HSR (LONDON),
HOUGHTON STREET REVIEW JOURNAL
ISSN: 2058-5519|Impact factor-15.9
http://houghtonstreetreview.com/index.php/hsr

THE CONQUEST OF THE KOKAND KHANATE IN THE INTERPRETATION OF SHAMSIDDIN SHAWQI

Xolmirzayev Xayrullo Lutfillojon o‘g‘li,
Doctoral Researcher, Namangan State University
E-mail: xayrullohxolmirzayev93@gmail.com
ORCID ID 0009-0005-6672-425X
doi:https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.23235437

ABSTRACT: This article analyzes the political processes in Central Asia, particularly in the Kokand Khanate, during the 1870s, as well as the conquest and abolition of the Khanate, on the basis of a range of primary sources and scholarly literature. Particular attention is paid to the intensification of internal conflicts within the Khanate, the Pulatkhan uprising, and the abolition of the Khanate. These issues are examined using information presented in the works of Mulla Shamsiddin Shawqi, including “Tarixi Shawqi” and “Qo‘qon voqeasi bayoni”, Muhammad Aziz Marghilani’s “Tarixi Azizi”, Mushrif Mirzo Olim’s “Ansob us-salotin va tavorix ul-havoqin”, Ishaqkhon-tura Ibrat’s “Tarixi Farg‘ona”, and other relevant sources and scholarly works.

Keywords: Kokand Khanate, uprisings, Khudoyar Khan, Aliquli Amirlashkar, Abdurahman Oftobachi, Pulatkhan, sources, Makhram.

INTRODUCTION

By the 1860s, the Russian Empire had intensified its military operations in the territories of Central Asia. In the autumn of 1862, Russian Imperial troops captured the fortresses of Pishpek and Tokmok, which belonged to the Kokand Khanate. In June 1864, they captured the city of Turkistan and subsequently Aulie-Ata. Having learned that Turkistan and Aulie-Ata had been captured and that an attack on Chimkent had begun, Amirlashkar Aliquli came from Kokand to Chimkent with a large army to provide assistance. After several battles between the two sides, the Tsarist troops retreated. Amirlashkar Aliquli left troops in Chimkent under the command of Mirzo Ahmad and returned to Kokand [Shamsiddin Shawqi, pp. 4–5; Mushrif Mirzo Olim, 1995, p. 73; Ilhomov, 2022, p. 70].

However, soon afterward Chimkent was also captured by Russian Imperial troops. In September 1864, an attack on Tashkent was launched under the command of General M. G. Chernyaev. However, owing to strong resistance from the city’s population, he was forced to retreat to Chimkent [Shamsiddin Shawqi, p. 27; Ziyoev, 2000, p. 149]. After nearly a year of preparation, Chernyaev launched an attack on Tashkent in June 1865. The defense was led by Amirlashkar Aliquli, but after the amirlashkar was killed in battle, part of the Khanate’s army dispersed. As a result, Tashkent was captured by the Russian Empire. The Turkestan Governor-Generalship was established in the occupied territories.

After the capture of Tashkent, internal conflicts in the Khanate intensified again. As a result, Khudoyar Khan, relying on the support of the Emir of Bukhara, once again ascended the throne. After returning to power, Khudoyar Khan pursued a policy of concessions to the Russian Empire in foreign affairs. A clear example of this was the treaty signed on 13 February 1868 between the Turkestan Governor-Generalship and the Kokand Khanate. In essence, this agreement was concluded on extremely burdensome terms for the Kokand Khanate.

HSR (LONDON),
HOUGHTON STREET REVIEW JOURNAL
ISSN: 2058-5519|Impact factor-15.9
http://houghtonstreetreview.com/index.php/hsr

Since the Russian Empire had occupied a large part of the Khanate, revenues flowing into the khan's treasury had sharply declined. In addition, Khudoyar Khan frequently sent envoys to Tashkent with gifts, and these expenses naturally fell upon the population. During the final years of his rule, Khudoyar Khan intensified oppression and abuse against the people, resulting in growing distrust, hatred, and resentment toward him. Mulla Shamsiddin Shawqi writes about this in his work "Tarixi Shawqi" (History of Shawqi) as follows:

"O'zidin xon ketib oxir necha bid'atga ish tuzdi.
Fasod ishlar qilib joriy shariat hukmini buzdi,
Sifoh ila ra'iyat sari boqmay jabr kuzdi,
Sifoh ahli ani bu fe'lini ko'rgach ko'ngil uzdi.
Bu bahona bo'lib Farg'ona mulkig'a ziyon o'ldi"
It means that:
"After the khan himself had gone astray, he adopted several innovations;
He committed corrupt deeds and violated the established rules of Sharia;
With arrogance, he turned toward his subjects and practiced oppression;
When the ignorant people saw these deeds, they turned away from him.
Using this as a pretext, harm befell the land of Fergana" [Abdulahatov & Qo'ldoshev, 2021, p. 144].

At this point, only the Fergana Valley remained under the Kokand Khanate. The Kokand Khanate had become considerably weakened as a result of internal struggles and external influence. This reassured the Russian Empire. Muhammad Aziz Marghilani notes in his work that Khudoyar Khan granted significant privileges to Isa Avliyo and Abdurahman Oftobachi in the administration of state affairs, but that they made numerous mistakes [Muhammad Aziz Marghilani, 1999, p. 14]. "Tarixi Shawqi" likewise states that at that time Khudoyar Khan entrusted the administration of state affairs to his ministers Isa Avliyo and Abdurahman Oftobachi. In particular, it states that Isa Avliyo "was always accustomed to acts of oppression and tyranny, and whatever he did was approved by the khan" [Abdulahatov & Qo'ldoshev, 2021, p. 145].

Furthermore, Khudoyar Khan frequently sent envoys to Tashkent with gifts, and these expenses were imposed on the people. During the final years of his reign, Khudoyar Khan greatly intensified oppression against the population. As a result, distrust, hatred, and resentment toward the khan continued to grow among the people. The number of forces opposing the khan increased steadily, and not only the general population but also court officials, military personnel and administrators, religious figures, and merchants began to join the opposition. As popular discontent intensified, unrest began to occur successively in many parts of the country. Such unrest soon developed into major uprisings.

One of the most significant of these was the Pulatkhan uprising. This uprising is mentioned in numerous sources. The popular movement was led by Mullo Ishaq Hasan ogli, who became known by the name Pulatkhan. Mushrif Mirzo Olim provides the following information about Pulatkhan in his work "Ansob us-salotin va tavorix ul-havoqin": "During the third reign of Khudoyar Khan, Musulmonquli, one of the Kyrgyz biys defeated in the Osh uprising, went to Pulatkhan, son of Murad Khan, who was living in Bukhara, and offered him the khanate, but Pulatkhan refused the offer.

Having no other choice, he came to Tashkent, where he met a Kyrgyz boy named Mulla Ishaq, who was engaged in selling naswar. On the advice of Mulla Abdulmumin, Musulmonquli took this boy to Chust under the name Pulatkhan, seated him on a white felt mat, and proclaimed him khan

HSR (LONDON),
HOUGHTON STREET REVIEW JOURNAL
ISSN: 2058-5519|Impact factor-15.9
http://houghtonstreetreview.com/index.php/hsr

[Mushrif Mirzo Olim, 1995, pp. 80–81].” Thus, it appears that Mulla Ishaq—Pulatkhan—entered the political struggle as the grandson of the deceased Khan Olimkhan. However, the uprising led by the Kyrgyz Musulmonquli was suppressed. Afterward, he hid among the mountain Kyrgyz. By 1873, he began leading another uprising. This uprising continued for several years and ended only after the Khanate was conquered by Russian Imperial troops.

I. Qo‘ziqulov writes the following about this uprising: “The largest in scale and the final major uprising in the Kokand Khanate was the Pulatkhan uprising. The uprising initially began in the villages of Jalalabad and Khanabad with the killing of the khan’s tax collectors by the Kyrgyz. The population of Osh and subsequently that of other villages and settlements joined the uprising, which continued to expand. The insurgents dealt several blows to the khan’s troops. One of these battles took place near Turaqorgon [Kuzikulov, 2014, p. 68].”

It should be particularly emphasized that one of the reasons for the uprising’s widespread expansion throughout the Khanate and the participation of many prominent nobles was the following: when the uprising first began, Abdurahman Oftobachi was sent to suppress it. After suppressing the uprising, he sent several Kyrgyz-Kipchak biys to Kokand as hostages for peace. However, they were executed by Khudoyar Khan. As a result, the enraged population rose in rebellion again. This time, however, the uprising spread much more widely than before and encompassed various strata of society.

A distinctive feature of the uprising was that it began in the spring of 1873 and temporarily subsided by autumn. It resumed in the spring of 1874, temporarily stopped again toward the end of November, and began anew in the spring of 1875. This time, however, Abdurahman Oftobachi, Isa Avliyo, and Sarimsoqbiys, who had been sent against the insurgents by the khan, successively defected to the insurgents with their troops. On 18 July 1875, the khan’s son Nasriddinbek joined the insurgents, followed by Sultan Murodbek on 20 July. The insurgents occupied major cities such as Osh, Namangan, Andijan, and Asaka. Khudoyar Khan, finding himself in a difficult situation, wrote a letter on 20 July 1875 to the Governor-General of Turkestan requesting assistance [Kuzikulov, 2014, p. 69].”

Professor H. Bobobekov writes the following about Pulatkhan: “Pulatkhan (Ishaq Hasan ogli, 1844–1876; Margilan) was born in 1844 into a family belonging to the Boston tribe in the village of Ukhna near the city of Margilan. His father served as a mudarris at the Oqmadrasah in Margilan. He himself studied at the Tunqator Madrasah in Kokand. He served as an imam at a mosque in Andijan and also worked as a merchant and a naswar seller. After coming to Tashkent and meeting Abdulmumin Otaliq, he remained there temporarily. In 1872, a group of Kokand residents led by Sher Dodkhoh invited Pulatbek (the grandson of Olimkhan, the khan of Kokand), who was living in Samarkand, to Kokand and promised to make him khan. However, Pulatbek rejected the offer. The Kokand residents then came to Tashkent and met Abdulmumin Otaliq. At their request, Ishaq Hasan agreed to lead the uprising of the Kyrgyz who were conspiring and struggling for power under the name ‘Pulatkhan’, and came with them to Namangan (Kasan), where he began leading the uprising [Babobekov, 1990, p. 83].” Wealthy influential figures, tribal nobles, and military personnel dissatisfied with Khudoyar Khan’s policies, and even the khan’s son and other relatives, joined his side. The number of insurgents increased day by day. Having gained considerable strength, the insurgents began moving toward Kokand in order to capture the capital of the Khanate.

Having learned that the insurgents were moving toward Kokand, Khudoyar Khan took the treasury and departed for Khujand under the pretext of suppressing the uprising [Mushrif Mirzo Olim,

HSR (LONDON),
HOUGHTON STREET REVIEW JOURNAL
ISSN: 2058-5519|Impact factor-15.9
http://houghtonstreetreview.com/index.php/hsr

1995, p. 88]. According to the sources, Khudoyar Khan took with him from the capital 22 carts carrying treasury wealth, gold, silver and copper vessels, valuable carpets, rare historical and religious books, as well as 150 cannons and guns. On the way, three carts of treasure were looted by local residents and soldiers. Mahmudkhan Tura also returned two carts of treasure, three cannons, and several weapons to Kokand. In "Tarixi Shawqi", Khudoyar Khan's departure for Khujand is described as follows:

Rajab oyi hisob o'lg'on kuni xon o'rdadin chiqqon.
Hisobi tarixi ming ikki yuz to'qson ikki bo'lg'on (Milodiy 1875-yil),
Ho'qandni tashlabon Xo'jand sari yuzlanib ul xon,
Yo'lin olib taloshqonlar sanochdin tangalar olg'on [Abdulahatov., Qo'ldoshev.2021.144.].
And it means that:
On the day counted in the month of Rajab, the khan left the royal residence.
The date was twelve hundred and ninety-two in the Hijri calendar (1875 CE),
The khan left Kokand and turned toward Khujand,
Taking the road, the plunderers took coins from the purses [Abdulahatov & Qo'ldoshev, 2021, p. 144].

After news spread that Khudoyar Khan had fled, the people of Kokand looted the khan's palace and the houses of several officials, taking away their property. On 6 August 1875, the insurgents also marched toward Tashkent and captured the village of Obliq on the banks of the Ohangaron River. On 8 August, they seized the postal stations between Tashkent and Khujand and Ura-Tepa and captured 16 soldiers of the Russian Imperial troops [Ziyoev, 2000, p. 341]. Ahmad Zaki Validiy writes in his work "The Last Days of Khudoyar Khan":

"When the people of Kokand heard, apparently from one of the khan's close associates, why the khan had gone toward Tashkent, they gathered nearly ten thousand soldiers from various directions to intercept and capture him and entered Russian territory. They destroyed and burned some Russian postal stations. Only about 20 kilometres remained between them and the khan, but despite this, they failed to capture him [Ahmad Zaki Validiy, p. 15]." Based on this information, it may be concluded that the main purpose of the insurgents' entry into the Tashkent area was to capture Khudoyar Khan.

This event served as a pretext for Russian Imperial forces to launch another military campaign into the territory of the Khanate. Governor-General von Kaufman immediately returned from Semirechye to Tashkent and began taking measures for a campaign into the Khanate. Soon, Golovachev, the Governor of the Syr Darya Region, having received orders from the Governor-General, launched military operations. Golovachev proceeded with a military detachment to Tilov Fortress, 60 chaqirim from Tashkent. At that time, a 5,000-strong insurgent force was preparing to attack Tilov from the village of Obliq. After brief exchanges of fire between the two sides, the insurgents were forced to retreat toward the mountains.

Russian Imperial troops began entering the Khanate from several directions. For example, Garnovsky led the group advancing toward Qurama and Khujand; Skobelev began operations in the direction from Tashkent toward Parkent; and Kaufman himself advanced toward Piskent. When Kaufman reached the Piskent area, he received news that the city of Khujand had been completely occupied and arrived in Khujand on 18 August. At the same time, a Cossack artillery division under Yefimovich arrived from Samarkand. Sources also indicate that the beks of Shahrisabz, Jorabek and

HSR (LONDON),
HOUGHTON STREET REVIEW JOURNAL
ISSN: 2058-5519|Impact factor-15.9
http://houghtonstreetreview.com/index.php/hsr

Bobobek, were present within the Russian Imperial forces with their own troops. As a result, a sufficient force was assembled in Khujand. The first target on their route was Makhram Fortress.

By this time, the Khanate had also entered a very difficult situation. After Khudoyar Khan fled to Tashkent, Abdurahman Oftobachi declared Nasriddinbek khan and placed him on the throne. For this reason, Pulatkhan began fighting against Abdurahman Oftobachi and Nasriddin Khan. As a result, dual power emerged in the Kokand Khanate. In order to prevent this and unite the forces, on 7 August 1875 Abdurahman Oftobachi declared a ghazavat against the Russian imperial colonizers and launched a national liberation movement. Pulatkhan also supported this movement, but did not lead his own troops into battle. On 22 August 1875, a fierce battle took place at the gates of Makhram Fortress between Russian Imperial troops and the forces of Abdurahman Oftobachi. The Kokand forces were defeated.

Although the Khanate's army was several times larger in number than the soldiers of the Russian Imperial forces, it was defeated. One of the main reasons for this defeat may be considered to be the composition of the Khanate's army: during military campaigns, it was assembled by provincial and fortress governors and consisted largely of ordinary people who had little or no military training.

The Russian Imperial forces under K. P. Kaufman successively defeated the insurgents and captured the cities of Kokand, Margilan, and Osh. On 22 September 1875, Kaufman summoned Nasriddin Khan to Margilan and compelled him to sign a treaty imposing very harsh terms on the population. As a result, the population revolted against Nasriddin Khan. Nasriddin Khan was forced to flee to Tashkent. Pulatkhan was officially proclaimed Khan of Kokand. Abdurahman Oftobachi also recognized him, reconciled with Pulatkhan, and united his military forces with him.

However, Pulatkhan was defeated in battles against Russian Imperial troops because the forces were unequal. On 20 January 1876, realizing that he could not withstand the Russian Imperial forces, Abdurahman Oftobachi surrendered, and his army was disbanded. On 28 January, the final major battle between the Russian Imperial troops and Pulatkhan took place, in which the colonizers were victorious. Pulatkhan, having been defeated, fled to the Alay region, but was captured between Asaka and Andijan and hanged in Margilan on 1 March 1876. According to Haydarbek Bobobekov, the false Pulatkhan—Mulla Ishaq—was 33 years old when he was killed.

In conclusion, historians identify numerous reasons for the defeat of the Khanate's army, particularly the insurgents, in the battles fought across the territory of the Kokand Khanate. These include:

— first, the shortage of troops with permanent military training;

— second, the fact that the leaders of the movement were constantly in conflict with one another;

— third, the clear superiority of the Russian Imperial forces in terms of military weapons and equipment, among other factors.

After the city of Kokand was captured by Russian Imperial troops, a treaty was concluded between Nasriddin Khan and the Governor-General on 15 February 1876. Nasriddin Khan was sent to Tashkent together with Abdurahman Oftobachi. Abdurahman Oftobachi was exiled to the Yekaterinoslav Governorate of Russia and was later granted permission by the government to visit

HSR (LONDON),
HOUGHTON STREET REVIEW JOURNAL
ISSN: 2058-5519|Impact factor-15.9
http://houghtonstreetreview.com/index.php/hsr

Mecca [Muhammad Aziz Marghilani, 1999, p. 87], while Nasriddin Khan was exiled to the Vladimir Governorate.

On 19 February 1876, the abolition of the Kokand Khanate was officially proclaimed, and the Fergana Region was established in its place. Thus, another local state in the history of our country, which had existed from 1709 to 1876, was abolished.

REFERENCES:

1. Abdulahatov, N., & Qo‘ldoshev, Sh. Mulla Shamsiddin Shavqiy. Tashkent, 2021, p. 144.
2. Ahmad Zaki Validiy. The Last Days of Khudoyar Khan. Institute of Oriental Studies, Academy of Sciences of Uzbekistan, No. 15743.
3. Bababekov, N. Kh. Popular Movements in the Kokand Khanate and Their Socio-Economic and Political Prerequisites (18th–19th Centuries). Tashkent: Fan, 1990, p. 83.
4. Ilhomov, Z. The History of Amirlashkar. Tashkent, 2022, p. 70.
5. Kuzikulov, I. U. History of the Kokand Khanate. Namangan, 2014, p. 68.
6. Mulla Shamsiddin Shavqiy. “Narrative of the Events in Kokand History.” St. Petersburg Branch of the Institute of Oriental Studies, Russian Academy of Sciences, No. C2343.
7. Mirzo Olim Mushrif. Ansob us-salotin va tavorix ul-havoqin: “Genealogy of Sultans and History of Khans” (History of the Kokand Khanate). Prepared for publication by A. Matg‘oziev and M. Usmonova; foreword by A. Matg‘oziev. Tashkent: G‘afur G‘ulom Publishing House of Literature and Art, 1995.
8. Muhammad Aziz Marghilani. Tarixi Azizi (Fergana during the Period of Tsarist Colonial Rule). Prepared for publication by Shodmon Vohidov and Dilorom Sangirova. Tashkent: Ma’naviyat, 1999, p. 14.
9. Ziyoev, H. The Struggle against Russian Aggression and Rule in Turkestan (18th–Early 20th Centuries). Tashkent: Sharq, 2000, p. 149.