The last days of sugd confederation: the reasons and factors of downturn

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ABSTRACT

Relations of the Turkish Khanate with local authorities, the activities of Gurak and Devashthich, the decline of the Sughd Confederation, the military campaigns of Qutayba ibn Muslim, disputes with China, the tax policy of the Arab Caliphate in Movarounnahr, the Muqanna uprising, Said al-Harashi activity

Keywords: Sughd Confederation, Turkish Khanate, Turks, Varkhuman, Ashins, Gurak, Devashthich, Qutayba ibn Muslim, Battle of Talos, Nasr ibn Sayyar, Jizya, Hiraj, Muqanna uprising, Said al- Xaroshi

INTRODUCTION

Sugd which was great cultural oasis of Central Asia is a region experienced important state organization process. Especially, in first medieval ages ,state organization reached its peak in Sugd. At that time Sugd was ruled as a confederative state and there were activity of making coin, central city, symbols of state and administrative construction (Гойибов Б. Суғд конфедерациясига марказий ва маҳаллий бошқарув тиъимий хусусида // Илмий қарорнома. Научный вестник. – Андижан, 2015. – №.1. – Б. 60-65).

The slowdown in the development of the Sogdian confederation, the crises in the economic, political, social and spiritual spheres of the country took place in an interconnected state, and the Sugd confederation fell into decline. The occupation and the process of invasion of Sugd by the Arabs studied by researchers called V.B Heming, V.A Livshits, O.I. Smirnova, B. Gafurov, M. Ishakov, F. Gre-ne, N. Sims-Williams, A. Otabaev, G.Boboyorov, B.Goyibov, Sh.Shoyukubov and others. However, there are various conflicting views in the scientific literature on the factors that led to the collapse of the Sugd Confederation and the processes that accelerated them. With this in mind, we found it necessary to express our views on the problem (Gayibov B. About Confederative Administration Ruling of Sugd // International Journal of Central Asian Studies. South Korea. Volume 20. 2016. – P. 167-179).

The crisis of the Sugd Confederation was connected with the invasion of Central Asia by the Arab Caliphate, and the first Arab invasions to Movarounnahr took place in the middle of the 7th century. During this period, Ikhsid Varhunman (655) ruled in Sugd (Альбамун. История Согда // Илмий хабарнома. Научный вестник. – Андижан, 2015. – С. 28-31).

In 651, the armies of the Arab Caliphate, which had conquered the Sassanian state, captured Marv and began to occupy the lands beyond the Amu Darya (Гайибов Б. Суғд конфедерациясига марказий ва маҳаллий бошқарув тиъимий хусусида // Илмий қарорnomа. Научный вестник. – Андижан, 2015. – №.1. – Б. 60-65). They tried to enter the country in two directions, in Poykent and Bukhara, and in the south through Kesh (Пардаев М. IX асродда Жиззах – гозийлар шаҳри // Тарих ва кадривпилар. – Тошкент: 2015. – Б. 33-38). It can be seen that almost the same information is given in Chinese chronicles and in the works of Central Asian historians (Chavannes Е. Документы sur les Tou-kiue (Тюрокs) occidentaux // Сб. Тр. Орхонской эксп. – СПб.: 1903. – Вып. 6.. – Р. 172).

During the period under study, the interests of the Arab Caliphate and the Chinese Empire clashed throughout Central Asia, a process that lasted until the Battle of Talos in 751 (Камалов А.К. Туркъл ва Иранлълар Согда ва Узбекистон // Илмий хабарнома. Научный вестник. – Андижан, 2015. – С. 19-20).

During the first Arab military operations in Central Asia, the center of the Sughd confederation moved from Kesh to Samarkand and the kingdoms like Panj, Maymurg, Ishitkhoon, Kushomiyaya, Fay, Kabudon and Kesh were united around the center of federation Samarkand (Гойибов Б. Суғд конфедерациясишинг шаклланиши, тараққиёти ва таназзули: тарих фанлари бўйича докторлик диссертацияси. – Тошкент: Узбекистон миллий университети, 2017. – Б. 206-207).

The Turkish khans could not interfere in the affairs of the confederation due to internal conflicts. Especially during the reign of Ashina Mishe (658–662), such protests intensified and the Khaghanate became embroiled in internal strife, and its vassals were unable to interfere in internal affairs. Despite the instability of the internal situation in the khante, the Sughd confederation remained loyal to the khate during these years (660-680). Moreover, at a time when the political process was intensifying, it was not in the interests of the Sughd confederation to seek any other refuge. As a result of the frequent change of Western Turcik khagans, Ashina Alp (651-658), Ashina Mishe (658-662), Ashina Burkin (662-666) and Ashina Torchi (671-679) ascended the throne in the 50s and 70s of the 7th century (Смирнова О. И. Очерки из истории Согда. – М.: Наука, 1970 – С. 275; Отахўжаев А. Илк ўрта асрлар Марказий Осиё цивилизациясида турк-суғд муносабатлари. – Тошкент: 2010. – Б. 109).

It is not known whether the Turkish khans were involved in the process or not, at a time when the struggle for the Confederate throne reached its peak. The potential of the Western Turcik state has diminished, and control over the political situation has weakened. This was a factor in accelerating the Arab invasion of Central Asia. As a result, various causes and factors led to the crisis of the Sughd confederation. In this regard, it is necessary to determine the period of complete confrontation of the Sughd confederation and to study the problem on this basis. In particular, A. Askarov connects the transfer of

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Sughd from the Turks to the Arabs with the events of 737, citing the defeat of the Turks by the Arabs as an evidence (Аскаров А. Узбек халқининг келиб чиқиш тарихи. – Тошкент: Узбекистон, 2015. – Б. 382). But Ghurak and his son Turgar ruled the country in Istihan until 750 and with the help of Arabs minted coins (Смирнова О.И. Сводный каталог согдийских монет. Бронза. – М.: Наука, 1981.– С. 191), and in Kesh al-Ihdr Taran ruled until 760 (Смирнова О.И. Очерки из истории Согд. ... – С. 180, 182). Panch was set on fire by the army of the Arab Caliphate during the suppression of the 720-year uprising (Располова В. Жилища Пендженкента. – Л.: Наука, 1990. – С. 53, 173). A fire breaks out in the city and houses burn down. The townspeople began to flee, scattered around. By 740, the Sogdians of Panjikent had reached an agreement with Nasr ibn Sayyur (739-748), the vicegerent of the Arab Caliph in Central Asia, and people began to move back to the city, and former city was rebuilt (Большаков О.Г. Отчет о раскопках северо-восточной части объекта III // МНА. – М., 1964. – №124. – С. 119). Only as a result of military operations during the Muqanna Uprising (769 - 783) Panjikent was destroyed and not rebuilt (Фойёбб. Б. Суғд конфедерациясияда Панччинг ўрни. – Тошкент: Навруз, 2013. – Б. 78). From this period (late 70s of the VIII century) the rulers of the Sughd confederation were not mentioned in the sources. The processes of the Muqanna uprising were one of the factors that led to the Sughd confederation losing its political existence.

This situation accelerated the decline of the confederation. However, it should be noted that there are a number of other factors that led to the crisis of the Sughd confederation. This is manifested in the following:

First, on the eve of the Arab invasion and during the invasion, the rulers of the Sughd Confederation were hostile to each other. During this period, the struggle against the Arabs intensified during the reign of Gurak and Devashitch, who claimed the throne (Отахъужаев А. Илк ўрта асрларда Марказий Осиё цивилизациясида турк-суғд муносабатлари. ... – Б. 142). In early 719, the rulers of Central Sughd and Bukhara wrote a letter to China asking for military assistance. During this period, the Sogdians revolted against the Arabs, converted from Islam, and revolted again (История ат-Табари / Пер. с арабского В.И.Беляева с допол. О.Г.Большакова, А.Б.Халидова. – Ташкент: Фан, 1987. – С. 175-176). According to Yakubovich, based on the ideas of F. Grene, the army of the Arab Caliphate in Istihkhin strictly controlled Gurak. He was placed under house arrest and he was unable to take an active part in the proceedings. This helped Devashitch in his struggle for the throne (Якубович И.С. Проблемы согдийской этимологии: диссертация на соис. ученой степени кандидата филологических наук. – М.: 2009. – С. 141). In these turmoil, the rulers of the Sughd kingdoms were in a hostile mood to each other, which was reported through Sogdian documents. In particular, relations between Punch and central Samarkand have become very tense (ГОЙИБОВ Б. СУГД КОНФЕДЕРАЦИЯСИНГ РАЙОНИ ИЧИ ИЧИ РУХУМ. – Ташкент: Навруз, 2013. – Б. 208).

The struggle of the rulers of Sughd for the central throne is one of the main factors that led to the decline of the confederation. The Arabs tried to take advantage of this. Because the assassination of Qutayba ibn Muslim in Fergana in 715 began to weaken the Arab power in Sughd. As a result, the Arabs needed someone to work with them. The riots were perpetrated by the Arabs, who acted under the pretext of sponsoring the sons of Tarhun, who was under the control of Devashitch (Крачковский И.Ю. Древнейший арабский документ из Средней Азии / Избранное сочинения. –М.-Л.: Изд. АН СССР, 1957. – Том. 1. – С. 185-186. – С. 53-56). The unrest in the country had a negative effect on the government, which allowed the Arabs to spread their rule. In the spring of 721, Said ibn Abdulaziz (Huzayna) (719-723) was replaced by Said al-Kharoshi (721-723). By this time, the unrest in Sughd had reached its peak, as a result of relentless military operations, the irrigation system in towns and villages had been disrupted, and there was a famine in the country. This is also stated in the Sughd documents of the Mug Mountain, written at that time. The state was to protect the rights of non-citizens, protecting them from external and internal aggression (Согдийские документы с горы Муг. Вып. II / Юридические документы и письма / Чтение, перевод и комментарии В.А. Лившица. – Л.: Наука, 1990. – С. 53). This situation accelerated the decline of the confederation. However, it should be noted that there are a number of other factors that led to the crisis of the Sughd confederation. This is manifested in the following:

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In Arab-occupied administrations, they put into practice the administration they had introduced by abolishing local government or replacing it with local people. When Said al-Kharoshi was appointed deputy, the Sogdians began to leave their homeland. After hearing this, ’Umar ibn Hubayr, the caliph’s deputy in Iraq, told them to turn away from this path and to appoint whomever they wished to be their deputy (История ат-Табари. ... – С. 184-185). This was done under the guise of Arabization, and the local confederate system of government was replaced by strict rule. The administration of the Arab Caliphate destroyed the local dynasties and took control (Отахъужаев А. Илк ўрта асрларда Марказий Осиё цивилизациясида турк-суғд муносабатлари. ... – Б. 122-123, 140-142).

Second, the military campaigns of the forces of the Arab Caliphate had a serious negative impact on the socio-economic life of the Sughd Confederation. During this period, the local population and nobility in Sughd began to convert to Islam in order to avoid paying taxes. But in the name of the population’s conversion to Islam, they returned to their religion again. Even the rulers embraced Islam for their own ends (Исхожов М. Volume 3, Issue XI, November 2020 | 9
Унутилган поддоилиндан хатлар. – Тошкент: Фан, 1992. – Б. 7). As a result, the revenue of the Caliphate will decrease. This required the Khilafah administration to establish or develop new conditions for converts to Islam in Sughd (Тафуров Б.Г. Таджики. Древнейшая, древняя и средневековьая история. – Душанбе: Ифрои, 1989. Кн. 2. – С. 22-23). The new conditions would provoke public discontent, and war would break out again in the country. This situation further complicated the situation and led to the complication of the local population. Initially, a jizya tax was levied on non-Muslims, and a ciraj tax was levied on farmers, merchants, and artisans (Кадырова Т. Из истории крестьянских восстаний в Мавераннахр и Хорасане в VIII – начале IX в. – Тошкент: Фан, 1965. – C. 65-67). Later, from the time of Umar II (717 - 720), no jizya tax was levied on the population who converted to Islam. People adopted Islam in the name of Islam and in fact remained in their religion. Circumcision and memorization of Qur'anic verses are now required for conversion to Islam (Отзыхуев А. Илк ўрта асрлар Марказий Осёни ё@RunWith философияси ва ёнинг таърихи. ... – Б. 123-124). It is likely that local deputies in some regions have also introduced some additional conditions for the conversion to Islam in their way of their goals (Гойибов Б. Сугд конфедерацисининг шаклланиши, тарабқий ва таънасузли: тарих фанлари бўйича докторлик диссертацияси. – Тошкент: Ўзбекистон миллий университети, 2017. – Б. 209);

Third, after the Arab invasion, the Sogdian language was replaced by Arabic and Persian, which became more pronounced in this social life (Исхаков М.М. Преимущественность и истории древних тюркских систем письменности (согдийского-тюркские контакты)/ O'zbekiston tarixi. – Тошкент, 2000. – №4. – C. 46-57). For the past thousand years, the Sogdian language and script have been the main means of communication in the Central Asian region, despite the fact that Sogdians, Hephthalites, Chachs, Fergana people and Turks lived side by side (Гайбов В. Согдийская Конфедерация: The Kingdoms Position and Peculiarity // The international journal of Humanities & Social Studies. Vol. 4. Issue 6. June. – India: 2016. – P. 88-94). Even during the time of the first Turkic kings, the Sogdian language was used in government (Кляшторный С.Г., Лившик В.А. The Sogdian inscription of Bugut reviced // AOASH. – Будапешт:1972. – Tom XXVI (1). – Р. 69-102). But after the Arab conquest, the Sogdian language gradually began to disappear from consumption. But the Sogdian language was not completely lost. Мuqaddas left the following information about the Sogdian language: "In Sogd (Zaraftshan oasis) there is a unique language, which is similar to the language of the people of Bukhara." This indicates that at that time Persian was used only in cities (Зухра Зарифин. Сугд тилига уумий бир ингloh / СИНО илмий-адабий, фалсафий-ирфоий, маънивий-маърифий журнал. 2010. 37-38-39-40 конлар. – Б. 7). The number of people who speak Arabic and Persian is higher than the Sogdian language. This process showed that the Sughd confederation was losing its existence not only politically or economically, but also socially and culturally (Гойибов Б. Сугд конфедерацисининг шаклланиши, тарабқий ва таънасузли: тарих фанлари бўйича докторлик диссертацияси. – Тошкент: Ўзбекистон миллий университети, 2017. – Б. 210).

Fourth, another factor that accelerated the decline of the confederation was related to this religion. It is known that on the eve of the Arab invasion in Sughd there were such religious views as Zoroastranism, Buddhism, Christianity, Monism (Ставский Б.Я., Большаков О.Г., Мончадская Е.А. Цивилизация Согда // О'zbekiston tarixi. – Тошкент, 2000. – №37. – С. 67-89; Беленицкий А.М. Раскопки согдийских храмов в 1948-1950 гг. // МИА. – М., 1953. – №37. – С. 23; Беленицкий А.М. Вопросы идеологий и культов Согда (по материалам пянджикентских храмов) // Живопись древнего Панджикента. – М.: 1954. – С. 39-52, 62-81). People from different religions have different assessments of the current situation, which has served as a basis for Islam to emerge as a stable religion and to unite people around a single idea (Бартольд В.В. Туркестан в эпоху монгольского нашествия / Соч. – Ташкент, 2000. – С. 39-52, 62-81). People from different religions have different assessments of the current situation, which has served as a basis for Islam to emerge as a stable religion and to unite people around a single idea (Бартольд В.В. Туркестан в эпоху монгольского нашествия / Соч. – Ташкент, 2000. – С. 39-52, 62-81).

Fifth, the administration of the Arab Caliphate, which sought to establish its dominance over Sughd, took the path of collusion with the upper classes here. For example, the part of the Sogdians who were fighting against the Arabs under the leadership of Korzanch had to make an agreement with the king of Fergana Alutar (700 - 720) and pass through Khojand to Fergana. However, Alutar betrayed Korzanch, handed him and his men over to the Arabs, and the Sogdians, tired of the relentless battles, fought against the Arabs to the last breath. This is how the Sogdians and Korzanch's military actions ended tragically. Only 400 wealthy households were able to buy their blood from the Arabs. While the local rich initially paid money (Смирнова О.И. Очерки из истории арабских завоеваний в Средней Азии / Соч. – М.: 1954. – С. 25-60.) and bought thei...
invasion;
- The Turkish Khanate as a result of the marches of the Arab Caliphate and the territories under the control of the Sogdian confederation were lost. Caliphate domination was established. The spread of Islam gained momentum. In customs the transformation process intensifies. Ethnic and social significance of Sogdiana also began to disappear. The Sogdians entered with the Turkish population and the Arab army Western Iran, which had arrived, began to mix with the Persian-speaking contingent. As a result, the ground was laid for the formation of the modern Tajik and Uzbek peoples on a new basis. However, it cannot be said that the Sogdian script and the culture created during this period have completely disappeared. The Sogdian script served to strengthen the friendship between the peoples, diplomatic ties, and to provide us with a lot of information about the formation of a common alliance against the enemy's invasion.

Thus, the decline of the Sughd Confederation was due to the march of the forces of the Arab Caliphate. The decline of the Sogdian confederation was a dynamic transition period in the history of Uzbekistan, during which the population of the cities of the confederation experienced various social processes associated with the transition from Sogdian to Uzbek and Tajik ethnicity. At a time when the religion and culture of Islam were entering the world in various ways and methods, there was a different historical destiny in Movaroun-Nahr, which, in the old language, had a strong political disintegration, was divided into small states, and the power of the Turkish Khanate was broken by the Chinese. it was difficult.

References

Scientific literature and collections

Author’s abstracts and dissertations

4. Scientific journals