

ISHAK KHAN – LIFE IN SAMARKAND (BASED ON MATERIALS FROM THE OFFICE OF THE TURKESTAN GENERAL GOVERNORATE)

Ergashev Bakhtiyar Ergashevich

Doctor of Science (DSc), Professor of the Department of Historiography and Source Studies, Samarkand State University named after Sharof Rashidov

E-mail: 1baxergashev@gmail.com

Abstract:

As a result of the collapse of the state of Nadirshahs in Iran (1747), a new state of Afghanistan was formed, which in the 19th century became a sphere of interaction of interests of capitalistically developed England. The growth of capitalism in Russia ended with the establishment of the Turkestan Governorate General in the Central Asian khanates. This article analyzes the historical sources of the life and work of Ishaq Khan in Samarkand.

Keywords: Turkestan, governorship, Ishaq Khan, Samarkand, source studies.

Introduction

Along with the penetration of the West into the countries of the East, events of an internal political nature took place in these states. Including Afghanistan, which was populated by numerous peoples. The country had an unstable central government, concentrated in Kabul. But its influence weakened as it moved away from the capital, since each nationality living in Afghanistan tried to exist independently. The internal political situation worsened after the death of the Afghan emir Dust-Mohammed Khan in 1863. A persistent struggle for the throne began, in which the son of the late emir, Shir-Ali Khan, won. Among those who laid claim to the Afghan throne was a relative of Shir-Ali Khan, his nephew Abdurrahman Khan.

MAIN PART

In early 1870, after his defeat in the struggle for the throne, he was granted asylum in Turkestan with the permission of the Emperor of Russia. Abdurakhman Khan and his entourage were initially settled in Samarkand. According to the leading lecturer of the Department of History of Uzbekistan, S.I.Sharipov, a great expert on the history of the city of Samarkand, the place where Afghan representatives, including Abdurakhman Khan, Ishaq Khan, Ismail Khan, lived and settled was called by the local population "bogi afghoni" (Afghan garden). At present and then, this territory belonged to the mahalla "Kavarzor". Currently, this place is called a "vegetable base". Questions about the exact place of residence of Afghans and their relatives in Samarkand require additional work with sources. By decision of the tsarist government, Abdurakhman Khan began to receive a government "pension" from the Turkestan General Governorate in the amount of 25,000 rubles per year. [1]

After the British invasion of 1878 and the conclusion of the "Gandamak" agreement (1879), which was enslaving for Afghanistan, as well as the death of Shir-Alikhan, tensions in the country increased. The tsarist government, using the situation in Afghanistan to strengthen its position,



according to the "Kaufman Collection", "initiated" the flight of Abdurrahman Khan to his homeland. Having initially strengthened his position in the north of Afghanistan, Abdurrahman Khan soon (in 1880) captured Kabul and was proclaimed emir of the state. [2]

Initially, Abdurrahman Khan began to vigorously strengthen his power. The main goal of the new emir was the formation of a centralized state. For this purpose, he decided to enter into an agreement with England, refusing to independently resolve foreign policy issues and entrusting their resolution to the British government. He also renounced his claims to the Afghan territories previously conquered by the British and annexed to the "East Indian" India, these were the areas of Peshowar, for which Britain subsidized him with an annual "pension" of 1 million 800 thousand rupees. In matters of relations with Russia, Abdurrahman Khan relied on the agreement of 1872-1873 between England and Russia, the essence of which, according to the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Russia N.K.Girs, was non-interference in the internal affairs of Afghanistan by Russia. [3]

Having reliable guarantees from the north, Abdurrahman Khan began to work energetically for the benefit of independent Afghanistan. Relying on the strong coercive apparatus created in the state machine: the army, police, courts and an extensive administrative and managerial apparatus, he brutally suppressed anti-government popular uprisings and feudal rebellions. [4]

Southern Turkestan has long been economically and politically attracted to the Emirate of Bukhara. From the middle of the 19th century, this territory was captured by Afghan feudal lords, and the Emir of Afghanistan, Dust Muhammad Khan, included them in his state. In the captured territories, the Afghan population was very small. Thus, according to the Turkestan News, in 1888, out of 640,000 Uzbeks, Turkmens and Tajiks, there were 11,750 Afghans, and they were warriors of the Afghan garrisons to suppress discontent among the population of southern Turkestan. [5]

Sources from this period provide numerous reports of popular unrest in Southern Turkestan, as a result of which emigration processes within the Turkestan Governorate General and the Emirate of Bukhara intensified. The tense situation in the country was used to his advantage by the grandson of the former emir Dost-Muhammad-khan, the ruler of the Char viloyat, Loenaib-Muhammad Ishaq-khan. The name Charvilayat refers to the territories of four districts: Mazar-i-Sharif, Sarykul, Shabirgan and Andkhoy. [6]

Abdurakhman Khan, knowing the separatist sentiments of his cousin Ishak Khan, repeatedly tried to deprive him of his post. And avoided the possibility of inviting Ishak Khan to the capital. In early 1888, it became known in Afghanistan that Abdurakhman Khan was removing his brother and sending his son, Habibullah Khan, who had recently been declared heir to the throne, instead. Ishak Khan began his fight against Abdurakhman Khan by appealing to Russia for support. For this purpose, in the spring of 1888, he sent his envoy, General Akhmed Khan, to the city of Kerki. After the "high" permission from the tsarist government, Akhmed Khan settled in the city of Samarkand. The representative of the imperial political agency in Bukhara, the experienced diplomat N.V.Charykov, learned about the internal situation in Afghanistan during a conversation with Akhmed Khan. He, analyzing the situation on June 26, 1888, recommended to the Turkestan Governor-General N.O.Rosenbach "to maintain peace and order on the border." [7]

Ishaq Khan was in constant contact with his envoy Akhmed Khan. At the insistence of his master, Akhmed Khan provided incorrect information that Ishaq Khan was supported by all the northern provinces, which he assured the acting military governor of the Samarkand region, Colonel



Pukalov. Colonialism, in connection with the events that were growing in the north of Afghanistan, took a "neutral position in view of the Afghan events." This was set out in a telegram from the Minister of Foreign Affairs N.K.Girs dated August 16, 1888, to the Turkestan Governor-General N.O.Rosenbach. [8]

The Ishaq Khan rebellion began on July 18, 1888 in Mazar-i-Sharif. The area of Kalya-Minor was chosen as the center of the rebellion. Ishaq Khan appointed his son Ismail Khan as the commander-in-chief of his army. By that time, regarding Ishaq Khan's message to the tsarist government about providing assistance with weapons and troops, on August 1, 1888, two telegrams arrived in Tashkent: one from the Minister of Foreign Affairs N.K.Girs, the second from the Minister of War P. Vannovsky, where they propose "to take a wait-and-see position for freedom of action in the future". [9]

The Turkestan Governorate-General, relying on instructions from St. Petersburg and taking into account the situation in relations with England, refused to support Ishaq Khan in an armed uprising against the central government of Afghanistan. The Ishaq Khan rebellion was considered at a special meeting in St. Petersburg on August 17, 1888, which proposed to the Turkestan Governor-General to strengthen the troops on the border with Afghanistan. Not supported by the people, the Ishaq Khan rebellion was defeated. After the defeat near Maimen, Ishaq Khan and his son Ismail Khan fled to the territory of the Turkestan Governor-General. [10] About two thousand soldiers and officers and members of their families arrived with him. On September 22, 1888, the Minister of War P.Vannovsky in his telegram to the Turkestan Governor-General proposed the possibility of providing Ishaq Khan with "asylum in Russia". Ishaq Khan, along with his family and confidants, was offered to settle in the city of Samarkand with an annual subsidy of 10 thousand rubles. Ishaq Khan gave an undertaking to the tsarist government to refrain from any political activity. The further fate of Ishaq Khan until his death was connected with Samarkand. Numerous archival materials of the chancery of the Turkestan Governorate General testify to the life of Ishaq Khan in Samarkand. [11]

According to the materials available at the moment, it should be noted that some of Ishaq Khan's confidants who arrived with him began to submit various petitions to leave for their homeland as early as mid-1889. Since they were political refugees who lived on the territory of Russia, they had to coordinate all issues related to their movement with the administration of the Turkestan Governorate General. For example, Ishaq Khan's authorized representative at the initial negotiations with representatives of the Turkestan Governorate General, Akhmet-alikhan, expressed a desire to move to Persia. Based on the petition of the acting military governor of the Samarkand region, Colonel M.P.Pukalov, dated July 7, 1889, the Governor-General allowed Akhmet Alikhan "unhindered passage to Bukhara, the Transcaspian region and Persia." For this purpose, the Samarkand District Treasury allocated 100 rubles. This document was registered in the chancery as No. 552 dated July 17, 1889. [12]

Also, some of the servants of Sirdar Ishaq Khan asked for reunification with the family. Thus, the servant of Sirdar Ishaq Khan, Muhammad Yusuf Muhammad Yakubov expressed a desire to bring his wife, who lived in the Kobodian bey of the Bukhara Khanate, and Ishaq Khan himself asked for this. His request was granted, and this event took place in May 1907. [13]

The two documents cited, dated 1889 and 1907, indicate that the Turkestan General Governorate satisfied the issues concerning the request for departure or reunification with relatives and loved



ones, even financing travel expenses. The issue of inheritance was also resolved with the permission of the military governor. Thus, Ishak Khan in his letter of April 26, 1895 asked for permission to Muhammad Kasimkhan Sultankhanov, who had Qazi documents for the inheritance from his relative Gulyam Hasan Muhammad Zamanov, who died in Kerki. Permission for the trip had to be obtained from the Political Agent in Bukhara. [14] This issue was also resolved positively. Ishak Khan's entourage was evidenced by a photograph taken in 1888 after his arrival in Samarkand. This photograph, taken by photographer Arshaulov, shows 9 people together with Ishak Khan himself. [15]

It was said above that the Tsarist government financed the maintenance of Ishak Khan with an annual pension of 10,000 rubles. This was the decision of the Turkestan Governorate General of February 21, 1889. [16] Based on this decision, the Samarkand Regional Military Governor was given an order, according to which one can learn the following: the Ministry of War asks the Ministry of Finance to allocate subsidies, after the decision is made, the Turkestan Governor-General is notified, then the Treasury Chamber adopts a resolution on the issuance of money, after which the Samarkand Regional Bank Administration allocates the appropriate amount. The money allocated to Ishak Khan is received by his authorized representative. At the first stages, such a person was Abdul Azim Khan Nazhmitdin-khanov. [17]

Judging by the documents of the allocation, the amount was paid monthly in the average amount of 833 rubles 33 kopecks, this situation was observed until the death of Ishak Khan, i.e. until 1909. The process of monthly payment of money to Ishak Khan was controlled by the Ministry of Finance and the State Bank, as well as the diplomatic section and the chancellery of the Turkestan Governor-General. [18] When examining the documents of the appropriation of the State Treasury Department from 1907, it became known that initially, Muhammad Sarvar Mirza Mukhsinov was Ishak Khan's trusted representative for receiving money. [19] On August 9, 1907, Ishak Khan wrote a letter to the military Governor of the Samarkand region, where he reported that the money was paid to him on time on the 20th of each month. But in the future, he asked to consider his son Muhammad Shahibkhan, who subsequently began to receive appropriations, as his representative for receiving subsidies. [20]

Judging by the documents, a number of controversial issues arose in the issue of receiving a "pension" for Ishak Khan and his entourage. Thus, the office of the Turkestan Governor-General on July 26, 1902 informed the military governor of the Samarkand region that Ishak Khan asked to increase the amount of subsidies received. He also asked for an annual subsidy to be assigned to his son, Ismail Khan. Petersburg rejected this request. [21] In my opinion, Ishak Khan's appeal reflected a kind of desire to find out the reaction of the Tsarist government, because in early October 1901, after the death of Abdurakhman Khan, his son Habibulla Khan ascended the Afghan throne. Ishak Khan's dreams did not come true. Therefore, he decided to test the reaction of the Turkestan Governorate-General by asking for an increase in the allocations. The answer certainly satisfied him, since the amount of the assignments in the amount of 10,000 rubles remained unchanged. Subsequently, in letters from Ishak Khan's sons, it is said that the above-mentioned amount suited their family quite well. [22]

The Samarkand military governorate facilitated the trip of Ishak Khan's son, Ismail Khan, for treatment in the mineral waters of the Caucasus (Pyatigorsk). Ismail Khan, under the supervision of the Siab governor of the Samarkand district, Mirza Yakub Kamil Aminov, made the trip in



1902. [23] The issue of financing the family was also raised after the death of Ishak Khan. This issue will be considered a little later. In 1902, Ishak Khan submitted a petition to the Turkestan Governor-General for land. The military governor of Samarkand V.N.Medinsky reported the following in his report of October 29, 1902: "... that in the Samarkand district and in the region in general, there is no land available for allocation to Ishak Khan, and the lands that can be irrigated should be preserved for the establishment of Russian settlements on them." The military governor informed Ishak Khan himself about this in August 1902. [24]

In 1907, the Turkestan Governor-General, in order to replenish the collections of the Turkestan Museum, wished to have a portrait of Ishak Khan. On February 14, 1907, the Chancellery Manager V.Mustafin asked the military governor of the Samarkand region S.D.Gesket to provide assistance. Already on February 23, the Chancellery Manager asked Ishak Khan to report if he had any items belonging to the former emirs of Afghanistan: Shir Ali Khan and Abdurrahman Khan. On March 12, 1907, the military governor of the Samarkand region, S.D.Gesket, informed the chancellery of the Turkestan Governorate General that "According to the words of serdar Ishak Khan, with whom I spoke personally, he did not have any items belonging to Shir Ali Khan and Abdurakhman Khan, in former times Abdurakhman Khan's dagger was lost as collateral by his son Ismail Khan." [25] It is also reported that Ishak Khan sent his portraits - one for the museum, the other for Governor General Grodekov. After some time, a decision was made to confiscate weapons from Ishak Khan's retinue. Of these, 63 sabers of Afghan manufacture were sent to St. Petersburg to Prince Oldenburgsky and Colonel Vernov. [26]

In early 1909, 69-year-old Ishaq Khan, the son of the former Emir of Afghanistan, Muhammad Azamkhan, died in Samarkand. He was buried in the Khoja-Ahror cemetery, where, by the way, Emir Habibullakhan, the son of Abdurakhmankhan, was also buried. According to Akhmadkhan, an employee of the Samarkand State Museum-Reserve, Oblakulov, many Afghan rulers wished to be buried next to such great holy preachers of the ideas of Islam as Khoja-Ahrori Vali and Makhdumi Azam. After the death of Ishaq Khan, some members of the family and retinue who had arrived earlier, with the permission of Emir Habibullakhan, began to move to their homeland. Even before the death of Ishaq Khan, some Afghans expressed a desire to return to Afghanistan. Thus, on December 1, 1908, the imperial political agency in Bukhara informed the diplomatic official at the Turkestan Governorate-General P.I.Lishchenko that the Afghan native Muhammad Hashim Khan, who served the Bukhara emir and was awarded the title of "eshig-agabashi", who lived in Dushanbe, asked for permission to move to his homeland. [27]

Subsequently, judging by the materials of the chancery of the Turkestan Governorate-General, the number of close supporters of Ishaq Khan returning to their homeland began to increase. Thus, on May 22, 1911, the headquarters of the Turkestan Military District reported in a report "On the return of Ishaq Khanites from Russian possessions to Afghanistan": "Recently, over 150 people have already left for Kabul in separate small groups." [28]

After his death, Ishak Khan's family began to receive an allowance of 3,000 rubles. In this regard, Ishak Khan's sons constantly appealed to the Turkestan Governor-General with a request to increase the subsidies, since 10 thousand rubles allocated during Ishak Khan's life as annual pensions were quite enough to support the family. But after Ishak Khan's death, the allocated amount did not satisfy the needs of their families, because the sons and their families lived separately and each of them would like to have a separate, increased amount. It should also be



noted that Ishak Khan's son, Muhammad Ibrahim Khan, who wrote on behalf of the family of 11 people, admits that they are completely incapable of personal labor, and also asks for the allocation of money. [29]

According to the military governor of the Samarkand region, on December 5, 1911, the Afghan emir Khabibullah gave the opportunity to all Ishaq Khanites to return, except for two sons of Ishaq Khan: the son of the Afghan princess, Ismail Khan, and the son of Ibrahim Khan, born from his wife Imir Khanum, were refused permission to return to their homeland. [30]

The refusal to Ismail Khan was most likely due to the fact that he was appointed commander-in-chief of Ishak Khan's army and conducted military operations against Abdurakhman Khan. And the reason for the refusal of the second son, Muhammad Ibrahim Khan, has not yet been clarified by me. As for the other members of Ishak Khan's family, mainly daughters, given the Muslim customs of that period of early marriage, many of them remained in Samarkand, and, according to the employee of the regional museum of the reserve, Oblakulov A., Ishak Khanov's descendants on the line of daughters still live in Samarkand. Having studied the sources about Ishak Khan, we should draw some conclusions:

1. For a long time, the tsarist government spent considerable collections on the maintenance of the family and entourage of Ishak Khan. Apparently, diplomatic officials, taking into account the pedigree of Ishaq Khan, that is, his belonging to the emirs of Afghanistan, considered it possible in the event of unforeseen circumstances to return to his homeland and ascend the throne, further strengthening his position in Afghanistan. Russian diplomacy had experience of such work, since Abdurakhman Khan was also under the protection of the tsar for more than ten years. Surely, Ishaq Khan was kept as a backup option, and therefore considerable collections were spent on the maintenance of his family.
2. Studying the documents of the chancery of the Turkestan Governorate General, you can learn about the policy of Emir Abdurakhman Khan in relation to Russia. In our opinion, this policy suited the colonialism, since Abdurakhman Khan did not create barriers to the penetration of goods from Russian manufactories, because the demand for these goods was very high in Afghanistan.
3. The question of family members and relatives of Ishaq Khan, their fates require additional study. Thus, Ishak Khan's people during their stay in Samarkand created family relations with the most influential people of Samarkand. Until now, some residents of the city and its environs say that they are Afghans by origin or have relatives.
4. It should not be understood that the rulers of Afghanistan would like to be buried only in Samarkand next to the great Islamic thinkers. There are many sacred Muslim places in Afghanistan itself. Therefore, it should be understood that these are mainly those who, due to the political situation, ended up in Samarkand and did not have the opportunity to return to their homeland.
5. The prominent historian N.A.Khalifin wrote a scientific article about the rebellion of Ishak Khan in 1955. After reading this article, the following question remains unclear: in 1869, Abdurrahman Khan and his cousin Ishak Khan moved to the borders of the Turkestan General Governorate. The fate of Ishak Khan from 1869 to 1880 remains unclear.
6. Until we find evidence of the labor activity of Ishak Khan's family members, it seems that the families existed only due to the money allocated by the tsarist government. By their own admission, they were not suited to work. Ishak Khan's sons, demanding a meeting with



government officials in Turkestan and the Bukhara Khanate, wanted to be treated as high-ranking government officials.

7. Having familiarized themselves with the activities of diplomatic agencies, we must conclude that they did the right thing when Ishak Khan's rebellion began, since military intervention would have aggravated the influence of colonialism in Turkestan. [31]

CONCLUSION

In general, this article is dedicated to a historical figure who is controversial in the history of Afghanistan, whose fate, due to subjective circumstances, was connected with Samarkand. The sources were materials from the chancellery of the Turkestan General Governorate.

REFERENCES

1. New History of Foreign Countries of the East. T-II. Publisher. Moscow University. 1958. P.: 437-439.
2. "Escape from Tashkent to Afghanistan" by A.A.Semenov Abdurakhman. "Kaufman Collection". M., 1910.
3. National Archives of Uzbekistan, Fund I-1, description-34, case-605, sheet 11.
4. Bobokhodjaev M. The Last Years of the Life and Reign of Abdurahmon Khan, Emir of Afghanistan. // in the collection: "Some Issues of the History of Turkestan in the Late 19th – early 20th Century". Tashkent. 2007. P.: 7.
5. Afghanistan and Turkestan. "Turkestan Newspaper". October 25, 1888, No. 12.
6. Essays on the New History of Afghanistan. T., "Mukhlis", 1966. P.: 6.
7. National Archives of Uzbekistan, Fund I-1, description-34, case-688, sheets 12-15.
8. National Archives of Uzbekistan, Fund I-1, description-34, case-690, sheet 34.
9. National Archives of Uzbekistan, Fund I-1, description-34, case-686, sheet 31.
10. National Archives of Uzbekistan, Fund I-1, description-34, case-686, sheet 153.
11. National Archives of Uzbekistan, Fund I-1, description-34, case-686, sheet 160.
12. National Archives of Uzbekistan, Fund I-18, description-1, case-9, sheets 1-6.
13. National Archives of Uzbekistan, Fund I-18, description-1, case-2271, sheets 20-21.
14. National Archives of Uzbekistan, Fund I-18, description-1, case-361, sheets 1-2.
15. National Archives of Uzbekistan, Fund I-2, description-1, case-260, sheets 21-21.
16. National Archives of Uzbekistan, Fund I-18, description-1, case-136, sheets 1.
17. National Archives of Uzbekistan, Fund I-18, description-1, case-136, sheets 1-5.
18. National Archives of Uzbekistan, Fund I-18, description-1, case-314, sheets 1-8.
19. National Archives of Uzbekistan, Fund I-18, description-1, case-2271, sheets 1-16.
20. National Archives of Uzbekistan, Fund I-18, description-1, case-2271, sheets 31, 34.
21. National Archives of Uzbekistan, Fond I-18, description-1, case-1567, sheets 13.
22. National Archives of Uzbekistan, Fond I-2, description-1, case-274, sheets 43.
23. National Archives of Uzbekistan, Fond I-18, description-1, case-1567, sheets 1-6.
24. National Archives of Uzbekistan, Fond I-18, description-1, case-1567, sheet 23.
25. National Archives of Uzbekistan, Fond I-18, description-1, case-2271, sheets 8-9, 11.
26. National Archives of Uzbekistan, Fond I-18, description-1, case-2271, sheets 18-19.
27. National Archives of Uzbekistan, Fond I-2, description-2, case-351, sheets 1-4.



28. National Archives of Uzbekistan, Fond I-2, description-1, case-175, sheets 13-14.
29. National Archives of Uzbekistan, Fond I-2, description-1, case-274, sheets 19-20.
30. National Archives of Uzbekistan, Fond I-2, description-1, case-274, sheets 27-28.
31. N.A.Khalfin. The Uprising of Ishaq Khan and the Position of Russian Colonialism in Southern Turkestan. 1888 – Notes of SAGU, History of the Countries of the East, New Series, Vol. 68, Oriental Studies, Vol. 9, Tashkent, 1955, P.: 107-126.

