

**POLITICAL AND CULTURAL LIFE DURING THE REIGN OF KHIVAKHAN
MUHAMMAD RAHIMKHAN I**

Abstract. The article provides historical data about the period of Muhammad Rahimkhan ibn Awaz inaq ibn Muhammad Amin inaq, a representative of the Khiva khan dynasty of Kungirat. Muhammad Rahimkhan, who ascended the throne after the death of his brother Eltuzarkhan, achieved positive results in the unification of the Khiva khanate; has undergone many political, economic and administrative reforms. Muhammad Rahimkhan marched on the Turkmen-Chavdurs to expand the country (1808-1809). Muhammad Rahimkhan marched several times along the Aral Sea to subdue the Karakalpaks, and in 1811 defeated the Sufi of Turamurod and strengthened the khanate. During 1812-1818, he marched on the Syrdarya Kazakhs and the Taka Turkmens in Merv and united them to the khanate. These victories strengthened the position of the Khiva khanate and turned it into an independent powerful state. He focused on digging and beautifying several canals in the country. He set up an engraving on the arch and issued gold and silver coins. Alcohol and drugs were banned during the time of Muhammad Rahimkhan. The mausoleum of Pahlavon Mahmud was reconstructed. Several madrassas and mosques have been built in Khiva. Opinions were expressed that customs and other agencies had been set up.

Key words: Khiva khanate, economic and political situation, cultural life, dynasty, tax system, throne, bell principality, Bukhara emirate, government system

The descendants of Umbay Inaq (1600), the founder of the Kungrad dynasty, won the struggle for power in Khorezm. Educated in one of the madrassas in Khiva and thoroughly educated in the military, the khan strained relations with Bukhara. This is because the Emir of Bukhara has always opposed the creation of a new state in Central Asia as a result of political changes in the region at the level of a dependent province. As a result, in 1806, Amir Haydar's army began to march to Khorezm, and in the battle near Shabboz, Khiva's army was wounded. Eltuzarkhan, who was trying to cross the left side of the Amudarya, drowned when the ship capsized. Khan was 37 years old at the time.

Defeat in the war with the Emirate of Bukhara reduced the military-political position of the Khiva khanate. Some officials refused to recognize the central government. In 1806, the population around Chimbay, Kipchak, Mangit, Khojaeli and Kungrad in the Beshqala region, dissatisfied with the abundance of taxes, revolted. The armies of the Kazakh-Karakalpaks, who had declared their independence from the khanate, were disarmed on their way to Khiva. The introduction of a monetary tax called solgut instead of a tax on a product called hiraj has made it possible to alleviate some of the dissatisfaction of the population. This change by Muhammad Rahim gave good results. Accordingly, the landlords were divided into 3 groups depending on the level of land ownership and began to pay solgut.

The first group included landowners with 10 tanobs and more of land. They were called "excellent" and paid 3 gold coins a year, the second group was called "adno". They are local

landowners with 5-10 tanobs, who pay 2 gold coins a year. The third group included landowners with up to 5 tanobs of land. They were called "avsat" and paid 1 gold per year. The advantage of the new tax system is that the lower the landlord's husband and income, the less he paid in taxes. Hence, it has increased the interest of citizens in increasing private property. Navkars, priests, bereaved families and the disabled were also exempted from the khanate's tax and natural (excavation, escape, and beggar) obligations. Taking advantage of this situation, Muhammad Rahim took over the government instead of Abulgazi V, who had been on the throne for four months.

During the nearly 20-year reign of the new khan, special attention was paid to the economic and political situation in the country. In his report, Russian Ambassador N. Muravev said, "Muhammad Rahimkhan has built a completely new state. He wrote that it is one of the most powerful khanates in Central Asia"^[2, 44-45].

Muhammad Rahimkhan strived to build a strong army and expand the khanate with his help. The regular cavalry of the khanate was more than 15-20 thousand, in which Uzbeks, Turkmens and Kazakhs played a key role. The Navkars were allotted land for military service and were exempt from taxes. From the spring to the late autumn of 1810, the Khiva navkars invaded the Kazakh and Karakalpak villages along the Janadarya (Yangidarya). As a result, with the help of Aydosbiy, Kechenekbiy, Urinbiy, the Karakalpaks living around Yangidarya were subjugated to the khanate. In February 1811, by order of the khan, troops were sent to the Aral Sea Uzbeks. At the same time, actions were launched against the Kungrad principality, which had been part of the khanate as an independent territory for 18 years. As a result, the Sufi leader Turamurod Sufi was killed.

After the internal riots were eliminated, in 1818-1819 the armies of the Khiva khanate organized military campaigns in the lands of Khorasan. In one of the battles near Charjou, the Khiva army was defeated by the troops of the Bukhara Emirate. In 1820-1824, Muhammad Rahimkhan gathered new forces and made several marches against Bukhara. As a result, the Turkmen living in the Mari and Tajan regions of the Bukhara Emirate came under the jurisdiction of the Khiva Khanate, the descendants of Chavdur, Goklan, Taka, Sary and Yovmut. By the khan's decree, part of the Akhal-Taka Turkmen was moved around the Old Urgench and Ilonli fortresses. The Turkmen were given land on the condition that they serve in the Khiva army, and the amount of taxes was reduced.

The khan, who paid main attention to the regulation of the tax system, sought ways to replenish the state treasury. Now the amount of the tax is determined by the area of crops owned by the owners and the amount of harvest. Tax collection was transferred from local governors to the central government. The task of collecting state taxes was entrusted to the kushbegi and mehtar, and the collection of zakat was entrusted to the devonbeg. Income and expenses received from the citizens by the solgut method were recorded in special notebooks and taken under the control of the khan.

¹ Muravyov N.N. "Travel to Turkmenistan and Khiva in 1819 and 1820 of the General Staff of the Guards Captain Nikolai Muravyov, who was sent to this country for negotiations. s.1-2.M. 1822. pp. 44-45.

During his khanate, Muhammad Rahimkhan built a throne that laid the foundation of the state. It is made of wood and decorated with silver "ribbons" and plaques with continuous silent ornaments typical of Khiva painting. On the back of the throne there is a board in the form of a pattern embodying the forms of madohil (a noble intention, a noble word, a noble deed) and the words "used by Muhammad, an obedient servant of Allah during the reign of Muhammad Rahim, the Sultan of Khorezm in Khiva region". The date 1811 is indicated on the wooden foot of the throne. The throne was taken to St. Petersburg in 1873 by A.L.Kun, along with other national treasures of Khorezm. The throne was erected in July 1874 in the Armory of the Kremlin Museum on the recommendation of the Moscow Palace. Today, the "Throne of the Khiva Khanate" is kept in the State Museum of the Moscow Kremlin, the Armory.

A special customs service was introduced in the border towns of the khanate, on caravan and ship routes. The revival of agriculture, handicrafts, domestic and foreign trade in the khanate allowed increasing the income of the state treasury. The Russian ambassador to Khiva, N. Muravev, said that the khan's treasury had an annual income of \$ 4 million sums.

The khan initially considered one of his main tasks to be the end of feudal disintegration, the centralization and consolidation of state power. Depending on the abilities of the officials, the khan gathered trusted, influential, business-minded officials, priests and soldiers around him to carry out measures of state importance. He brought rich and influential Turkmen, Kazakh and Karakalpak figures under the Khiva khanate closer to him and gave them land and high positions. Given the prestige of the Muslims among the people, he married the daughter of a Sayyid, one of the descendants of the Prophet, in order to keep himself close to them. He gave places and positions to the great clergy in the palace, gifted property, and exempted many from taxes and fees.

Muhammad Rahimkhan, who was seriously engaged in public administration reform, changed the system of governance introduced during the reign of Abulgazi Bahodirkhan. The administrative centers of the Khiva khanate were Khiva, Hazarasp, Xonqa, Gurlan, Anbar Manoq, Shabboz, Mangit, Kipchak, Kilich Niyazboy, Khojayli, China, Dashovuz, Yangi Urgench, Ilonli, Ghazavat. Later, Kungrad and Chimboy joined them. Now, instead of village elders and inakas, governors and elders of mosque tribes have been introduced.

In the Khiva khanate, the positions of mehtar, kushbegi and devonbegi were the highest. Under their control, the central government agencies dealing with the country's economy, socio-political, military defense, and religious affairs were established. The Supreme Council was established as the main government system of the state and was chaired by the khan himself. The Council acted as the legislative, administrative and judicial body of the state and was attended by the most influential officials. Among the officials who took part in the Supreme Council were devonbegi, kushbegi, mehtardan naqib, sheikhulislam, mutawalli, mirab, qazi, farmanchi, darga, shigavul, dastarkhanchi, arbob, mirakhor, bedridden, aga-ago and other officials. Council participants would gather at the showroom on Fridays of the week. After the plov was given to them, the advisory board continued the process of a banquet, sometimes from late at night until early in the morning. The position of Mehtar and Kushbegi, as we have seen above, is one of the highest positions in the palace, and their rights are almost equal. They have been given enormous authority. They were engaged in various economic and irrigation constructions in the khanate, excavation, collection of fugitive taxes, appointment to positions, gathering troops, reception of

foreign ambassadors. Very prestigious, educated people have been appointed to the above two positions.

Kushbegi was responsible for the tax obligations collected from the northern provinces of the khanate, and mehtar from the southern provinces. All the officials of the khanate obeyed them; they stood on either side of the khan's throne.

Devonbegi (chief devon) was in charge of the work of the 3 devons in the palace. The Devons were in charge of the socio-political, military and other affairs of the farm in the palace. They were highly literate, learned people, fluent in Arabic, Persian and even Russian.

Muhammad Rahim Khan built a building for the Engraving in the southern part of the Ark (now the Old Ark) and produced gold, silver and copper coins in his name. The new money improved commodity-money relations in the khanate and played an important role in regulating tax payments. Salaries were set for civil servants and regional officials. Muraev, a Russian officer who came to Khiva in 1820, wrote in his memoirs: "In the time of Muhammad Rahimkhan, a mint was built, in which gold coins were minted by the decree of the ruler. The purity of the gold coins is very elegant with the production styles. Four silver coins equal our money. On one side of the coin is the name of Muhammad Rahimkhan in Turkish, and on the other side is the date of the produced and prayer words in Arabic.

Muhammad Rahimkhan was a tall, strong, tough man. The people of Khiva called him "Akhund Khan" because of his small and sharp eyes, strong will, courage and business acumen, speaking, reading and writing in Arabic and Persian.

During the reign of the Kungrad dynasty, Khiva became one of the largest and most beautiful cities, home to some of the rarest monuments of Oriental architecture. The main part of Khiva's population was engaged in trade and handicrafts. Especially during the reign of Muhammad Rahimkhan, many good deeds were done to raise the country. Muhammad Rahimkhan built many beautiful and strong architectural structures in Khiva. At that time, Khiva became a really large-scale construction site, the old historical and architectural monuments of the city were repaired and new magnificent architectural constructions were carried out.

The palace historian Khudoiberdi ibn Kushmuhammad Khivaqi, who has stamped the events of the past on the pages of history, wrote in his book "The Strange Heart" that "Khevak was destroyed and rebuilt many times. Abulgazi Muhammad Rahimkhan and his brother Kutlug Murad inoq built the city, thanks to their efforts, a large madrasah (Kutlug Murad inoq madrasah, 1812) and a large domed mausoleum (Pahlovon Mahmud mausoleum, 1810-1825). the construction in Khiva was led by Sher Devonbegi and Minister Muhammad Reza Kushbegi.

During the reign of Muhammad Rahimkhan, the foreign economic relations of the Khiva khanate expanded. The Khudaiberganov brothers earned 270,000 sums, Polvonkori 90,000 sums, and Madrimboy 54,000 sums in trade with foreign countries through caravan routes.

On October 6, 1819, Captain Muravev (Nikolai Nikolaevich Muravev-Karsky, 1794-1866), who had arrived from the Caucasus as an ambassador (participated in a military campaign against Poland in 1831 and commanded the Caucasus Army in the Russo-Turkish War of 1853-1856), was not accepted by the khan, held in the village for more than 40 days on suspicion of

being a spy. On November 20, the khan invited N.N. Muravev to Khiva and sought to agree on borders, ensuring the security of trade caravans during the talks. According to the Russian historian I.N. Zakharin, Muhammad Rahimkhan found out much later that Muraev was a soldier in the guise of an ambassador and regretted that he had not beheaded him. In 1825, at the initiative of Amir Haydar, the conflict between the two ended, and relations between Bukhara and Khiva improved. On May 7, 1825, Muhammad Rahimkhan fell ill and died at the time, at the age of 50 years. The khan was buried in a large khanaqah in the mausoleum of Pahlovon Mahmud, which he had built. During the reign of Allakulikhan, the tomb was renovated and decorated with tiles, and the sagana was given a special splendor. According to the elders, until 1920 there was a flag on the tomb of the khan. At present, when our compatriots visit the mausoleum of Pahlovon Mahmud, they also pray for Muhammad Rahimkhan.

References

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