

The Military Art of the Great Warlord Jalaliddin Manguberdi in the Struggle Against Genghis Khan

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Abstract

This article describes the brief life and activities of great warlord Jalaliddin Manguberdi, his bravery in front of our people, his unparalleled courage in the fight against the Mongol invaders, his loyalty and boundless love for the homeland and his people, his military activities, management system, and the supply of weapons.

Keywords: Khorezm, Khorezmshah, Urganch, homeland, army, Mongol, warrior, fortress, battle, action.

When talking about Jalaliddin Manguberdi, the hero of the Motherland, who fought valiantly against a powerful force like Genghis Khan in the past, comes to mind.

The President of the Republic of Uzbekistan Shavkat Mirziyoyev always emphasizes the need to deeply study the life and activities of the great statesman and warlord sultan Jalaliddin Manguberdi, and to widely promote him around the world, especially among the youth. In 1998, the government of Uzbekistan decided to celebrate the 800th anniversary of the birth of Jalaliddin Manguberdi in order to appreciate Jalaliddin Manguberdi's unparalleled bravery in the fight against the Mongol invaders, loyalty and boundless love for the homeland and his people, and to immortalize his bright spirit. According to the decision, a statue was erected to Jalaliddin Manguberdi in Khorezm, a large street, a square, community enterprises and others were named after him. A video film, an epic and a play have been created about Jalaliddin Manguberdi. On August 30, 2000, the "Jalaliddin Manguberdi" decoration was established. As a consistent continuation of these works, on August 29, 2022, a solemn opening ceremony of the Jalaliddin Manguberdi memorial complex was held in Urganch, where the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan Shavkat Mirziyoyev made a speech and said, "He is a great representative of our ancestors who fought for the independence of the country and sacrificed their lives in this way. There is infrequent case in the world when there are people equal to Jalaliddin Manguberdi in terms of love and loyalty to the motherland, honor and glory" he said.

Jalaliddin was born in 1198 and is a heroic figure who left an unforgettable mark in history during his short life. At the age of only 21, he took the field fearlessly when everyone was scared



away from the horror of the Mongol army. For 11 years, he took part in more than 300 battles against the Mongol invaders and shook them. Even a great ruler like Genghis Khan saw his courage and said: "How happy is a father who has such a heroic son". The brave prince bravely overcame the harsh trials of fate and died at the age of 32 at the hands of traitors [1].

By the time Jalaliddin Manguberdi's state ended, he had a mobile, powerful, and perfect army in fighting condition. In some periods, this army consisted of more than 50–60 thousand troops, and in the times of the country's development and growth, there were about 350–400 thousand troops. The composition of the troops is divided into several types.

First, the cavalry. Cavalry consisted of two groups – lightly armed and all-armed cavalry. Among them were those who went into battle on camels. In other words, in those times, camels were used not only as beasts of burden, but also in warfare.

The second one consisted of infantry. In addition to these, when necessary, volunteers selected from among the people also took part in the wars.

All troops in the army are fully funded by the state. The main part of the warriors in the ranks of the army was made up of representatives of the Turkic peoples. In some cases, an army consisting of representatives of the peoples of the countries conquered by the Khorezmshahs was also formed. This army was mostly used in wars and military campaigns. According to historians, the Khorezmshahs made military education compulsory for all peoples living in the territory of the state. It shows that Khorezm paid a lot of attention to the military sphere. In the state of the Khorezmshahs, the army consisted of several units. The smallest unit consisted of twelve to sixteen troops. He was led by ten leaders. The next part contained from one hundred and twenty to one hundred and sixty troops. It was led by centurions. One thousand five hundred soldiers were attached to the next part. He was led by thousands. An army consisting of more than ten thousand soldiers was called a division, a district. The division and the district were managed by a military man with the title of Malik. The army consists of several dozen divisions. Jalaliddin Manguberdi was the head of the army, and in many cases, he was the leader. In some cases, army chiefs were appointed in advance. "Army Office" was in charge of military affairs such as registration of armies, arming them, appointing army chiefs, assigning them salaries, providing the army with food and funds. "Army Cabinet" included military positions such as "office supervisor" and "office judge". The holders of these positions were involved in controlling the activities of units and units in the army, defining the legal basis of the rights of troops and army commanders [2, 5].

In Khorezm, in addition to the main military force of the state, the Khorezmshahs also had special troops consisting of ten thousand horsemen ordered from the Mamluks. "Khos navkars" carried out special orders of Khorezmshah and protected his family. Along with the main army of the state, local government-based troops also operated in different regions of the country, in large cities and fortresses. Their system, operation, and composition were harmonized with the composition of the main military army of the country. At the same time, when the Khorezmshahs conquered a place or added it to their country, they distributed those places as property to their emirs who had set a special example in battles and showed heroism.

In the Khorezmshah state, the armies were armed with swords, spears, bows, arrows, maces, axes, daggers, shields and many other weapons. In addition to these, the army had large weapons such as stone throwers (manjaniq), siege machines (dabbabat), walking towers (mataris), heavy mace (jamalukat), defensive walls (turtles), assault ladders (salalim). These weapons were widely used in battles. High-ranking military commanders who set an example for others during the battle and showed examples of heroism were first given the title of amir, then malik, and then khan. For example, there is information that after Jalaliddin Manguberdi defeated a 150.000-strong Mongol army near Isfahan in 624 AH (1226 AD), he gave the titles of Yigit Malik Utur Khan, Tekchoriq Khankishi Khoss Khan, Koysunqur Malik Sunqur Khan, and Abu Bakr Malik Inom Khan to some of the emirs on the right wing of his army. is available. The Khorezmshah army followed a specific procedure when entering the battle or defending. In this case, there was

a “prelude” or “plain” part in front of the army. This was also said by the advanced part of the army. This part cleared the way for the main part of the army and prevented the main part from coming face to face with the enemy army. Right-wing troops are located behind the “plain”, advanced part of the army. This is called “maymana”. After him, the central part of the army took place. The central part is named “heart”. After “Qalb” the left wing of the army took place. “Maysara” means the name of the left-wing army. At the end, there were protective and ambush units that followed the main army. They are called “mu’akhkara” and “khafia” [3].

During his military career, Jalaliddin Manguberdi was able to preserve the best traditions of his great ancestors in the composition of his army, management system, supply of weapons, combat operations and other military fronts. At the same time, he is a great scholar of western science, a creator of new military tactics, a master of the army.

Sources

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