

THE AMIR WHO LEFT THE "HALF-KINGS" BEHIND OR AMIR ABDULAHAD

Abduvohidova Rukhshona Doniyorbek kizi

Namangan State University, History student

E-mail: ruxshona01062005@gmail.com

Tel: +998931021725

Abstract: This article provides information about the biography of one of the last Bukhara Mang'it emirs, Emir Abdulahadkhan, his accession to the Bukhara throne and the political and social situation of the emirate during his reign, his travels, and his relations with the Russian emperors.

Keywords: Bukhara Emirate, Emir Muzaffar, Shamshodayim, Ostanakul Kushbegi, Nicholas II, nickname "Ojiz", Ismail Gaspirali, "Muzaffaria", Karmana, Petersburg, Moscow, Caucasus, Order of "Andrey Pervozvanniy", Terek Cossack army honorary title.

After Emir Muzaffar, who ruled the Emirate of Bukhara for twenty-five years, died of illness on October 31, 1885, his son, Emir Sayyid Abdulahad, who ascended the throne, ruled the Emirate of Bukhara from 1885 to 1910. Emir Abdulahad was appointed Beg of Karmana from the age of 14. According to the information of Russian tourists, the future Emir lived a very simple life in Karmana. Amir Abdulahad was officially enthroned on November 4, 1885, when he was seated on a white felt chair in the Bukhara arch [1. – P. 343].

Sayyid Abdulahad Bahodirkhan was born on March 16, 1857, in the city of Karmana, Bukhara Emirate. His father was Amir Muzaffar, and his mother was Shamshodayim, who was of Iranian origin. Shamshodayim was one of the most intelligent women of her time and was considered the beloved wife of Emir Muzaffar. In addition to her son, Shamshodayim also had a daughter named Saliha. Emir Muzaffar married her to his nephew Amonullah [2].

Abdulahad was raised by his mother from a young age. He learned the abjad and alphabet from a teacher named Hamid Ma'qul.

Abdulahad was interested in poetry from a young age, and wrote poems under the pseudonym "Ojiz". However, he did not create a special collection. Examples of his poems are cited in the commentaries of some artists.

His contemporaries remembered him as a kind, just, pious, modest and cultured person.

According to the Mangid dynasty, the crown prince of the Bukhara Emirate ruled the Karmana region. Amir Muzaffar appointed his eldest son Abdulmalik (1848–1909)

as heir to the throne and governor of the Karmana region, but after 4 years Abdulmalik was sent to the Guzor region as governor. During the Russian invasion (1868), due to disputes between Abdulmalik and Amir Muzaffar, Emir Muzaffar deprived him of the right to the throne. Then, when the emir was about to transfer the right to the throne to his second son, Chorjoy Beg - Nuruddin, Nuruddin died suddenly. Then, he appointed his next son Abdulfattah as heir to the throne. In 1869, Abdulfattah was sent to the Russian Emperor Alexander II and received the emperor's consent to the succession. Soon after, Abdulfattah also died. After that, the Emir appointed Muzaffar Abdulahad as heir to the throne. In 1883, Amir Muzaffar Abdulahad was sent to the imperial capital by Alexander III (1881–1894) to participate in the coronation ceremonies on the occasion of his accession to the throne of the Russian Empire and to confirm his future succession to the throne of the Emirate of Bukhara.

Abdulahad was accompanied by the Minister of Internal Affairs Salim Parvanachi, the governor of Hissar Astanakul Kushbegi, and several other Bukhara residents. Their mission was to improve relations with Russia. The historian Muhammad Salim, who went on this trip with Abdulahad, writes in his work "Kashkuli Salimiy":

At that time, there were no rails [trains]. We traveled to the Orenburg region by mail cart, and from there by train to Petersburg. By order of the Russian Tsar, we were placed in the "Karontodel" hotel. The Russian Emperor presented each of us with medals, gold watches, and diamond rings. We went to see the gardens and palaces. This official hospitality lasted sixty-two days. Then, returning to Bukhara, we informed the emir that friendly relations with Russia had been strengthened.

In 1885, while traveling around the borders of the emirate, Amir Muzaffar, who had contracted cholera, was bedridden in the Shirbudun palace outside Bukhara. The emir's close friends immediately sent a message to Abdulahad, who was in Karmana, about this. Fearing that unrest would break out in the country, Amir Muzaffar's condition was kept secret from the public until Abdulahad arrived. By order of his lieutenant Mulla Mahmudbi, Amir Muzaffar was secretly taken to the Bukhara Arch at night and died there.

Upon receiving the news, Abdulahad set off with 1,000 servants, visited the grave of Bahauddin Naqshband on the way, and reached Bukhara. The body of the deceased Muzaffar was placed in the Hazrati Imla cemetery in Bukhara.

A few days later, Abdulahad Khan's official enthronement as the Emir of Bukhara will take place. The ceremony will be attended by courtiers, government representatives, religious officials, and elders of Uzbek clans.

Historians describe the state of the Bukhara Emirate at the time of Abdulahad Khan's accession to the throne as a period of decline for the country. The officials' greed for the state treasury and their indifference to the plight of the people increased.

Lack of control over civil servants led the country to decline. In addition, the wars that took place during the reign of Amir Muzaffar weakened the emirate economically. Trade and commerce ceased, and the people became increasingly impoverished. Due to poverty, many people migrated to the Turkestan Governorate, Kashgar, and Afghanistan, which led to a decrease in the population of the emirate.

The emirate's army, which was not adapted to the times and was quite inexperienced in military operations, was constantly spending large sums of money from the emirate's economy [4].

When Amir Abdulahad Khan ascended the throne, the situation in the emirate was not good. Although Amir Muzaffar, according to his contemporaries, was considered a very intelligent person, he was somewhat old-fashioned compared to his time. During his time, the country did not receive any advanced innovations of his time.

After Abdulahad Khan ascended the throne, Bukhara's relations with Russia developed somewhat. The emirate's army was somewhat reduced, and Russian military specialists were brought to Bukhara to provide military training to soldiers, that is, the military sector was reformed.

Amir Abdulahadkhan also reformed the judicial system. He dismissed officials who were corrupt and greedy. He dismissed all regional judges and district elders and appointed new judges and elders. He promoted Badriddin Makhsum, who was serving as a mufti in the emirate, to the position of chairman. He appointed Orifjon Makhdum to the position of chairman. In 1886, he closed part of the prisons in the emirate. The brothel in Bukhara was closed. He issued decrees prohibiting drug addiction, greed, gambling, bribery, prostitution, and the slave trade, as well as corporal punishment of criminals and the execution of criminals. The severity of the laws punishing the sale of wives, bribery, greed, etc. was doubled. In 1897, by order of Abdulahad Khan, a home for the disabled and disabled was built in Bukhara, with all the necessary conditions. Hot meals were provided for those who stayed there twice a day. In addition, a modern hospital and pharmacy were established in Bukhara under the supervision and order of the emir. In 1895, Abdulahad Khan organized the Bukhara militia, which was planned to serve in the major cities of the emirate with a staff of 2,000 people.

In 1904, Ismail Gaspirali opened a new Usul school in Bukhara with the permission of the emir and named it "Muzaffariya" in honor of Abdulahadkhan's father.

During the reign of Amir Abdulahadkhan, relations between the Bukhara Emirate and the Russian Empire further developed. A Russian protectorate was established over the emirate. The entry of the Bukhara Emirate into the sphere of influence of the Russian Empire's customs service created favorable conditions for the free movement of Bukhara and Russian merchants on the territory of the two countries. At the same time, it was possible for Russian industrialists to bring industry to the territory of the Bukhara Emirate.

Joint-stock companies, banks, and small industrial enterprises began to open in the emirate. This process intensified after the commissioning of the Caspian Railway [4].

The Russian emperor awarded Amir Abdulahadkhan the military rank of adjutant general for his services.

Like all tsars and emirs, Amir Abdulahad had several wives. Of these, we have identified the names of Tora Ayim, Shamsiya Ayim, Eshon Ayim, and Davlat Bakht Ayim (later, they, like other relatives, moved to Afghanistan in 1923). From his beloved wife Davlat Bakht Ayim, the crown prince, Olimkhan, was born.

Amir Abdulahad was on friendly terms with the heir to the Russian imperial throne, Nicholas II. This is probably why the relationship between them, even after they ascended the throne, was good, if not bad. Later, Abdulahadkhan visited the major cities of the Caucasus, Petersburg, Moscow, and presented countless gifts and greetings to Emperor Nicholas II and his wife, whetting their appetites even more. Even, according to sources, the emperor paid special attention to the gifts brought by his vassals (in particular, the Khan of Khiva) to the emir. In return, the emir bought luxurious courtyards, luxurious gardens, and mansions in Petersburg. He bought 250 sarjins (1 sarjin - 2.1 meters) of land at the junction of Kronverk Street (now Kronverk Avenue) and Konny Street in St. Petersburg for 312,000 rubles and began work on building a mosque.

He also built gardens and palaces in picturesque cities such as Crimea, Zheleznovodsk and Kislovodsk, where he often rested. Having the favor and respect of Nicholas II, Abdulahad did not bother even the governors-general of Turkestan, whom the people called "half-tsars", but resolved all important issues with the "white tsar" himself. In terms of the titles he received, he even surpassed the governors-general.

After all, Amir Abdulahad received military titles that were not even available to the "half-tsars" of Turkestan, such as Rosenbach, Vrevsky, Dukhovsky, Ivanov, Subbotich, Mishenko, Samsanov. Nikolai Romanov awarded the emir with such positions and titles as adjutant general, cavalry general, the nobility rank of "highest rank" rarely granted even to Petersburg nobles and Russian princes, the highest imperial order "Andrey Pervozvanny", the honorary title of Terek Cossack Army, and the father of the 5th Orenburg Cossack Regiment.

Emir Abdulahad died on December 22, 1910, at the age of 52, due to kidney disease. According to the emir's will, he was buried in the Kasim Sheikh Khanaqo in Karmana, facing west. In 1912, a large shrine was built around the grave of Abdulahadkhan by his son Olimkhan [3. – P. 156-158].

The grave of Amir Abdulahadkhan was opened twice during the Soviet era. The first time the grave was opened was in 1942-1943 (according to another source, in

1943-1944). The assumption that Amir Said Olimkhan could not take the gold of Bukhara with him and hid it in his father's grave was the reason for the opening of the grave.

The grave was opened for the second time in 1984. Archaeologists who conducted excavations in the grave did not find anything there except small finger bones. It was concluded that the bones in it were collected and taken away when the grave was first opened.

In 2001, during renovation work at the Qosim Sheikh complex, the Abdulahadkhan sagana was opened there for the third time. It was found that there were two graves inside the sagana. Scholars have suggested that the second grave belonged to Abu Tahir Khoja Samarkandi, who died in Karmana in 1874 [5.].

In conclusion, I can say that Amir Abdulahad's accession to the throne did not occur in times of peace, like some emirs. At that time, during the reign of Amir Muzaffar, the territory of the emirate was occupied by the Russian Empire. The turbulent days of the reign of Amir Muzaffar continued until Amir Abdulahad came to the throne. During the policy of Abdulahad Khan, relations with Russia developed somewhat, the judicial system was reformed, and some steps were taken towards the development of the country and the interests of the people. The looting of the treasury was stopped, the types of punishment were determined depending on the crime committed, and the rules and regulations became twice as serious. But just as there are two sides to the scale, there were also several aspects of Amir Abdulahad that the people did not like. The first of these was his love of traveling. It was precisely these trips, all the gifts and greetings given to the "white king" that fell on the shoulders of the people. The duties and taxes paid also aggravated the situation of the people. However, it should be noted that even in these aspects, the Russian tsars did not oppress the people of Bukhara very much.

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