

**LIFE AND POLITICAL ACTIVITY OF ABULGAZIKHAN (KHIVA KHANATE IN THE PERIOD BEFORE THE SECOND HALF OF THE XVII CENTURY)**

**Khamraeva N\***

\*Lecturer,

Independent Researcher,

Karshi State University, UZBEKISTAN

Email id: [khamraevan@mail.ru](mailto:khamraevan@mail.ru)

**DOI: 10.5958/2249-7315.2022.00279.9**

---

**ABSTRACT**

*This article highlights the role of Abulgazi Bahodirkhan in the social, political and economic life of the Khanate of Khiva, its military actions with the Emirate of Bukhara in foreign policy, and the elimination of mutual internal conflicts. The Khanate of Khiva at the beginning of the XVII century was engulfed in a fierce struggle for the throne between both fathers and brothers, which engulfed a wide section of the population of the khanate.*

**KEYWORDS:** *Khiva Khanate, Abulgazi Bahodirkhan, Ethnic Groups, Internal Strife, Kalmyks, Bukhara Emirate, Military Campaigns.*

---

**INTRODUCTION**

Abulgazi Bahodirkhan ibn Arabmuhammadhan as a scientist, historian, writer, doctor, poet and statesman made a great contribution to the development of world science, especially the culture of the Uzbek people. Abulgazi Bahodirkhan was the fourth son of the ruler of Khorezm, the Arab Muhammad Khan, who in his work "Shajaray Turk" provided detailed information about his biography. Some biographical information about Abulgazikhan, provided by Munis and Agakhi, is presumably taken from the "genealogy of the Turk" [1:7].

Abulgazihon in his work "Shajaray Turk" wrote about himself: "this fakir is one, to whom the Allakh has bestowed a lot of grace. In particular, he granted him three crafts: first the gift of the commander-in-chief, then the gift of opposing the enemy, also gave him friends. Secondly, God also gave him extensive knowledge of the territories of the states, knowledge of the Arabic, Persian and Turkic languages.

. Third, God gave him knowledge of all the past kings who ruled in Arabia, Iran, Turan, and Mongolia, and knowledge of their Kingdoms." [2: 12]... Abulgazi Khan's father was the Arab Muhammad Khan, and his mother was Mehribankhanim, the daughter of the Dzungar Sultan. When he turns 6, his mother dies. Until the age of 16, Abulgazikhon was brought up in Urgench by his father. Later, he is married off and assigned to manage half of the Urgench lands. The other half of the city was given to his Abyssinian brother [168].

And the Arab Mukhammedkhan himself moved to Khiva, since by this time the Amu Darya had changed its course, retreated from Urgench and lost its former significance.

The Khanate of Khiva at the beginning of the XVII century was engulfed in a fierce struggle for the throne between both fathers and brothers, which engulfed a wide section of the population of the khanate. The participation of various ethnic groups of Uzbeks and Turkmens and their captains in internecine wars with their supporters, who sought to nominate their candidates for the throne and thus gain more privileges and opportunities, along with the expansion of the scale of this

struggle, led to a sharp escalation. As a result, economic life in the country was disrupted, the volume of domestic and foreign trade decreased, and the progress of the productive forces stalled. Internecine wars continued until the ascension of Abulgazi to the throne of Khiva (1645). Both Abulghazi's older brothers and he were directly involved in this struggle.

And the Arab Muhammad Khan tried to maintain peaceful relations with neighboring states as much as possible. Two powerful Uzbek families, supported by the leaders of the Naimans and Uighurs, and who managed to turn a large part of the population to their side in various ways, the sultans Abash and Elbars, enter into an open struggle with their father and brothers.

Inspired by a group of power-hungry Uzbeks “ "sarmastirovannye wine of power", Abyssinian and Elbarsi sultans first rebelled against the Arab Muhammad, when the first of them was sixteen, and the second fourteen years. This happened in Khiva in 1616, when the Arab Mukhammedkhan left for Urgench.

Frightened by the fact that a huge force has allegedly gathered under his leadership, the Arab Muhammad Khan is forced to give the city of vizier to them. After that, Abyss and Elbars do not go against their father's will until they are five years old. In the sixth year after this, Elbars leaves the Ministry under the pretext of attacking Obivard and, gathering an army around the Sogcha well, invades Khiva in the absence of the Arab Muhammedkhan [2:162]. At that time, the Arab Mukhammedkhan was in the residence of Rashtobon-Ata. After Elbars has seized the state treasury collected by his father for thirty years and looted the property of the Beks who served the Arab Muhammed Khan, he returns to his residence.

After learning about what Elbars did, the Sultan of Asfand in Khazaria, Abash, Abulghazi, and Sharif Muhammad in Urgench decide to go to their father's aid. However, the elders dissuade them from this idea, suspecting that Elbars may do something wrong because of the difficult situation he is in, that is, kill his father. But the situation changes, Elbars leaves Khiva, and the Khan's life becomes risk-free. Isfandiye and the Arab Muhammad Khan with their troops join the other princes whose names are mentioned above, and go to battle against Elbarsa. Elbars, not wanting to fight, runs away.

Abulghazi advised his father to get rid of Elbarsa and Abyssinia and said “ "Order the Abyssinian Sultan and Elbarsa Sultan to be killed... [2: 163]" says. However, the Arab Mohammedhan does not listen to Abulghazi's advice. One of the nawkars of the Sultan of Isfand, who happened to know about this advice of Abulghazi, transmits this message to Habash.

The Arab Muhammad Khan returns to Khiva, and the Sultan of Isfand goes to Hazarasp. The Abyssinian informs Elbars that his father and older brother have set out, and urges him to return to the minister as soon as possible. When Abulghazi learns that his secret has been discovered, he cannot remain among his enemies and goes to his father, who gave him the province of Kiet.

N. According to the assumption of Palmov [4: No. 63] “ " the year spent by Abulgazi among the Kalmyks is determined by the period from December 1640 to December 1641”" The date of his arrival in the " native land" in this case again coincides with 1642, which contradicts Abulghazi's own instructions. Of course, Abulgazi returns not directly to the abandoned and deserted Urgench, but to the 3,000 tent-like Uzbeks gathered back in 1627 on the island, or rather in the Amu Darya delta, to whom he always treated favorably and did not recognize the rule of IsfandierKhan[5:608]. Munis and Agakhi: "... the Aral Uzbeks brought great gifts to the Kalmyk Khan and took Abulgazi with them” [6:90]. After that, Abulgazi enters into an open struggle with the Turkmen nobility and Isfandiya.

In foreign policy, the focus of Abulgazikhan's attention was on the attitude towards the Bukhara Khanate. The differences between the khanates of Bukhara and Khiva arose mainly on the issue of

strengthening their influence in Central Asia, in Southern Turkmenistan and Khorasan. They were constantly trying to weaken each other and take military superiority into their own hands.

For the same purpose, Abulgazikhan organized 7 military campaigns against the Bukhara Khanate during his reign. Abulgazihan took advantage of the mutual struggle that took place between the Bukhara Khan Abdulaziz Khan and his brother Subhankuli. With a large army, he marched against Bukhara, invaded its central and north-western regions. The Khiva troops especially mercilessly plundered and destroyed the environs of Bukhara, the cities of Karakul, Chardzhuy, Vardanzi, Karmany, as well as the surrounding villages. Every day they returned to Khiva with countless trophies and captives [2:165-168]. Abulgazikhan's last campaign against Bukhara dates back to 1662. Expanding the southern and south-western borders of the Khiva Khanate, Abulgazikhan did a lot to repel attacks on it from outside.

During this period, two organized campaigns of the Kalmyks against Khorezm from the north were stopped and attacked. The Kalmyks attacked the southern regions of Khorezm and even plundered the regions up to Yangi-Urgench, Kota, Khazarasp, and Dargon-Ota[2:182-184]. After the powerful blow of abulgazihan, the Kalmaks could not recover for a long time. After that, the north-western borders of the khanate were strengthened, and a number of military fortifications were built here.

Among the Khiva khans, Abulgazikhan was distinguished by extreme enterprise, organization and erudition. He was one of the most widely educated people of his time and was well versed in Turkmen, Persian-Tajik, Arabic, and Mongolian. Abulgazikhan, and then his son Anushakhan, are considered rulers who made a special contribution to the centralization of the khanate, improving governance and developing the country's economy.

From the first day of coming to power, Abulghazi Khan focused on the issue of strengthening the state. He removed the Turkmen nobility from the affairs of state administration. Seizing their property, land, and water, they drove themselves out of the khanate. The Turkmens were forced to move to Khorasan, Southern Turkmenistan, Abulkhan, and Mangyshlak[6: 91]. All the highest positions of the khanate passed into the hands of the Uzbek rulers. As the Khiva historian Munis points out, Abulgazikhan carried out an administrative reform and completely rebuilt the central system of administration of the khanate. He appointed 360 Uzbek nobles to various positions in the khanate. Of these, 32 of the most influential people took their seats in the palace. They became close advisers to the khan. Also, 32 central leadership positions were created in the palace, which will be represented as follows: 2 sheikhulislams, 1 mutawalli, 1 noiba, 4 fathers, 4 monks, 4 Mirabs, 4 Biyas, 1 propeller, 2 Brothers, 2 figures, 4 chigatoi monks, 1 vizier (he was called Mehtar) and 1 more kushbegi. Thus, Abulgazikhan attracted Uzbeks and influential representatives of the Zemstvo population to the affairs of state administration, creating certain stability among them. The strengthening of State power gives Abulgazikhan the opportunity to pursue a broad domestic and foreign policy.

Based on the above, it can be concluded that 60 years of his life, Abulgazihan spent 20 years in exile, and the remaining 20-on the throne of the kingdom. His activities were continued by his son Anushahan. During his lifetime, Abulghazi Khan inherited the throne of Anushakhan (1663-1687) and died six months later. Anushahan was one of the same brave and enterprising kings as his father. During his reign, the position and power of the Khanate of Khiva increased even more.

## REFERENCES

1. Kononov A. N. Rodoslavturkmen. Works of Abul-Ghazi khan Khivinsky-Moscow-Leningrad, 1958. - P. 7.
2. Abulgaziy. Shazharayiturk. - P. 12.

3. Ibid. - P. 168.
4. Palmov N. N. Abulgazi in the Kalmyk nomads. The manuscript. IV of the USSR Academy of Sciences, Archive of Orientalists, No. 63.
5. Barthold V. V. Essay on the history of the Turkmen people // Writings, volume II, part 1. I. - Moscow: Nauka, 1963. - . 608.; Histoire des Mogols et des tatares par Aboul-Ghazi Béhâdour-Han, publiée, traduite et annotée par le Baron Desmaisons, t.And, Of Tech. - P. 317.; Trad. - P. 31.
6. Muniz and Agakhi. Firdowsi-Iqbal -P..90.