

# [Ptolemy, Geography Book 6](#)

Middle East, Central and North Asia, China. Part 1. Text and English/German Translations

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Zu [Inhaltsverzeichnis](#)

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## Preface

This is the second part of studies on the 6th Book of Ptolemy's *Geography*. It was announced as the third in the preface to Part 1, which was published in 1998. The change is due to the fact that the authors of that part considered it more useful for further research to publish the reconstructed maps of the single countries together with explanatory notes and indexes before publishing the onomasiological and historical comments, which are now planned as the third part of their Ptolemy studies.

In order to make Ptolemy's fascinating work generally accessible, the geographical and ethnographical names have been transliterated into Latin.

As Ptolemy's information on the geography and ethnography of the then Irano-Indian borderlands has a direct bearing on the history of Alexander the Great, a supplement has been added containing Ptolemy's data on North-West and West India from the substantial first chapter of Book 7 of his *Geography*.

The maps have been compiled and drawn by Susanne Ziegler. Helmut Humbach has supplied the philological remarks and the indexes, in which the more important variants are also listed. Klaus Faiss has had a large share in the extensive proofreading and the final editing of the present volume, which is offered as a contribution to the project *Collection des sources pour l'histoire de l'Asie Centrale préislamique*, directed by Philippe Gignoux (Paris) on behalf of the Union Académique Internationale and founded by János Harmatta (Budapest) in 1972. It is to him that Part 2 is dedicated too.

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Spring 2002

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