

UBAIDULLAKHAN IS A TALENTED ARMY LEADER

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Abstract

This scientific article describes the unique, multifaceted talent of Shaybanizoda Ubaidullah Khan, his struggle against the Iranian Safavids, the battles of Kuli Malik and Gijduvan, the victory achieved, and its significance using sources. The place of Ubaidullah Khan in the history of Uzbek statehood is shown.

Keywords: Shaibani Khan, Kuchkinchi Khan, Abu Said, Ubaidullah Khan, Babur Mirza, Ismail Safavi, Najmi Soni, Battle of Koli Malik, G'ijduvan dawn.

INTRODUCTION

Among the Shaybanid rulers who ruled for almost 100 years in the history of Uzbek statehood, Ubaydullah Khan holds a special place. As historian Muhammad Haidar Mirzo wrote: "... he was a brave lion in the forest of courage, and his palm turned into a pearl shell in the sea of generosity. His personality, full of good fortune, was adorned with various virtues"[1].

He used his unique talent in all fields, including politics, military front, religious sciences, tariqat, literature, music, jurisprudence, recitation of the Qur'an and other fields.

Ubaydullah Khan devoted his entire life to the independence of our Motherland, the freedom, religion, and honor of our people. That is why the period of his rule constitutes one of the brightest pages in the history of our Motherland.

Ubaydullah Khan was the nephew of Shaybani Khan and the son of Mahmud Sultan. He was born in 1486 near the city of Vazir in Khorezm. His father Mahmud Sultan was the ruler of Bukhara. Mahmud Sultan asked Khoja Ubaydullah Ahrar Wali, a sheikh-ul-mashoyig of his time, to name his son. "Khoja Nashruddin Ubaydullah, may God bless his palaces and make his resting places paradise, and may he have a happy ending, he named him Ubaydullah"[2].

Ubaydullah Khan grew up to be brave, courageous, and exceptionally talented from his youth. The author of the work "Abdulla-noma" H.T. Bukhari writes about this: "The fame of his bravery and courage spread everywhere, and his voice of bravery and valor was heard in the ears of the angels in the sky" [3]. Ubaydullah Khan studied with mature and famous scholars of his time such as Amir Abdulla Yamani, Khoja Muhammad Sadr, Khoja Mulla Isfakhani, Maulana Mahmud Azizon, Maulana Yoshmuhammad Qori. He learned the science of hadith and jurisprudence and recitation of the Qur'an from these scholars. He was a unique military talent and mastered the art of war. Amir Abdulla Yamani, who became famous as Mir Arab, was his spiritual mentor, close advisor on state affairs and military matters. Ubaydullah Khan was a theologian who created the





treatise "At-Tajwid" to facilitate the study of the Quran, a jurist who wrote a special book on Sharia law, and a master of beautiful writing in seven types of style, He was a master of the books he copied from the Holy Quran and sent to Mecca, as well as a reciter of the Holy Quran with Tajweed, a talented poet and composer.

Ubaydullah Khan, under the influence of his father, Mahmud Sultan, and the upbringing of his uncle Shaibani Khan, grew up to become a famous ruler, a skilled diplomat, and a talented commander.

In all the battles fought by Shaybani Khan, he: "... served like a shadow to his lucky stirrup and always opened (new) regions by his side, like the sun, with a gentle breeze blowing from his side"[4].

Even when Shaybani Khan was besieged in Merv, Ubaydullah Sultan came to his aid before all his cousins, passing through Jaihun.

All the victories that Shaybani Khan achieved in battles were also associated with the name of Ubaydullah Khan.

As Shaybani Khan later witnessed, according to the rules of the dynastic succession, "while their elder brothers and great relatives were alive, the younger ones would not aspire to the throne of the kingdom and the great Shahanshah. Therefore, Ubaidullo Sultan transferred Kuchkinchikhan to the throne of the khanate and himself turned towards Bukhara" [5].

Ubaidullo Sultan played a key role in the life of the country for 23 years as the viceroy of Kuchkinchikhan and Abu Said in Bukhara.

In 1533, after the death of Abu Said, he sat on the khanate throne, and Ubaydullah Khan began to be deburited. At that time, Samarkand was officially considered the capital, but Ubaydullah Khan ruled the country from Bukhara. Later, the capital was moved from Samarkand to Bukhara.

The years of Ubaydullah Khan's life and rule were turbulent in the country. On the one hand, internal conflicts among the Shaybanids intensified, and on the other hand, the struggle between the Sunni and Isha sects intensified in Iran, Khorasan, and Transoxiana.

Therefore, Ubaidullah Khan's life was spent mostly in battles. He fought for the peace and independence of the country, the religion of his people, and demonstrated his bravery and talent as a military leader.

In particular, the country's independence was preserved by his victories in two battles near Bukhara in 1512. These battles became unforgettable events not only in the history of the Turkic peoples, but also in the history of world military art.

At that time, the Iranian Shah Ismail Safavi, who was a member of the Shi'ite sect, was preparing to march on Transoxiana and sent a letter to Babur Mirza promising to help him reclaim the land from the Shaybanids. In fact, Babur Mirza also intended to reclaim his homeland from the Shaybanids.

Ubaydullah Khan drew the right conclusions from the situation and began to make extensive preparations for the upcoming battle.

Ubaydullah Khan, who had strong religious beliefs, decided to visit the grave of Ahmad Yassawi in Turkestan before the battle. In April 1512, Ahmad convened a kuril near the Yassawi mausoleum, where he swore to be a pious ruler and called on all Shaybanids to join him in a holy war against the "red-headed" people.





At the end of April 1512, Abdullah Khan's troops came to Ghijduvan through Ettikuduk and Tortkuduk, from here they attacked Bukhara and besieged it. Bukhara Darugo Shirinbek sends a message to Babur Mirzo.

Babur Mirza, with the help of the Iranian Safavids, left Samarkand with an army of 60,000 and began to approach Bukhara.

It should be noted that Babur Mirza's agreement with Islam Shah and his wearing of the clothes of the "red heads" of the Isha sect not only aroused the hatred of the common people, but also angered the ruling class of Bukhara and Samarkand. About this, the author of "Abdullanoma" said, "... the people were waiting for the king to put on the robes of the red heads and wear the robes of the province. But king Babur ... did not take off his clothes, and the people's hopes for him did not come to light" [6].

Historian Hafiz Tanish Bukhari wrote in his "Abdulla-noma" that "the number of Ubaydullah Khan's troops was 2,600 people," while Hasankhoja Nisari wrote in his book "Muzakkiri Ahbab" that "the number of his troops was 3,000 people." [4] It seems that Ubaydullah Khan's troops were several times smaller.

Ubaydullah Khan used a military trick, broke off the siege of Bukhara, and retreated to the Khorezm steppe. Hearing this, Babur Mirza's troops, who were calmly approaching Bukhara, suddenly launched an attack. In the "Abdullaname" it is written that "... the warriors of both sides... with their blood-spilling fangs as their banners, and with their spears full of sedition and strife, rose from their saddle houses with the intention of fighting and taking revenge" and a fierce and merciless battle ensued[7].

As Hasankhoja Nisani wrote, "Ubaydullah Bahadir Khan fought against three thousand men, and with the help of Allah, the minority defeated the majority and completely captured the kingdom of Mavarounnahr." [8] This famous battle took place on April 28, 1512, and became known as the Battle of Kul-i-Malik. This victory demonstrated Ubaydullah Khan's mastery of the secrets of military art, his high military skill, and the courage of his troops. He defeated the combined forces of Babur Mirza and the Iranian Safavids. Ubaydullah Khan honorably fulfilled his filial duty to his country and people, preserving his religious sect. Babur Mirza, with a small army, marched to Bukhara, then to Samarkand, and from there, realizing the difficulty of the situation, he headed towards Hissar. Although Babur Mirza was defeated, he did not give up his intention to reclaim his homeland from the Shaybanizadas. At the same time, Ubaydullah Khan also intended to fight against Babur Mirza and the Iranian Safavids. After Babur Mirza left the country for the second time, he again sent a messenger to Shah Ismail, asking for help.

Historian Zainiddin Wasifiy writes in his Badasul Waqa'i: "It was at the beginning of Rabiul Akhtar (mid-June) in the year 918 AH (1512), when Amir Najmi Sani crossed the Amu Darya with eighty thousand headless "red-headed" men, riding fast Arabian horses, wearing crowns and shields, as if a gust of wind had come and descended upon the reeds" [9]. Babur and his troops joined forces at the Iron Gate and advanced rapidly inland.

Hearing this news, Ubaydullah Khan intensified preparations for the upcoming major battle and strengthened his defenses.

The allies first focused their attack on the Guzar fortress. Here, Najmi Soki ordered the commander of the fortress to be chained and hundreds of innocent people to be executed. Then the allies headed





towards the city of Karshi. The people of Karshi bravely defended the city. Najmi Soni ordered the city's inhabitants to be "Qatli aam" (mass execution). Najmi Thani, without listening to anyone, massacred the Sayyids in their entirety. He put all the young children, women, and old people to the sword without mercy.

"As the historian H.T. Bukhari wrote in his "Abdulla-noma", "They took Karshi with anger, and a great massacre took place here, and Mawlana Binai was also martyred in that incident." This massacre intensified anti-Iranian protests in Transoxiana.

Amir Najmi Soni, proud of his victories in Karshi, directed his next battle plan to Gijduvan, and then to the conquest of Bukhara.

The fate of the country and the people was in great danger.

Ubaydullah Khan's pir and master, who had arrived from the city of Turkestan, told him: "... immediately prepare yourself, that group will be defeated. Because when oppression and tyranny reach a high level, it will be accompanied by destruction... put the state's foot in the stirrup of happiness, call everyone forward," he gave instructions and encouraged before the battle.[10] The Shaybanizadas thoroughly prepared for the decisive battle. Ubaydullah Khan developed a future plan, taking into account the enemy's numerical superiority and combat readiness.

Ubaydullah Khan, with his small army, launched a surprise attack on the allied forces at the village of Zargaron near Gijduvan on November 24, 1512. In the Battle of Gijduvan, Ubaydullah Khan skillfully used the technique of *tolgama*, which is a method of bypassing the enemy's flanks and striking from the flanks and rear, in the history of military art.

In this fierce battle, the Allied forces were crushed. Ubaidullah Khan was killed by the troops when the defeated Najmi Soni was running away naked on a horse. Only a small number of his army of thousands of people managed to return home.

The Battle of Gijduvan once again demonstrated Ubaydullah Khan's military prowess and his ability as a talented commander of his time.

Ubaydullah Khan, following the rules of the Shaybani dynasty, served as the viceroy of Bukhara for 23 years during the reigns of Kuchkinchikhan and Abu Said.

As the historian Muhammad Haidar wrote in "Tarihiy Rashidi", "... until the end of the reign of the Khans, even though he was in charge of all the affairs of the Shaybani, following the ancient custom, he handed over the khanate to someone older than himself, and even if he had accepted the title of khan, honestly speaking, no one would have opposed him" [7].

Ubaidullah Khan took the khanate throne only in 1533.

In short, as a result of Ubaydullah Khan's valiant struggle, Mavorunnahr was saved as an Iranian Safavid of the Isha sect. And this is the great service of Ubaydullah Khan, a smart and wise politician, an entrepreneur ruler, and a talented military commander, to our people.

Shaibani Ubaidullah Khan dedicated his entire life to the independence of his homeland, the freedom, religion, and honor of our people.

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