1807-1813 Military Campaign of Khiva Khan Muhammad Rahimkhan I

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Abstract: This article talks about the military campaigns of Khiva Khan Muhammad Rahimkhan I (1806-1825) in the first years of his reign, i.e. 1807-1813. Khan’s military expeditions to the Kungirat, Karakalpak clans and tribes and Dashti Kipchak, as well as the occupation of those territories, and the comrades who helped Muhammad Rahimkhan I (1806-1825) were given information.

Keywords: Khanate of Khiva, the reign of Muhammad Rahimkhan I, Kungirot, Karakalpak tribes, Dashti Kipchak, Toramurad Sufi.

In the early days of Muhammad Rahimkhan I (1806-1825), the social and political life in the country became more and more tense. As a result, the ruler of the country prepared for a serious struggle to ensure territorial integrity and political stability. During this period, sectarianism and separatism especially intensified in the north of the khanate.

In October 1807, Kutlimurod sent an army under the leadership of Inok against the Karakalpaks of Yangidarya. They launched an attack on the Chinese blackbirds in the Chertakli district on the banks of the Yangidarya.

However, this time Yangidaryo Karakalpaks could not be brought under the control of Khiva Khanate. They went to Bukhara with 5000 families under the leadership of Orinboybiy [1].

Muhammad Nazarbiy ibn Qulmurad Inaq ibn Bekmurad has a younger brother named Saidnazarbiy, sons named Khojamurad, Toramurad, Shahmuradbek, and Muhammad Amin appoints Inaq Saidnazarbiy as the governo of Arol. Khojamurad and Toramurod have been living in Khiva, sometimes in Arol, with a modern arrangement [2].

By the time of Awazbiy Inaq, the conflict in the Arol region increased. Khojamurad's younger brother Toramurod raises the flag of opposition and pursues separatist politics. During the time of Eltuzarkhan, these brothers came to an agreement due to necessity. However, when Eltuzarkhan took over the government, he expelled Toramurod Sufi from the country in 1806. He lives in Bukhara [1]. During the reign of Muhammad Rahimkhan I, he returned, took up residence in Kungirat and continued his separatist policy.

In 1809, Muhammad Rahimkhan I executed Khojamuradbiy and his five sons. Before that, he betrayed the khan and committed two hundred acts, but the khan pardoned him. Although he is restored to his position in Khiva, he spies in favor of Toramurod Sufi. After this treason was revealed, the execution mentioned above was carried out. Hearing about the execution of his brother and nephews, the Sufi Toramurod, relying on the emir of Bukhara, started more corrupt activities than before. Increases looting.

As a result, the khan is forced to start the Arol campaign. During the trip to the island, he also takes care of many household chores. He sends a person called the Sufi of Panah as an ambassador to the Sufi of Toramurad. But Toramurod Sufi detained the ambassador for
fifteen days and sent him back, and no definite agreement was reached. Many citizens fleeing the tyranny of Toramurod Sufi come to the khan. They also caught his spy named Nematgarang and handed him over to the khan. Khan hangs him. In that process, the robbers who were accomplices of Toramurod Sufi were attacked and the caravans coming from Astrakhan and Mangishlak to Khiva were secured. Many chapovuls are organized. But this time the khan built a fort on the bank of the Shumanai stream, and left Kutlugmurad there and returned to Khiva himself.

It should be noted that the Kungirot problem related to Toramurod Sufi became one of the serious issues for the khanate. Qutlugmurad, who stayed in this area, was more busy with farm work and dealt with the problem of controlling the river flood. In the meantime, the Sufi Toramurod organized a raid on the Karakalpak villages outside of Kungirot, captured many people, and looted their property [2].

The mutual conflict between Muhammad Rahimkhan and Sufi Toramurad led to the destruction of the common people. Looting and taking captives, which always happened between two countries, was now happening within one country.

Aymirzabiy, with the help of Aydostbiy, organized a campaign against the Karakalpaks in Kungirot province with an army of four hundred people, which consisted of Karakalpaks, plundered them, and captured many people [2].

At this time, Sufi Toramurod came to subjugate the Akyokish fortress as the leader of seven hundred men. Before the arrival of this army, Aydostbi had ambushed three hundred men from the fortress. These people attacked the fortress of Toramurod Sufi, took a hundred people captive and looted them. As a result, Toramurod is forced to return to the path of the Sufi [2].

It is known that in those times the remains of seed production were very strong. Yamud, Chovdur, Taka, Goklan, Jamshid, Emreli and other clans of Turkmen could not get along with each other, so there were frequent wars and bloodshed. This condition also existed among the blackberry seeds. On the other hand, various conflicts often arose between Turkmens and Uzbeks, Turkmens and Karakalpaks, these conflicts led to the destruction of the people, and there were many innocent bloodsheds.

Muhammad Rahimkhan is struggling to eliminate those conflicts and create a unified state policy, and the establishment of the Supreme Council upon his accession to the throne was also connected with that policy.

In 1810, Muhammad Rahimkhan began marching to Arol province for the third time. He came to his residence in Moyly forest near Gurlan, crossed the river through Kipchak and stopped at Beshtepa. There, under the leadership of Muradbek Kungirot, Tanak bahodir Kungirot, Dosim bahodir Mangit, and Badal, he gathered seven hundred horsemen and sent them to the areas where Sufi Toramurod planned to attack [2].

At this time, Toramurod was unaware that Sufi Khan was coming to Kungirot with his army. At that time, he sent a commander named Eshmuhammadbek with two hundred and fifty soldiers to plunder the people of Hasababiy. But Kadirbergan, the son of Koshberganbiy and Hasanboybiy, repelled this attack with his Karakalpak men. Eshmuhammadbek and some of his companions hid in the reeds in the lake and after three days they reached Kungirot with bare feet.

Muhammad Rahimkhan fights four times in a row to take the fortress of Kungirat in this campaign. Knowing that the war was about to begin, Toramurod Sufi left the fortress, built a fortification, and put up a strong resistance. The war becomes very intense, cannons and rifles are fired incessantly. In this process, the governor of the Naimaniy of Arol moves to the side of the khan [2].
During this process, Shahniyaz, the chief of the army, came to the khan and advised them to stop the war, replenish the ranks of the army, and arrange the horses. Khan agrees to this offer. As a result, the army returns to Khiva under the leadership of Khan. Sufi Toramurod did not calm down even after these events, but continued his provocative actions.

In 1811, the Khorezm caravan going to Russia was returned by Karimberdi father and Muhammadrizo Qushbegi through the Arang kiri. Sufi Toramurad found out about this and sent three hundred men from the chowder after him to rob the caravan. He sends another two hundred people to Akyokash to rob Aydostbiy's land. Not limited to this, under the leadership of Eshmuhammadbek, he sends another two hundred and fifty warriors to plunder Gurlan. They reach Gurlan and set fire to the houses of Khudoinazarbek and Orozali Inaq. In that process, the fasting person is executed [2].

Under the leadership of Kutlugmurad Inok, the enemy is dealt a crushing blow. They were joined by the people of Gurlan, and many enemy soldiers were killed and captured. Most of the commanders are killed and captured and executed. In this way, the army sent by Sufi Toramurod to Gurlan is defeated. Sayyidqulibek and Eshmuhammadbek were captured and executed for the revenge of Orozali Inaq. Khan Orozali gives the position of fatherhood to the eleven-year-old son of Inok [2].

The three hundred Chowdir robbers sent by Toramurod Sufi to rob the caravan will not be able to achieve their goals. The people in the caravan put up a protective wall by building a protective wall around them. The robbers fought for five days and were separated from thirty companions. In the meantime, the news of Eshmuhammadbek's defeat in Gurlan arrives. After this news, the Chowdir bandits leave the caravan and run away.

When commanders such as Sarimsogbiy Koldovli, Islamasbiy Bolgalali, Nurtoybiy Koshtangali were approaching Akyokish, Aydostbiy's trusted men - Khojamberdibek, Qalandar Kor, and Eshmuhammad centurions, heard the news of Eshmuhammadbek's entry into Gurlan, turned to treachery and left the fortress. Muhammad Rakhimkhan I appoints Muhammadniyozbek and Hasnamurad Kipchak instead of them. In this way, all three armies sent by Toramurod Sufi to three sides will be defeated.

In the meantime, Eralikhan of Kazakh plundered Tang China and Kipchak with an army of 1,500 men. The Karakalpaks along the Yangidarya River defeat Eralikhon and force him to flee. After this event, the Yangidaryo princes sent an ambassador to Khiva Khan. Khan happy welcomes the ambassadors.

From Yangidarya, Orinbiy and Eshjonbiy moved their people together with two thousand Karakalpak families and settled on the banks of the Amudarya around Baday dam [2].

Esangaldibi, Toqtapolodbi and Mamanbi are also subject to the Khanate of Khiva.

From the early spring of 1811, Toramurod sufi organized an attack on the people of Karakalpak under Maqadbiy, Hasanbaybiy and Cho'nqarabiy. The purpose of Khan's regular engagement with the Call issue was to bring this issue to a complete end. Because Toramurod Sufi has been threatening peace in the country for 18 years. He was even violating the rules of Islam. For example, Esan Amon, who had a good relationship with Mullah Khoroz after he moved his country, captured the fathers of Esan Amon and O'Tabberdi, executed eleven people with their brothers and sons, and forced the wives of some of them to marry their servants without mourning [2].

The summer of 1811 came and after the harvest, the khan started the Kungirot march again. Another event will cause this march. Kholmuhammad Khan and Khudoykuli father, belonging to the Eshkuli clan of Kungirat, are executed by Sufi Toramurad. As a result, the khan left Khiva in August and reached the territory of Anbar Monoq and Moilijanga. The khan gathers the Uzbek, Karakalpak and Turkmen sepoys together and sends Karimberdi at
the head of the army to the chopovul around the Kungirot fortress. They brought a lot of booty and captives to the khan. Khan sends the loot to them and uses it in the trenches around the fortress without executing the captives [2].

Khan Muhammadniyaz Karchak, Berdi Bahadir, Dosim Bahadir, Eshniyoz Ataliq, Mamishbek and Tanak Bahadir entrusted the siege of the castle. They nailed all the gates of the castle and cut off the outside communication. As a result, famine began in the fortress, and people began to die in the streets. Many people overcame the fortress wall and surrendered to the Khan's army.

Without stopping the attack on the fort, Khan continued to fight with various military tactics. Karakalpak fighters were particularly active in this war.

Especially Tailak Bahadir and Eshbol Bahadir are fighting fiercely to capture Dosot, the son of Toramurad Sufi. A slippery horse steps out in front of him and knocks him off his horse. Dosot quickly escapes by throwing himself into the river [2].

When Toramurad Sufi sold Kurbanbekbi's daughter and 40 girls for eleven horses to the Yomuts of Gurgon, he promised that if 200 men came to join the battle, he would give each of them two girls. When those 200 people loaded wheat and rice on horses and camels and approached Kungirot, they returned to their tracks after seeing the battle. Sardar Kandim heard about this incident and sent a group to catch them. The Gurgon Yomuts unloaded all their cargo and ran away on their trail. They followed them near the Eltija well, captured their horses and camels, and executed them. All the food they bring will be handed over to the army. Horses and camels are also distributed. The war is intensifying day by day.

At that time, when the Battle of Kungirot was going on, a proposal came to the Khan from the Ochamaili and Ko'kozakli tribes. It contained the requests of the citizens to release them from the tyranny of Khojamuradbiy and Toramurad Sufi. At the same time, they asked to pardon the people. Khan reacts positively to this complaint, pardons them.

On the tenth day of the month, Khan Karimberdi gave an order to Ataliq and Abdulla Inok to storm the fortress. They break into the castle. All of Sufi's close comrades are arrested and executed. Among them was the ambassador from Bukhara.

In castle Khan made his brother Muhammad Nazarbek the ruler. The soldiers who entered from all the gates of the fortress looted the property of the Sufi. They broke his prison and freed the prisoners. Most of the prisoners were men and women who had been in handcuffs for 5-7 years.

At the time of the capture of the fortress, the three sons of Toramurod Sufi and several relatives managed to escape. The Khan sent people to pursue them and appointed Karimberdi ataliq, Khudoinazar ataliq, Qilich inaq, Muhammad Reza inaq and Abdullah inaq to guard the gates of the castle. At that time, Khudoyberdi, one of the officials of Toramurod Sufi, got up from his seat and stabbed the body of Toramurod Sufi with a spear. Seeing this, Alibek from Kokozak hits his sofi on the head with a rifle in his father's hand. Tajimurod, the son of Khudoyberdi Bojiman and Begum, who took advantage of the opportunity, cut off the head of Sufi Toramurad with a dagger and sent it to Muhammad Rahimkhan [3].

After the end of Toramurod Sufi separatism on the island, peace and tranquility began to reign in the country. Khan saw many people who suffered from Sufi as worthy of various positions. He graciously forgave many people who had erred and repented, even the son of a Sufi. Thus, in 1811, Khiva Khan conquered Kungyrat and completely subjugated all Karakalpaks.

After the island problem was solved and people found peace, Dashti Kipchak problem arose.
The Shumanay people, belonging to the Kazakh category, lived a comfortable life with Eralikhan, the son of Abdulhairkhan, during the Inaq era. But after the death of Eralikhan, his descendants continued the kingdom, and during the reign of his son Temurtora, corruption increased. The people belonging to this khanate started demanding caravans. Later, the citizens of Khorezm and Bukhara were demanded and taken away as prisoners. In particular, they oppressed the Karakalpaks in Yangidarya, demanded their property, and took people captive.

As a result, the khan started the Dashti Kipchak campaign to protect the citizens of the country. On this occasion, the taka separators in Marv also started looting. Khan took this situation into account in his campaign. Before leaving for the march, ambassadors came from Bukhara and asked them to jointly eliminate the leadership of the Turkmen pirate groups. However, the khan sent Berdy to solve this problem and left for the next campaign. On the eve of leaving for the trip, Kazakh ambassadors came and raised the question of obedience, but the khan did not agree to it.

On the 12th day of Muharram, 1812, His Holiness the Khan left Khiva and came to the Moyli forest.

In the meantime, the Turkmens of Gurgon organized a raid on the Karakalpaks in Khojailiy. Khan entrusted Yusuf mehtar to take measures for him, and he himself moved the army through Kipchak to Chilpiq territory.

These events were taking place in the seventh year of the khan's career. Thus, the Khan's army headed towards Dashti Kipchak. On the way, he was joined by 500 Karakalpak men of Oydostbiy.

The army suffered a lot from the cold, and finally they reached the Hasan fortress. According to the information of the prisoners held there, the Kazakhs were still unaware of the arrival of the army. However, when one prisoner escaped and brought this news, the Kazakhs began to flee in tribes.

Sultan Temur Khan, who was worried about this violent march of the Khan's troops, sent an ambassador to ask for obedience to the Khan.

Khan says to the ambassadors: whoever you have captured from our country, from the Muslim nation in general, return to us, and we will return the captives to you, God willing. Koshnazar made devanbegi responsible for this matter. Thus the Khan returned with much booty. On the tenth day of the month of Safar, he arrived at Old Kot, passed the shrine of Shah Abbas Valiy and stopped in front of Cholish.

In 1813, Muhammad Rahimkhan I greatly influenced the political and economic life of the country and strengthened his position. In spite of this, internal disputes, robberies and invasion wars between different khanates did not end in the country. Therefore, Khiva Khan spent most of his career organizing military expeditions, ensuring the territorial integrity of the country, and fighting against invasions and robberies. Sometimes he used the policy of violence against violence, invasion.

If earlier the border of the lands subject to the Khanate of Khiva was determined based on the subordination of some clans and clans to the Khan and recognition of his authority, by the 19th century, the border took a more solid form. Khan's authority, which made Khiva a permanent center, remained the absolute power in the entire territory of the country.
References:

