

Stages of Development of Military Equipment and Weapons in Bukhara (18-19 Centuries)

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Abstract: In this article, the military reforms carried out by the emirs of Bukhara in the emirate are covered based on the relevant sources.

Keywords: Emirate of Bukhara, military reforms, Amir Haidar, Amir Nasrullah, army structure, navkar, foot soldiers, artillery, regular army.

INTRODUCTION

The study of the problems of military art and military affairs of the country's past, the reasons for existing shortcomings, victories and defeats, is one of the pressing problems of the history of Uzbekistan. Therefore, the study of military work and the state of the army in the emirate of Bukhara was considered very important. The emirate did not have its own regular army in the early years when the manghite dynasty came to power. The main task of the few military that existed in the emirate was characterized by the work of guarding the emir and his nobles and ensuring the tranquility of the city. As for the formation of an army in the emirate of Bukhara, from the disintegration of the Timurid Kingdom to the first quarter of the XIX century, almost no major changes are observed in this matter.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

By the beginning of the 19th century, efforts were made to form a regular army in the Emirate of Bukhara. In particular, Amir Haydar began to pay special attention to the formation of the army from the first years of his reign. The main reason for this was the rise of separatist movements in the eastern regions of the Bukhara Emirate from his time and the fact that not only diplomacy, but also military power became important in suppressing these movements [1].

RESULTS

In times of war, people's armies were gathered and engaged in military operations by order of the emir. During the reign of Amir Shahmurad, the army consisted of two wings. On the left wing: Mangit, Kenegas, Keroit, Dorman, Konigirot, Qiyat, Kyrgyz, Chinese, Kipchak, Turkmen, Arlot, Kalmyk, and Uyghur boys formed teams. On the left wing: Qatagon, Saray, Yabgu, Bahrin, Jaloir, Yuz, Min, Naiman, Karluq, Berkut, Fulodchi, Kirq, Olchin, Mojar, Chinboy, Bedoyil, Boglan, Ilyi, Tugut and Shagirdpesha groups are located [2].



There is reason to say that the first radical changes took place during the rule of the Mangit dynasty (1800-1826), that is, a regular army was established in a certain sense [3]. However, some historians do not fully agree with this view. Researcher B. Ismailova divides the organization of army and military affairs in the Bukhara Emirate into two stages, and considers the first stage from the beginning of the 19th century to the 30s of the 19th century, i.e., during the period of Amir Heydar, and considers this period as the initial foundation of this field, full regular and he said that he completed the establishment of the army in the II stage, corresponding to the era of Amir Nasrullah (1827-1860) and in 1837 [4].

During Haidar's time, the military units of the country were divided into two parts: regular army - navkar, and non-regular army - black army. The navkar was the backbone of the regular army, numbering 200 to 300 in each division, rising to the rank of guard. The irregular part of the military forces of the emir of Bukhara, called "cherik", "troop" (black cherik), is the supreme ruler's according to the decree, it was collected from the civilian population during the hostilities. After peace was established in the country, the black soldiers were dispersed to their homes and engaged in their usual occupations (farming, cattle breeding, crafts, labor, etc.) [5].

Amir Haidar tried to form his standing army in Karshi, because the military garrison there was the strongest. In the army he established, officers and military commanders had the status of commanders and received salaries from the state treasury. Monthly salaries were paid partly in cash and the rest in kind. The head of the Pansad had his own symbol - a flag. Next to the centurion there was always a bigger flag and it was called "tug". A group of 1,000 people had the right to such a flag, and its leader had the right to pass through the gate of the arch on horseback, and other officers entered on foot [6].



The number of soldiers in the squads of the army of the Bukhara Emirate was not uniform. The number of troops is determined by each clan and region based on the available opportunities or according to its influence in the emirate. In addition, the army included prisoners of war, slaves and representatives of other categories who were citizens of different countries. In particular, Amir Nasrullah paid great attention to military reforms in addition to reforms in the administrative and political spheres. Through the efforts of this ruler, a regular army of foot soldiers and artillery was formed.

During the time of Amir Nasrullah (1827-1860), the structure of the army was as follows: a group of 80 prisoners of war, a military unit of 700 people, they were divided into 7 groups, at the beginning of fifty heads, this group was also divided into tens. It was led by a commander and was considered an assistant military official to the centurion [7].

DISCUSSION

It is worth noting that Nasrullah was the first among the Mangit emirs to establish a permanent military unit consisting of infantrymen and artillerymen. Amir Nasrullah organized a group of musicians consisting of 14 drummers and 14 pipers. Each hundred had two Turkish-style drummers, 4 trumpeters, and 6 trumpeters. In addition, there were bolobomists, a group of military musicians formed from foot soldiers under the guidance of Tatar Ismail and Russian Trofim, Russian prisoners of war [8].

Amir Nasrullah tried to introduce a unified army deployment system. In this regard, he will build houses for soldiers and artillerymen to live with their families outside the city of Bukhara, between the gates of Oghlan and Tolipoch. As a result of this event, a permanent residence of 800 soldiers will be created near the city of Bukhara. This place was popularly known as "Sarbozkhana". In the Emirate of Bukhara, the material support of the troops is determined according to the position they occupy. The army was provided with money or food products [9].



During the reign of Amir Muzaffar Khan in Bukhara Emirate, many reforms were implemented in the military sphere. For example, during his reign, soldiers had the opportunity to bring their weapons to their homes in peacetime. Since this period, changes have also occurred in their military uniform. A long black cap (similar to that of a kalandar), white gray pants, and a military tunic (kulucha) in winter made up the appearance of Bukhara soldiers. Pants and underwear are changed every two years. Every soldier had to bring his shoes with him. By the time of Amir Abdulahad Khan, the soldiers were given a pair of boots every two years [10]. Military style "Kulucha" or "closed" headgear is called "kolonchin". The number of the squad was attached to the shoulder straps of the soldiers [11].

After the death of Amir Muzaffar Khan, Amir Abdulahad Khan reduced the number of soldiers to 2000. The soldiers of Saturday made up 4 companies (4000 people), and the soldiers of Tuesday made the same number. Especially during this period, another group of soldiers was separated. Out of 4,000 Shanbegi soldiers, 2,000 were armed with rifles and called "dumbalapurs" (that is, the bullet is located at the back of the rifle, it is also worth mentioning that there are cannons called "dumbalapurs" in the emirate, and their owners are also called dumbolapurs) was named [12].

The above-mentioned reduced group of soldiers included those who were accepted from the Turkestan General Governorate (mainly from Kokand, Jizzakh, Samarkand) and were to be released based on the agreement with the governorate. During the reign of Amir Abdulahad Khan, the soldiers taken from Russian prisoners were almost freed.

At the end of the 19th century and the beginning of the 20th century, during the time of the last emir of Bukhara, Olim Khan, European-style regular military groups were established and all their expenses were covered from the treasury. In 1910, when Amir Olim Khan came to power, "daily" expenses for the military were canceled, and in 1918-1920, they were reintroduced again [13]. The purpose of such a decision is the increased threat to the territory of the emirate from the Soviet authorities.

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, it should be noted that the military work and army structure in Central Asian khanates, including Bukhara Emirate, remained almost unchanged in a state of stagnation. Nevertheless, at the beginning of the 19th century, the first practical steps were taken to create a regular military force in the emirate. Amir Haydar, one of the Mangit emirs, continued the reforms started in this area by his successor, Amir Nasrullah, and in 1837 he founded a standing army for the first time in the history of the emirate. Amir Nasrullah Khan's theology alone increased the military potential of the emirate for a certain period of time. As a result of various reforms carried out by Amir Nasrullah in the Bukhara Emirate, the economic and military power of the state increased somewhat.

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