

## MARCH OF ARAB TROOPS TO FERGANA DURING THE REIGN OF THE GOVERNOR OF KHUROSAN NASR IBN SAYYOR

Mahmudov Erkinjon Asqaraliyevich

Senior Lecturer

Fergana State University

### Abstract:

In the article, for the first time, based on an analysis of historical sources and literature, political processes in the Fergana Valley during the Arab invasion are investigated.

**Keywords:** Fergana, Arab khalifat, Arab invasion, coalition, Nasr ibn Sayyor, Sharik, Nilan, Alutar, Arslan tarkhan, vice, vassal, battle of Talas, Nothern kingdom, Southern kingdom.

### Introduction

Nasr ibn Sayyor ibn Rofi' ibn Harriy ibn Rabi'a al-Kinani al-Laysiy (131/748 – died 49) was a prominent arab military commander and major statesman, Chief of the mudar tribe of Arabs in Khorasan; participated in Qutayba ibn Muslim's military campaigns in Movarounnahr, where he gained much wealth. Hisham ibn' Abd al-Malik (105 – 125/724 – 743 ruled in years), he was appointed chief of the hiroj devonian, and governor of Samarkand in 110/728-29. 121 – 131/738 – 748 in the years, he first became the governor of Balkh, then the governor of all Khuroson, lived in the city of Marv. During his reign, the Abbasid movement led by Abu Muslim peaked and won in Khurosan. After the appointment of Khuroson as viceroy of Nasr ibn Sayyor, his initial job was to re-subjugate the practically independent territories of Movarounnahr. Because Fergana, the eastern border of the caliphate, did not have a strong Islamic position, unlike other areas of Movarounnahr. An analysis of historical sources suggests that even during the period from the time of the Arabs' entry into Fergana to the end of the 8th century, the rulers of Fergana did not convert to Islam [10: 7; 2: 26]. The failure of the Fergana rulers to convert to Islam is a sign that the influence of the Arabs was not high here. Therefore, when Nasr ibn Sayyor consolidated his position in Khurosan, he would organize a military march to the Choch and Fergana areas. According to Ibn al-Asir, Nasr ibn Sayyor attacks the Fergana and captures thousands of ferganians [8: 198]. But this was not the main march of Nasr ibn Sayyor to Fergana. Because Nasr was focusing on the anti-Arab forces in Choch. It is possible that Nasr went back by arranging an invasion march into the frontier regions of Fergana.

The reason is that the sources do not mention that Nasr clashed with the ruler of Fergana or his successor during his attack [8: 199]. Of particular importance is Nasr's next March to Fergana, in which the arab armies reach the city of Quwa. Several battles with Nilan (Balaz), the successor of the ruler of Fergana, are won by the Arabs. The ferganians offer to make a truce to Nasr. In response, Nasr sends them a peace truce. Sources such as the "History Tabari" and the "Al-Kamil fit-History" describe in detail Nasr's March to Fergana. In particular, the ferganians, anticipating the arrival of Nasr, burned their horses and food. Nasr marched against the crown Prince of Fergana and besieged him in a fortress. The crown prince leaves the Muslims in a suddenly attacks and captures the animals. Nasr then dispatched Temim's sons with a group of warriors under



Muhammad al-Musanna. The Fergana had preyed on the horses of the Muslims. After the Muslims recovered some of their missed horses, they attacked and defeated the ferganians. The Arabs execute the peasant who helped the successor of the ruler of Fergana [8: 199]. Together with the son of the peasant, some people are captured. Nasr orders the farmer's son to be executed as well. Later Sulayman b. Sulu is sent to the governor of Fergana to conclude a truce with the letter. The governor of Fergana sent Solomon to the place where the treasure was placed so that he could see the treasures.

The governor of Fergana, expressing his acceptance of the letter of Nasr sent through Suleiman about the proposal to conclude a truce, sends his mother, who is his closest assistant, together with Suleiman. When the Queen (woman) comes to Nasr, Nasr talks to her [8: 200]. It is noteworthy that Nilan is not mentioned by the muarrichs as the new ruler, but simply writes that he is the crown Prince. So, during this march of Nasr, we can conclude that Alutar, the ruler of Fergana, died and Nilan did not have time to ascend the throne.

The two walks above are cited in sources as two stages of a single walk. In the first stage, Nasr returns from the borders of Fergana, capturing thousands of people. On the second march, the Arabs invade Fergana and defeat its ruler. To increase the Arab position in the valley, 10,000 Arabs would be deployed along the Valley [3: 105]. In 740/741, however, Nasr again marched to Fergana [8: 211]. But the details of this walk are not recorded in historical sources. After Nasr ibn Sayyur's campaigns to Fergana, Nilan is weakened and the Arslon tarkhan comes to power [1: 490].

Records of Nilan do not appear in historical sources until after 739. It was from 739 that the first references to the Arslon tarkhan appear in Chinese sources [6: 86]. Chinese sources mention the Arslon tarkhan in the form of "Asilan Dagan" [2: 25; 6: 86]. The new ruler of Fergana, the Arslon tarkhan, relied on the Tan empire in his foreign policy. It is known that the Talas Valley, located north of Fergana, was the administrative center of the western regions of the Turkish Khaganate, from where the Turks crossed the Chotqol mountains and attacked the Valley. The Arslon tarkhan marched to Talos in 739 in order to ensure the safety of his state [2: 26]. At the same time, China was also trying to subjugate the area. As a result, with the support of the Chinese garrison in Qoshgar, the Arslon tarkhan defeats Tuahuyeisian, the governor of Talos. This event is also confirmed by Chinese sources. "[Emperor] Shyuanzung (712-756 sitting on the throne, named Li Lungji) was granted the title of Fenghua-Wang ("culture-seeking ruler") in the 27th year of the Kayyuan era [739] because of his cooperation [with Tang troops] to obey Tuahuyeisian" [6: 86]. During the time of the Arslon tarkhan, in the 3rd year of the Tianbao era (744), the Chinese named this state [Fergana] Ningyuan-"quiet in the distance" [6: 86]. The above points from Chinese sources confirm that the ruler of Fergana always sought close contact with China and an alliance with the Tan empire in the fight against the Arabs. As evidence of this, we can see that the Arslon tarkhan married the Chinese Queen (Heyi), whose successor Zhungje sent his son Zhuyeyu to China, asking the emperor to accept him in court service "to study Chinese customs" [2: 25].

The political situation is complicated by the fact that in 749-750 in Movarounnahr caused the crisis of the Ummahites. This resulted in various popular uprisings. One such uprising was an uprising led by Sharik. This revolt begins in 131 ad 748/749 ad in Fergana [4: 268]. Their main idea was considered to support the rise to power of the descendants of Abu Talib. It is possible that during the ummahid rule, supporters of Abu Talib's descendants escaped their persecution



and found political asylum in various outlying lands, including Fergana. The Sharik appeals to the people with the above requirement. The result is a large army jam around him [4: 268]. Abu Muslim sends an army against Sharik under Ziyad bin Salih. When Ziyad bin Salih reaches the shores of Amudarya, bukharkhudot comes to his aid. Together they defeat Sharik and execute him and many of his supporters. Sharik's head is sent to Abu Muslim [4: 269]. When it comes to the middle of the 8th century, relations between Fergana ikhshid and the ruler of Shosh are broken [7: 21]. Fergana ikhshid seeks help from the Chinese. In response, the Tan Empire sent a large army as aid. The Chinese army invaded Tashkent with the Fergana [7: 21], plundered the chochans' possessions and sent the local ruler captive to the Chinese capital Chan'an. There, the Choch ruler was executed. The Prince of Tashkent seeks help from Abu Muslim, the viceroy of Khorasan against the allies. The result is the "battle of Talos", which lasted five days, described in the scientific literature as a major battle of the early Middle Ages. During the course of the battle, the Qarluq Turks in the Tang army entered the path of betrayal and attacked the Chinese army together with the Arabs. Gao Shanfa, the commander of Tan's forces, was completely defeated. A large part of the Chinese soldiers were killed and only a few survived. With the help of the right-wing commander Li Siyye, Gao Shanfa himself managed to escape. The retreat route was narrow and the retreat was difficult. It seems that the Fergana troops were located in the rear of the Allied troops and therefore blocked the paths of the retreating Chinese soldiers. Li Siye advanced to the front line and ordered the Chinese soldiers who survived the battle to kill the Fergana soldiers.

As a result, all of the Persian soldiers who were their allies were killed. Historical sources do not cite who commanded the ferganians in this battle. Considering that the Arslon tarkhan married the Chinese Queen (Heyi) after 744 ad [6: 86], we can assume that the Arslon tarkhan commanded the ferganians at the battle of Talos. It is not clear how many soldiers from both sides were involved in the great five-day standoff on the Talos river in 751. But the fact that the Tan soldiers who took part in the battle themselves were 70 thousand is recorded in the literature [9: 26]. However, it can be assumed that the total number of troops is more than 100,000 when considering the Fergana army and qarluqs who participated in the battle of Talos standing on the side of the Tan Empire. It is much closer to the fact that the number of Arab soldiers is also around 100 thousand. Because, the Arabs did not achieve a clear advantage during the battle, and the defection of the Qarluq Turks to the Arab side changed the ratio of forces. As a result, 50,000 Chinese troops were killed, while 20,000 were captured [5: 172].

In conclusion, our ancestors fought for a long time against the arab conquerors in the VIII centuries. The destruction of Suyob, the capital of the Turkish Khaganate, in 748, as well as the torsion of Chinese troops in Talos in 751, led to a shift in the political situation in favor of the Arabs. They also tried to strengthen their position in the Fergana Valley. Under caliph Mansur, the ruler of Fergana was forced to live in Qoshgarh and pay tribute to the Arabs. However, for a long time, the ferganians refused to convert to Islam, the main Arab demand. Nevertheless, Islam gradually spread here, and Sharia law was decided.

## References:

1. Анарбаев А. Ахсикат – столица древний Ферганы. – Ташкент: Тафаккур, 2013. – 535 с.
2. Бернштам А.Н. Древняя Фергана (Научно-популярный очерк). – Ташкент: Изд. АН УзССР, 1951. – 45 с.



3. Кадырова Т. Из истории крестьянских движений в Мавераннахре и Хорасане в VIII – начале IX в. – Ташкент: Фан, 1965. – 238 с.
4. Саид Абдулхай бин Заҳҳок бин Маҳмуд. Тарихи Гардизи. Дунёи китоб. Бе тасхих ва мақобала Абдулхай Ҳабибий. Чопи аввал. – Техрон, 1343х. – 733 с.
5. Хўжаев А. Буюк Ипак Йўли. – Тошкент: Ўзбекистон миллий энциклопедияси нашр., 2007.–279 б.
6. Хўжаев А. Фарғона тарихига оид маълумотлар (Қадимий ва илк ўрта аср Хитой манбаларидан таржималар ва уларга шарҳлар). – Фарғона: Фарғона нашриёти, 2013.–288 б.
7. Ибн ал-Асир. Ал-Камил фи-т-Таърих (Полный свод истории) // Перевод с арабского языка, примечания и комментарии П.Г.Булгакова. Дополнения к переводу, примечания и комментарии, введение и указатели Ш.С.Камолиддина. – Ташкент:Узбекистан,2006.–559 с.
8. Ibnu'l Esir. Islam tarihi. El Kamil Fi't Tarih Tercumesi. / Ceviren Yunus Apaydin. – Cilt 5. – Istanbul: Turkiyat matbaacilik ve nesriyat, 1986. – 492 с.
9. Nesimi Y. İlk türk – islam devletleri tarihi. – Ankara, 1992. – 146 с.
10. The History of al-Tabari. / Translated by Carole Hillenbrand. – Vol. 26. – New York: State University of New York Press, 1989. – 300 p.

