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# SOME COMMENTS ON MUHAMMAD SHAYBANIKHAN'S MARCH AND MILITARY TACTICS

**Abstract**: This article is written based on historical manuscripts, highlights the political, social, and military activities of art critic, military commander, statesman, and patron of art and creativity of Muhammad Shaybanikhan.

Key words: Shaybanikhan, Ubaydulla Sultan, property of Turkistan, Movarounnahr, Safavids.

Language: English

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# Introduction

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Within the framework of Uzbekistan, there were huge states uniting dozens of peoples and states of the present time: the states of Qang, Kushan, Eftalis, the states of the Turkish, the Samoniys, the Gaznaviys, the Karakhanids, the Khorezmshahs, the Temurids, the Shaybanids, who had their own unique management systems. One of them was the state of the Shaybanids, who had lived for a hundred years and left a distinctive mark on our people. Our people are rightfully proud of the leaders of this state, who are also supporters of Science and justice, such as Muhammad (Shahbakht) Shaybanikhan (1451-1510),Ubaydullakhan Abdullakhan II, their policy, their management of the state and their achievements in science, as well as the structures built during their time.

The first half of the XV century - Abulfath Muhammad Shaybanikhan ibn Shah Budag ibn Abulhairkhan, who lived at the beginning of the XVI century and captured power in Movarounnahr and Khurosan and became a single centralized state from the middle of the XVI century and actively pursued foreign policy, is considered a typical representative of his era.

This article illuminates about the military march of Mohammed Shaybanikhan, a prominent politician and commander, statesman, creator and sponsor of science, on the basis of information from historical written sources.

# **Materials and Methods**

After all, the period of the Shaybanids dynasty which was relatively poorly studied and neglected in the study of Uzbek statehood and the history of military art. The XVI century, which ruled this dynasty, was a period of many changes in the history of the Military Art of Movarounnahr. In particular, the emergence of rifles and guns in the Army, as well as many innovations introduced in the field of military tactics and strategy, has become one of the least illuminated from a historical point of view, and today's era requires the study of them. [1, p 5]

First of all, it is worth noting that the claim of the kingdom of the cross to the world requires courage, diligence, self-sacrifice of a lifelong concern. Shaybanikhan also suffered many hardships as the owner of such above mentioned qualities" ... he could establish a centralized state on the scale of the entire territory of Turkistan". In the book "this state is ours, who we are the Uzbeks was interpreted as "the next strong State in the kingdom after the Temurids' kingdom".

In 1468, after the death of the founder of the Uzbek nation, Abulkhayrkhon, his internal and external enemies robbed his state, that the country was almost destroyed. This fact in the work "Shajarai turk"



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of Abulghozi Bahodirkhan's was described as: "Abulkhayrkhon was a man who had a sense of humor among his friends and the one who mourned his enemies. On his four sides, he supported his relatives. For this reason, they all raised their heads. Despite Abulkhayrhan had a lot of sons and grandsons, he had a lot of enemies who had killed a few of his sons. The rest fled for four sides. The nation was spread totally. A few years after this event, a young man was born, who was a grandson of Abulhayrhan Shahbakhon. When he was an adult, he also came to his fatherland and gathered all his spread relatives together" [3, p118]

In this situation, the Uzbeks focused their attention and confidence on Abulkhayr's grandson Prince Muhammad Shaybanikhan, who in some sources, in particular in the names of Sheikh, Shaybani and Shaybak can be seen in "Baburnama". In the "Baburnoma" Muhammad Shaybanikhan was described as he used to worship five times in a day and he had good knowledge of praying" [4,p186] and one more there noted, saying "My enemy Shaybanikhan was a man who had a lot of experiences and was in glory" [4, p 77]. He was born with bright hopes for prospects; despite he was a young man.

After the death of Sheikh Haydar, Karachabek was forced to flee to the lower reaches of Sirdarya, with Abulhayr family and taking these orphan princes.

During this period, Sultan Ahmed, the son of Abusaid, the owner of the Samarkand throne, was the ruler. Majid Tarkhon who was a son of Kushlikhan (Muhammad Mazid Tarkhon) was a owner of the northern border of the country.

Muhammad Shaybanikhan asked Majid Tarhan to take him to his service, Majid Tarhan agreed, and the salary was also given. But Majid Tarhan later sent them to the governor of Bukhara Abdulali Tarhan to get rid of the danger after he felt the danger of the destruction and enmity of the Uzbeks led by Muhammad Shaybanikhan. Abdulali Tarkhon was the absolute ruler of Bukhara, whose palace was splendor. He received well the Uzbeks headed by Muhammad Shaybanikhan and took advantage of them when the Mongols attacked the North-East. In this regard, it is written in the Baburnoma that" Shaybanikhan had not his own army, he used to be with him for a long time. Abdulali Tarkhon was played a big role of making Shaybanikhan become a strong man and loss and destruction of these ancient houses "[5.p 73-74]

Also, the work" Tarihiy Rashidiy" describes as" in the period of ruler of Sultan Ahmed Mirzo, Shahibekhan was among the officials of Abdulali Tarkhon. When Sultan Ahmed Mirzo and Abdulali Tarhan died in the same time, Shahibekhan went to Turkistan and tried to gain the attention of Sultan Mahmudhan. Khan helped him as much as possible. With his support, Shahibekhon invaded Bukhara and Samarkand, his army reached fifty thousand, perhaps

even sixty thousand, from two to three hundred people. Since he went to Turkistan, his power continued to increase with the help of Sultan Mahmudhon, the Sultans, the most powerful the Amirs and other people united with him in Dashti Kipchok" [6, p 242-243].

But after having the great military of the Uzbek Princes, they began to be dissatisfied with the simple salary paid by the rulers for any armed service given by the Temurids. As a result, the Temurids rulers were forced to give them the cities of Otror, Savron, Sighnak. In this way, Shahibekhan started to widen the territory of his country.

Sheybaniyhan gathered strength with his main enemy, Burga Sultan, and became friends in a dishonorable way until the military came to the ready state. Upon reaching the end of the preparation, on one of the long winter nights, the faithful attacked the palace of the enemy Burga with his three bravemen. He executed many people from his family and relatives. The escaped Burga Sultan also could not escape from death, Sheybaniyhan executed him as well. After this successful attack, the young prince became the chief of the Uzbek. He found a chance to take part in the battles with them.

It was natural that the peaceful relationship between the Shaybanids and the Timurids in crisis did not last long. [7,p 78] The cause of the collision was quickly found. During Sultan Ahmed's lifetime, Sheybaniyhan thought of the future and took over the lands in the lower reaches of Sirdarya, which belonged to the owner Majid Tarhan. In addition, the Sheybaniyhan1 now refused to serve the salary as before, since then he had become a terrible enemy of the Temurids dynasty. The spirit of the young nomadic Khans ' infested military service was sufficient for their mutual conflict. During this period, Movarounnahr's incredibly turbid political life, such cases as the Princes ' concubines, caused Sheybaniyhan to invade the country.

In fact, the Sheikhan took the throne of Movarounnakhr with the Battle of Saripul in 1501, but in 1507, with the Battle of Marvichak, he introduced the whole Khoroson into his possession.

It is worth saying in this place that although one of the main reasons for the defeat of Babur in the Battle of Saripul in 1501 was seen in the squares of betrays of Mongol soldiers, in fact there were no other reasons. In particular, it is Babur's listening to the astrologer prophecy. Details of the incident are as follows: both sides were standing in a non-combat position opposite each other for 5-6 days and engaged in a plan of various military tactics. In this situation Babur deliberately attempted to delay the battle. The reason is that about two thousand auxiliary forces, led by Qanbar Ali, sent by Hussein International in Herat, had reached the cache and had to be added in two days by coming to Babur. Also, the auxiliary forces around one thousand and five hundred sent by his uncle



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Babur, Sultan Mahmudhan, under the leadership of Sayyid Muhammad, were to arrive the next morning. [8, p 991] At the moment, the matter is that the astrologer is in the range and predicts that on this day eight stars are in the range, if one day passes, the opportunity will be rich, and then for two weeks eight stars will be behind the enemy, so that the same position of the stars means that it is possible to enter and win the battle. [9.p 81]

The second reason can also be attributed to Babur's mistake in military strategy and the mastery of Muhammad Shaybanikhan. Before the battle, Babur's army was lined up as usual, placing the best commanders, insiders (usually officials close to the ruler of the palace, according to A. Zamonov, special guards) and skilled warriors in the irovul (Zafaryazaq, guard. In the center, the unit in front of the army). [9, p 81-82] Shaybanikhan was one of the most powerful generals of his time, including such generals as Muhammad Sultan, Muhammad Sultan, and Mahmud Sultan. [10, p 79-80] With the onset of the battle, the wing units of Shaybanikhan broke through the rear of the central part, pushing back the barongar and javongor of Babur's army. As a result, Babur Mirza, who was in the rear part of the army, was separated from the main part and was forced to retreat in order not to fall into the siege [1.45-46].

### **Results and Discussions**

After this victory, Shaybanikhan went to war in several directions to capture the various provinces of Movarounnahr and Khorasan. Experienced commanders Mahmud sultan, Ubaydulla sultan, Hamza sultan, Kochkunchikhan, Suyunchkhojahan played an important role in fulfilling this task. In particular, in 1501-1502, the armies led by Mahmud Sultan occupied cities and fortresses such as Dizak (Jizzakh), Uratepa, Shosh, Shohrukhiya, Sayram.

After this, Shaybanikhan conquered several cities of Movarounnahr with military campaigns, conquered Herat in 1504, and then left his sons in Khorasan and went to the other side of the Amudarya. He was solemnly welcomed in Bukhara. But his goal was not to come to Bukhara, but to pass through it. His original intention was to subdue Mahmud Khan, the son of the Mongol Yunus, who had revolted during his travels. So he set out for the northern region of the Svrdarva. After establishing peace Shaybanikhan returned to Khorasan to complete the occupation. At the same time, in 914 (1508), the Jurjan region also came under his control.

Thus, he took control of almost all the lands of the Timurid's dynasty. According to Hafiz Tanish's "Abdullanoma", Shaybanikhan gave the management of the conquered territories to one of his best-known sultans, an emir known for his intelligence and politics. In particular, he nominated Kuchkunchi sultan for Turkistan region, Suyunchikhoja sultan, the younger brother of Kuchkunchi sultan, transferred him to Tashkent and handed him over to the governor's office and its environs to the loyal will of Amir Yaqub, Darul Mahfuza to Samarkand-Ahmad Sultan, to the land of Hisar and its environs to Hamza Sultan and his brother the Mahdi sultans, Kunduz and Baghlan - Amir Qunbul and increased by more than Sa'id, Khorezm - Hirat - Jonvafoboy, Marv - Kibiz Nyman and others were submitted [11.p. 57].

The following words of Muhammad Shaybanikhan are given in Fazlullah ibn Ruzbehan's book "Mehmonnomayi Bukhara" about the conquest of the Timurid's state: The accident required the return of the inherited property to our hands and will "[12,72].

A. A Semyonov, an orientalist who has studied this subject in depth, said: "This is not a war for the conquest of one state by another, but a war between the Turks for power and nationhood, the main causes of which were blood relatives. There are no winners or losers in this last war of the Turks" [13,p 148-150]. In our opinion, the assessment of the formation of the Shaybanikhan state as a frequent event in the statehood of the Turkic peoples in the Middle Ages - the change of dynasties - can be considered close to the same historical fact.

The Shaybanid's state would inevitably expand from the Caspian Sea in the west to the Chu River Valley in the east, from Dashti Kipchak in the north to Central Afghanistan in the south, bordering the Safavid's state in the southwest, and now it seems natural the war will happen.

King Ismail told Muhammad Shaybanikhan, "... If every son had to do the work of a father, all human beings would have to be children of Adam (prophet) and be a prophet to them. If the kingdom had been inherited, it would not have passed from the Peshadians to the Kayanis, and King Ismail, along with his gift, sent the wheel and silk, saying that the kingdom belonged to Chingiz and to you, and he said again, I will tell you what you said in that letter. Even if you set out to fight, I did. In the land of war, the claim of you and me is not true. If you do not fight, then you will spin the wheel" [p. 14,378] Thus, after both sides (sending each other) letters and envoys (several times), King Ismail gathered an army of disbelievers, that is, dogs, and evil-minded, to warn his people prepared with, the Arab and the non-Arab marched from Iraq to Shavbanikhan and reached him in the province of Marv. At that time, in the blessed service of the khan, with the exception of a few (fighting) soldiers, he threw himself on the side of the enemy, despairing of life because he was so greedy for the honor of the expedition. When the enemy was about to retreat, the khan's soldier chased him. Then the armies of both sides lined up on the banks of the Murgab River near Mary, that is, in Tahrirabad, on the one hand, the armies of Islam, and on the other, the armies of the infidels, Saddi Iskandar [pp. 14,378-379]. In this battle, Shaybanikhan had an army of



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twenty thousand (20,000) at his disposal, while King Ismail besieged it with an army of seventy thousand (70,000), and then an additional seventeen thousand. [15, p 30-31].

Hafiz Tanish Bukhari testified that, "In the year nine hundred and sixteen (1510 AD), the sun of greatness and glory of Shaybanikhan ... was hidden in (his) secret veil. Soon his dreams and hopes sank into the disaster.

(Минг) афсуски, ғозийи хусрав шахид бўлди. Куёш шафак ичига кириб, кўринмай колди"[11,58-б.].

Meaning: Unfortunately, Gazi Khusrav was martyred.

The sun went down at dawn and disappeared "[p. 11.58].

### Conclusion

Based on information from written sources about Shaybanikhan's military campaigns and tactics, the following conclusions can be drawn.

1. Shaybanikhan as a strong commander and politician is a historical figure who was able to unite Dashti Kipchak, Movarounnahr, Khorezm and

Khorasan regions into a single state in a short period of time.

- 2. Shaybanikhan was not a savage, as described by his enemies (especially the Safavids of Iran). He respected the clergy of the time and even obeyed them like a child.
- 3. The tactics used Muhammad bv Shavbanikhan, Ubavdulla sultan, Abdullah ibn Iskandarkhan in the conquest of cities and fortresses always put the defenders in a difficult position. In historical sources, one can find a lot of information about the presence in the Bukhara army of oils, manganese, stone-throwing weapons, which were important in the occupation of the enemy's cities and defensive fortifications, and their technical management.
- 4. Throughout the 16th century, due to the wars with the khans of Iran and Kazak, Dashti Kipchak, a certain amount of attention was paid to the formation of the army in the khanate [1,145-146]. Although the preservation of the unity, strength and freedom of the Bukhara khanate was the main task during this period, it can be considered difficult to solve in a short time.

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