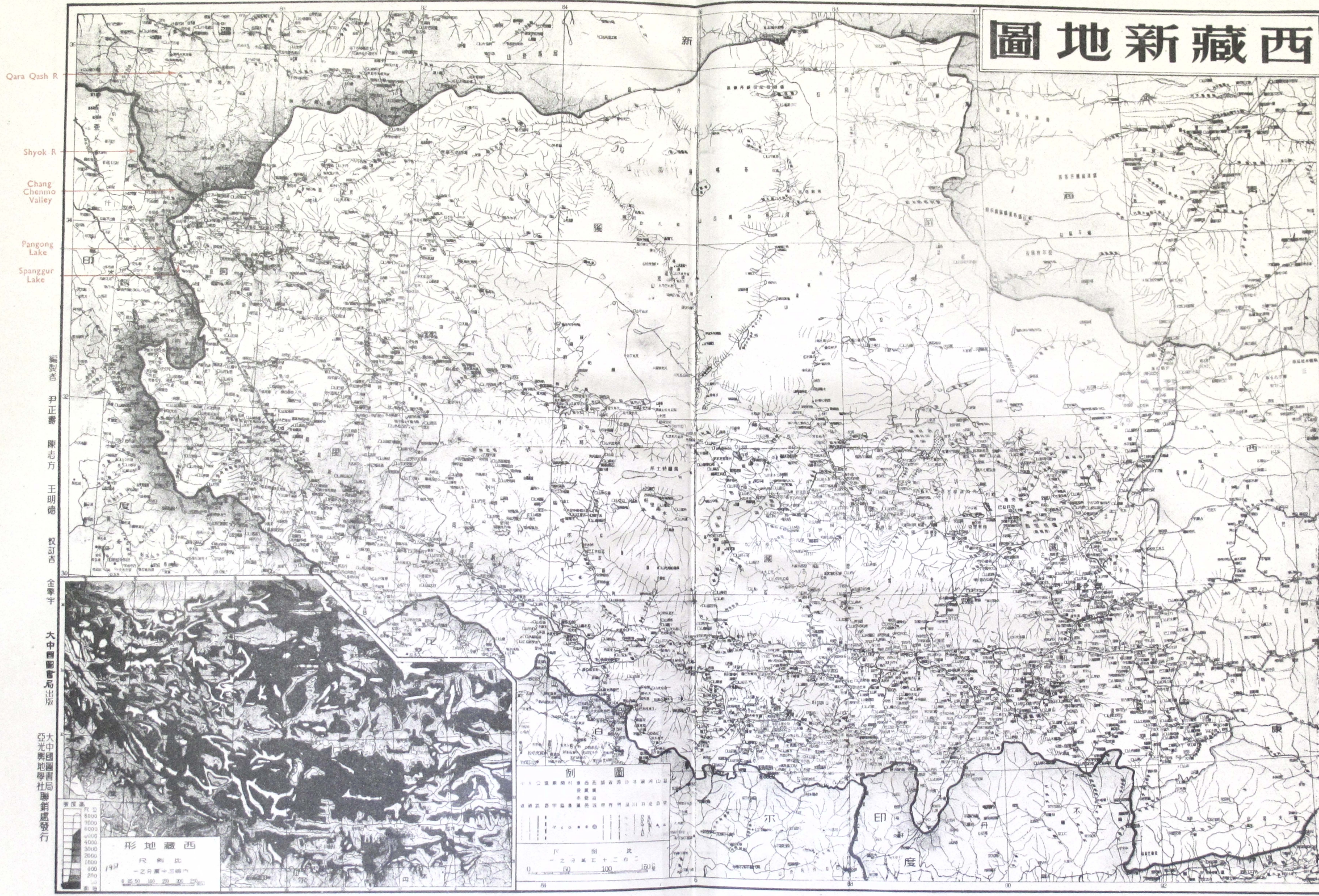
Shyok R

Chang Chenmo Valley  
Pangong Lake  
Spangour Lake

Wall Map of the People's Republic of China, January 1951. This map reverts to the alignment in Map 32.



# 西藏新地圖



Qara Qash R.  
Shyok R.  
Chang Chenmo Valley  
Pangong Lake  
Spanggur Lake

編製者 尹正壽 陳志方 王明德  
校訂者 金學宇

大中國圖書局出版

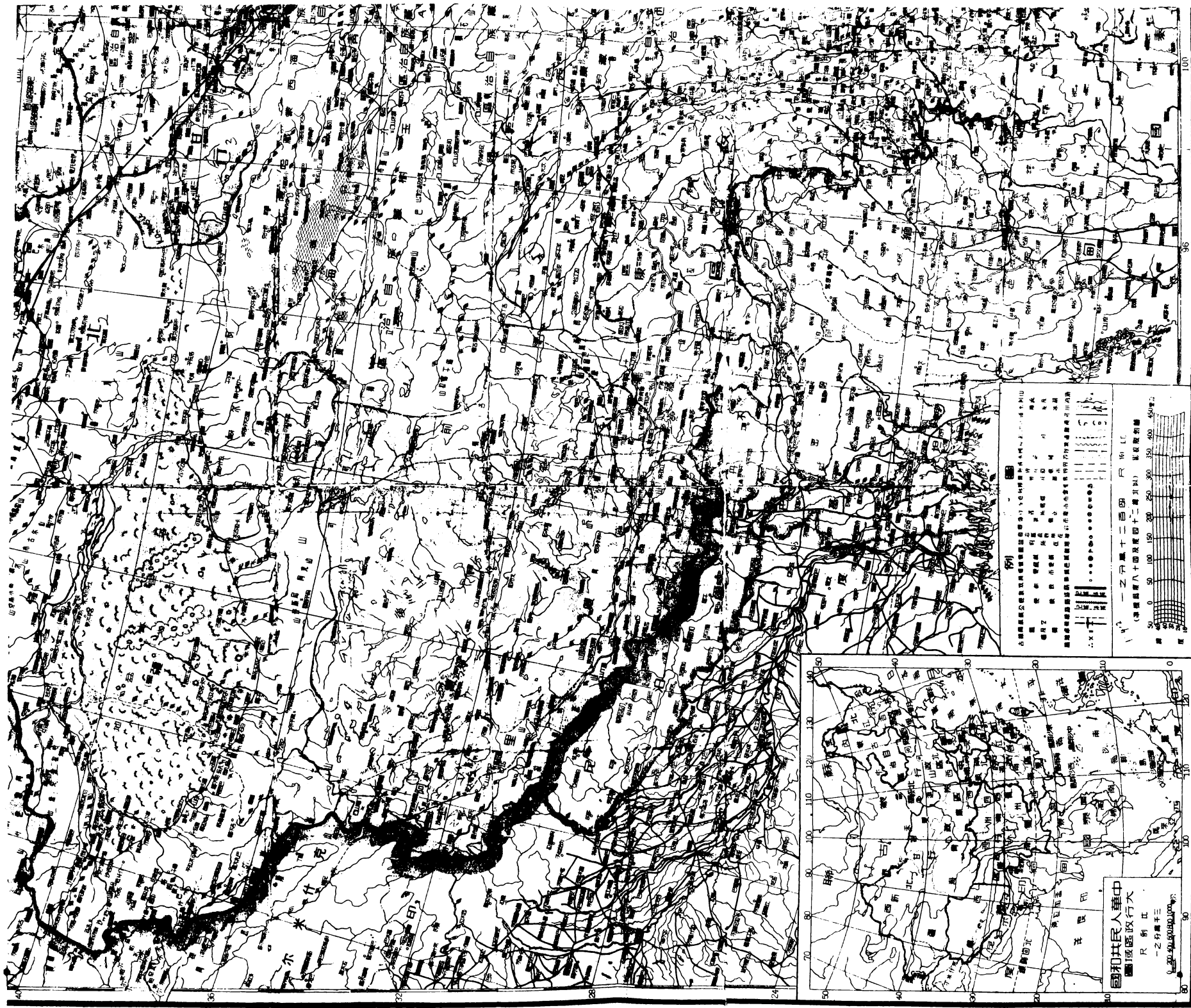
亞光興地學社聯銷處發行

一九五一年四月版

版權所有 翻印必究

New Map of Tibet, published by the Ta Chung Society, March 1951. Instead of following the Qara Qash-Shyok watershed the line drops sharply south and cuts across the water system of the Shyok. It also includes the Spanggur Lake and a part of the western Pangong Lake in Tibet.

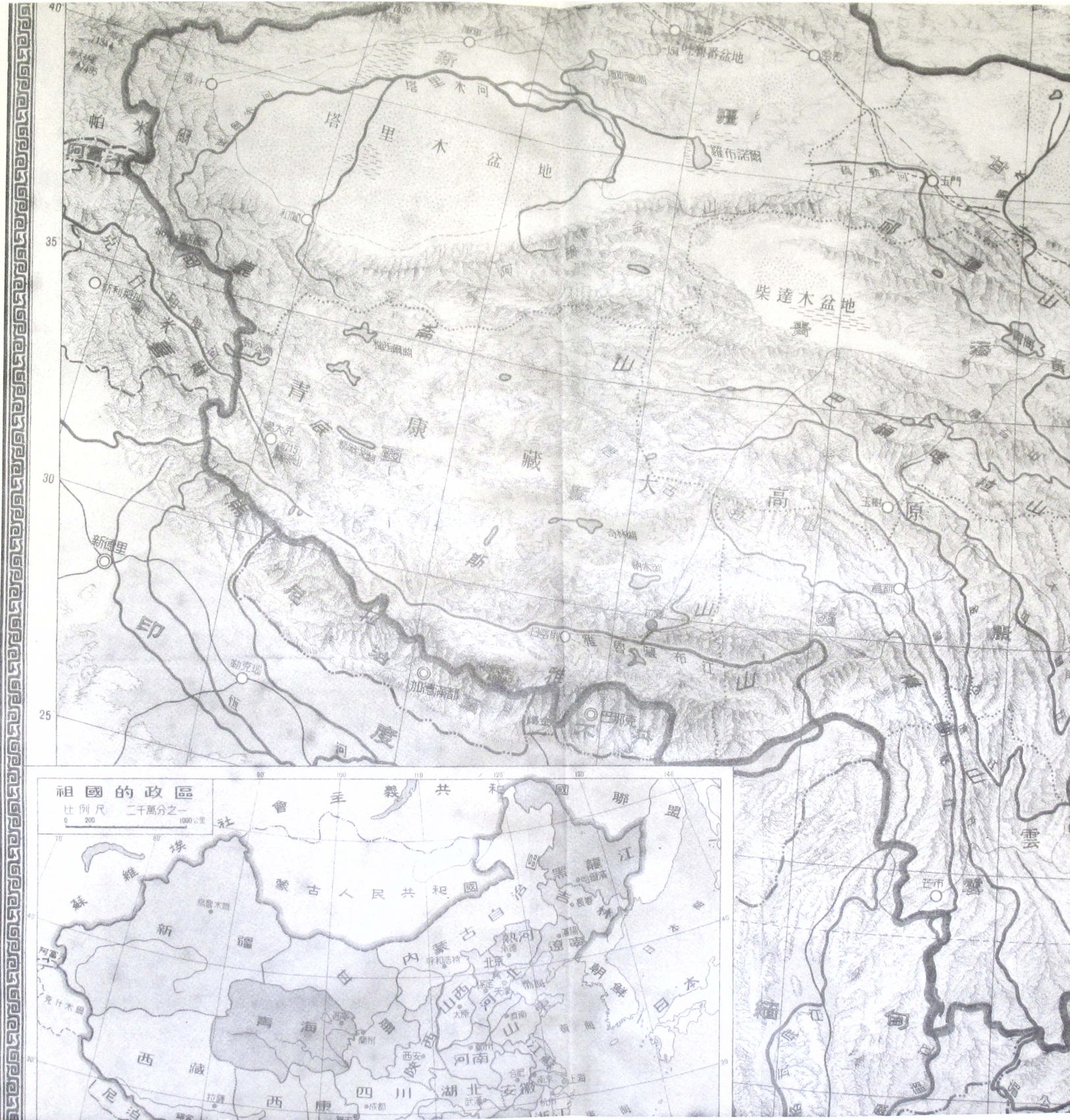




原編製者亞光興地學社 修訂者地圖社 出版者地圖出版社

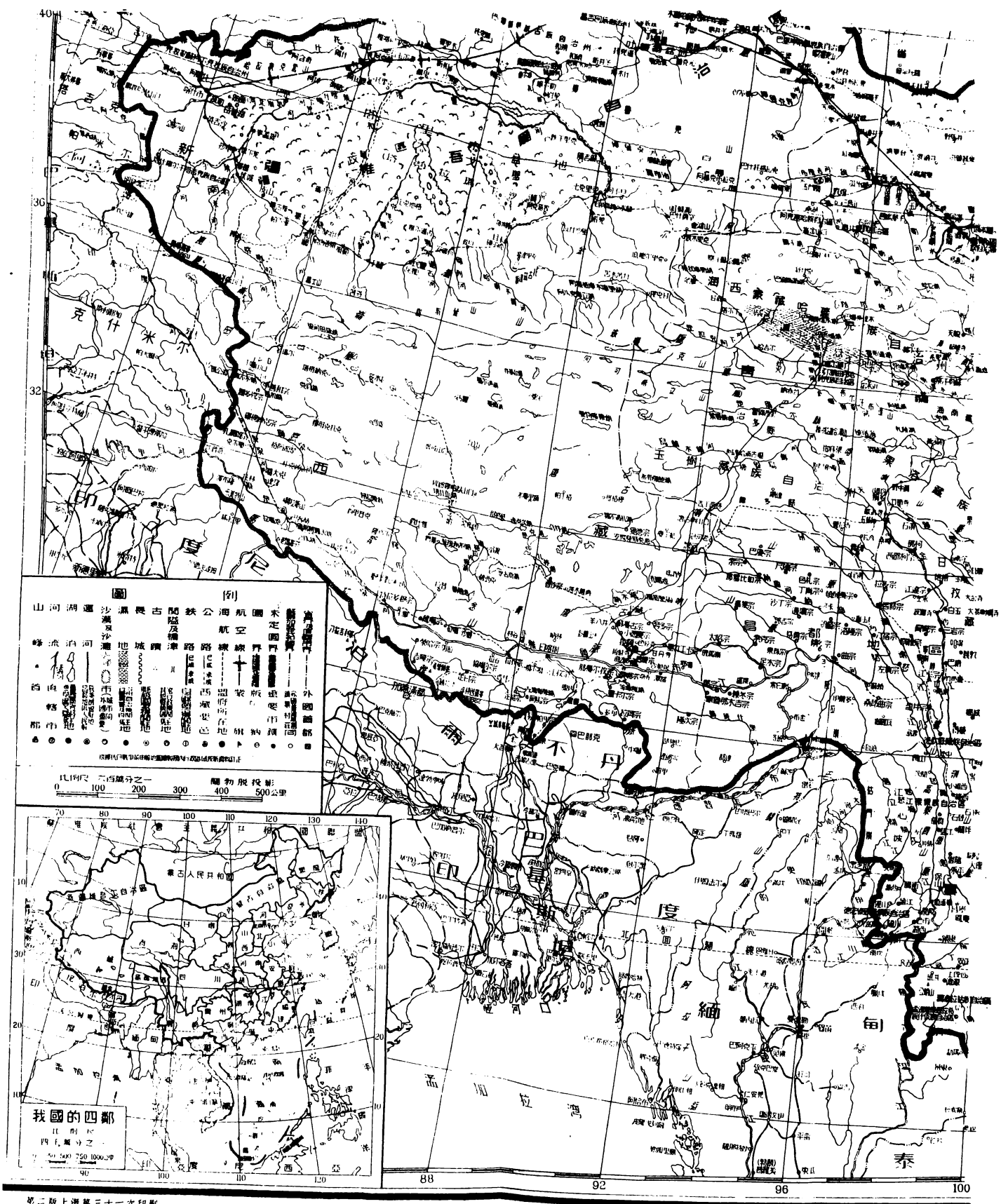
Big Map of the People's Republic of China, published by the Ya Kuang Map Publishing Society (November 1953). This map again reverts to the alignment in Map 32.





The Great Motherland, compiled by New China Map Association and published by Chung Hua, Book-Store (January 1955). This map follows the alignment shown in Map 35.





Wall Map of the People's Republic of China, published by the Map Publishing Society (January 1956). It is stated that this map is based on the Shun Pao Atlas "published before the Sino-Japanese war days". The boundary alignment, however, follows not that of the Shun Pao Atlas but the more exaggerated one of Map 32.

第二版上海第三十一號印刷



