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## Reforms in the Military Affairs of the Turkish Khanate and the Early Medieval Central Asian States

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### ABSTRACT

This article provides extensive information on the armies formed in the states that ruled in the Middle Ages, as well as the development of martial arts in the wars waged by them.

It should be noted that today it is difficult to summarize all the information we have learned in one article, so in the process of preparing this article, after studying the work done in this area, published books, scientific pamphlets, this article is devoted to the development of armies of the Middle Ages. necessary military historical data related to the gradual development of art, combat strategy and tactics were included.

**Keywords:** Turkish khanate, internal conflicts, state, military art, armaments, reform, kingdom, coup, victory, war, infantry.

The great state - the Turkish Khanate united the peoples living in a large area from the Dnieper in the west to the Amur River in the east and from the Enasoy to the Tibetan mountain ranges in the north. The Turkish Khanate began in 545–547 with a union of tribes led by Bumin (551–744). In 552, Bumin's army dealt a severe blow to the kingdom of Jojan and ended the Turks' dependence on the Jojan. His son Mukhankhan (553–572) turned the Turkish union into an empire. As a result of continuous wars and internal conflicts, the khanate was divided into two parts - the Eastern and Western Turkish khanates.

The Western Turkic Khanate firmly united the nomadic deserts and the agriculturally developed lands of the Central Asian cities. Istami Khagan (553–576) conquered Central Kazakhstan, Ettisuv and Khorezm and reached the Aral Sea. In 558, the Turks reached the Volga. They later made peace with the Iranians and united, crushing the Hephthalites in 565. The border between Iran and Turkish property ran along the Amudarya. At the beginning of the VI and VII centuries in the regions of Central Asia Sogdiana, Tokharistan (Bactria), Fergana appeared several semi-dependent states, there were Khorezm and Chach states. Many of these properties passed into the hands of the Western Turkish Khanate.

The main occupation of the Turks was nomadic pastoralism. The nomads brought with them at least 2-3 horses in battle, which ensured that each of them would have their own horses. They had textual discipline in their army, commanders' orders were not discussed, and there was a strict organizational system in all armies. The army consisted of units of ten, one hundred, one thousand, ten thousand, and the largest of them was called the district.

The Turkish army was based on well-trained cavalry, but also had infantry in its ranks. The weapons and armor of the Turks were as follows: the body of the horse was protected by armor, and the head by a bronze plate. The warrior wore a plate armor (a protective garment woven from iron rings), with a long and thin spear, a battle ax and a sword, and a bow, which was a shield and a simple cold weapon. The tactics of the Turkish

army were focused on offensive actions. He was always ready to return a sudden blow, and he himself often used the method of a sudden blow. When they were hiding under the walls, they always assigned a large number of guards (a small fighting group sent forward from the main units).

The Turks did not have the technique of besieging castles, but nevertheless easily conquered cities. He sailed through the crossings of the rivers. They attacked the sleeping enemy at night or in the morning. The Turks preferred to shoot at the enemy at high speed, and as the enemy approached the battlefield, they began to shoot sharply, taking bow arrows from the arrows hanging from their backs. Historians have noted the high maneuverability of Turkish riders, writing: "When faced with resistance, they scattered in all directions, but again united so quickly, flying forward and again."

While the Turks were maneuvering, they fled in some cases and tried to keep the enemy at a long distance, then destroying them with bow arrows. In doing so, they attacked the backward enemy detachments and its rearguard "like a swarm of bees," separating them from their main forces, destroying them and seizing their reserves. Returning to the enemy's attack, they either took over the defense en masse or hid behind their caps.

During this period, in the system of Central Asian society, a class of land aristocrats - peasants - emerged, who can rightly be compared with European knights. They owned land and water, and the bulk of the population was dependent on collective farmers. Peasant castles became a distinctive element of the countryside. These well-fortified, impregnable structures demonstrate a highly developed level of fortification of the early Middle Ages with their defensive capabilities. The rules of chivalry and military glory were developed in the society: the example of an

invincible hero appeared at the center of folk oral art, battles, competitions, hunting became popular as their daily activities.

During this period, a complex of weapons and tactics of warfare were developed, from the center of which took place the heavy cavalry of peasant warriors, protected by armor. Initially, the intricately designed bows introduced by the Turks in the desert were improved. The arrows of the bow were up to 90 cm long, the ends were heavy, and were used against cavalry, protected by armor. They put these arrows in the arrows and carried the ends upwards. The bullet was now detached from the bow and hung to the right. Inside the commando were two spare bows with loosened strings attached to the left side of the belt. The cavalry spears - the peaks - preserved in the weapon sample, were weighted to pierce the armor.

During the time of the Turks, there were great changes in the choice of stabbing weapons. Two-edged swords were retained, while a transition to long straight swords with one side sharpened was planned. By the 7th century, swords with sharp curves were introduced.

There have also been changes in the protective clothing of the warriors, with the introduction of traditional plate armor as well as bulletproof vests. The complex was filled with helmets made of steel plates to be worn on the head. The army also included light cavalry and infantry of the People's Army.

In conclusion, it should be noted that:

the army was based on cavalry, who developed and used specific tactics of action against the enemy;

"Shut up" and go to war (take the initiative);  
strategic retreat (used in some cases during the retention of his army);

distracting the enemy and setting up ambush (destroying the enemy as a result of deceptive actions);

shooting arrows at the enemy from a distance (such as an unexpected blow to the enemy, such as an artillery strike);

wrapping the wings and the back of the front (maneuvering movements of the units).

The main focus of the defense was on the construction of fortifications and fortresses, which were considered fortifications.

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