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THE ESTABLISHMENT OF BUKHARA KHANATE

Annotation. The establishment of the Bukhara Khanate under the Shaybanid dynasty in 1500 marked a transformative period in Central Asian history. Emerging from the decline of the Timurid Empire, the Shaybanids unified the Uzbek tribes and established a powerful state centered on Bukhara. This paper explores the historical context of the khanate's founding, the role of Muhammad Shaybani Khan in consolidating power, and the administrative, cultural, and religious policies that defined the early Shaybanid era.

Keywords: Bukhara Khanate, Shaybanid dynasty, Muhammad Shaybani Khan, Islamic governance, Central Asia.

Annotatsiya: 1500-yilda Shayboniylar sulolasi tomonidan Buxoro xonligining tashkil topishi Markaziy Osiyo tarixidagi muhim davr hisoblanadi. Temuriylar davlati tanazzuli fonida Shayboniylar o'zbek qabilalarini birlashtirib, Buxoroni markaz qilib kuchli davlat tuzdilar. Ushbu maqolada xonlikning tashkil topish tarixiy sharoiti, Muhammad Shayboniynonning hokimiyatni mustahkamlashdagi roli, shuningdek, ilk Shayboniylar davrini belgilagan ma'muriy, madaniy va diniy siyosat tahlil qilinadi.

Kalit so'zlar: Buxoro xonligi, Shayboniylar sulolasi, Muhammad Shayboniynon, Islom boshqaruvi, Markaziy Osiyo.

Аннотация: Основание Бухарского ханства династией Шайбанидов в 1500 году ознаменовало важный этап в истории Центральной Азии. В условиях упадка Тимуридов Шайбаниды объединили узбекские племена и создали мощное государство с центром в Бухаре. В данной статье рассматривается исторический контекст основания ханства, роль Мухаммада Шайбани-хана в консолидации власти, а также административная, культурная и религиозная политика, определившая ранний период Шайбанидов.

Ключевые слова: Бухарское ханство, династия Шайбанидов, Мухаммад Шайбани-хан, исламское управление, Центральная Азия.

The establishment of the Bukhara Khanate in 1500 marked a significant turning point in the political and cultural history of Central Asia. Emerging from the fragmented remnants of the Timurid Empire, the khanate was founded by the Shaybanid dynasty, a lineage that traced its ancestry to Shiban, a brother of Jochi and grandson of Genghis Khan. The Shaybanids' rise to power was shaped by their Turkic heritage, their strategic acumen, and their ability to consolidate a diverse and turbulent region under Sunni Islamic governance.

The XV century was a period of political fragmentation in Central Asia. Following the decline of the Timurid Empire, the region was characterized by competing principalities. The Shaybanid Uzbeks, a nomadic Turkic group, emerged as a dominant force. Their leader, Muhammad Shaybani Khan, played a pivotal role in unifying various Uzbek tribes and redirecting their energies toward territorial expansion [1, 92-p]. The weakening of the Timurids

presented an opportunity for the Shaybanids. By the late XV century, the Timurid stronghold of Samarkand and its surrounding regions were in disarray, with internal divisions undermining their ability to resist external threats. Muhammad Shaybani Khan capitalized on this vulnerability, leading a series of military campaigns to seize control of key territories.

In 1500, Muhammad Shaybani Khan decisively defeated the Timurid ruler Zahir-ud-din Babur, the future founder of the Baburids Empire, in the Battle of Sar-e-Pul. This victory allowed Shaybani Khan to capture Samarkand and establish himself as a major power in Central Asia. Shortly thereafter, the city of Bukhara fell into Shaybanid hands, becoming one of the key centers of the newly formed khanate [2, 78-p].

Bukhara's strategic location on the Silk Road made it an ideal capital. The city was not only a hub of trade and commerce but also a center of Islamic learning and culture. Its conquest symbolized the transition of power in the region and the beginning of a new political era. Once in power, Muhammad Shaybani Khan laid the administrative foundations of the Bukhara Khanate. Drawing from both Turkic and Islamic traditions, he implemented a governance model that balanced tribal loyalties with centralized authority. The khanate was divided into appanages, with family members or trusted allies overseeing various regions under the supreme authority of the khan [3, 56-p]. Islam played a unifying role in Shaybani Khan's administration. He emphasized Sunni orthodoxy, presenting himself as a defender of Islam against the Shia Safavids in Persia. This religious positioning strengthened his legitimacy and rallied diverse groups under his rule. His efforts to patronize Islamic scholars and institutions also bolstered the cultural and intellectual significance of the khanate.

The establishment of the Bukhara Khanate altered the balance of power in the region. Shaybani Khan's military campaigns brought him into conflict with neighboring powers, including the Safavid Empire to the west and the Baburids Empire to the south. His rivalry with the Safavids culminated in the Battle of Marv in 1510, where Shaybani Khan was killed. Despite this setback, the khanate endured, with his successors consolidating its territories and further developing its institutions [4, 112-p].

The founding of the Bukhara Khanate marked the beginning of a new political and cultural era in Central Asia. Under the Shaybanids, Bukhara transformed into a vibrant center of Islamic civilization, fostering advancements in education, architecture, literature, and the arts. The khanate's emphasis on trade and commerce ensured its economic prosperity, while its strategic location allowed it to play a key role in regional geopolitics. Also, Shaybani Khan maintained ties with Ottoman Empire and Ming China. In 1503, his ambassadors arrived at the court of the Ming emperor. [5, 52-p]

Aligning with the Ottoman sultan Bayazed II (1481-1512), Shaybani Khan opposed the Shia Safavid Shah Ismail I [6.107-p]. Furthermore, the Shaybanids' ability to unify the Uzbek tribes and establish a stable governance model laid the groundwork for subsequent Central Asian states. The Bukhara Khanate became a model of resilience and adaptability, surviving political upheavals and leaving a lasting legacy in the region's history.

In conclusion, The establishment of the Bukhara Khanate by Muhammad Shaybani Khan was a pivotal event in Central Asia's history. By uniting the Uzbek tribes and consolidating power in a fragmented region, the Shaybanids not only redefined the political landscape but also ushered in

a cultural renaissance. The khanate's enduring influence on the region's history underscores its significance as a transformative force in Central Asia.

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