

THE DIVISION OF THE AMIRATES INTO GROUPS BEFORE TUG'LUQ TEMUR KHAN'S CAMPAIGN TO MOVAROUNNAHR AND THE BEGINNING OF AMIR HUSAYN'S POLITICAL ACTIVITY (ANALYSIS OF SOURCES)

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Abstract

In this article highlights of the division of the amirates into groups before Tug'luq Temur Khan's campaign to Movarounnahr and the beginning of Amir Husayn's political activity (analysis of sources).

Keywords: Amirate, Movarounnahr, political activity, historical sources.

Introduction

By the mid-14th century, internal conflicts and attacks by neighboring nomadic tribes had left Movarounnahr vulnerable. These events are reflected in the sources written by historians of the time. Among them are Sharafuddin Ali Yazdi's *Zafarnama*, Nizomiddin Shami's *Zafarnama*, Mirza Khaydar's *Tarikh-i Rashidi*, Muiniddin Natanziy's *Muntahab-ut-Tawarikh-i Muiniy*, Fasih Hovayfi's *Mujmali Fasihiy*, and Giyosiddin Khondamir's *Habib-us-Siyar fi Akhbori Afradi Bashari*, where these events are presented with some variations. In the 50s and 60s of the 14th century, following the death of Amir Qazaghan, political instability in Movarounnahr created a favorable situation for the Mongols to invade this region. The Mongol invasion directly affected the political, social, economic, and cultural life of the local population, which we can understand by analyzing events and incidents up to 1370 as described in historical sources.

The political instability in Movarounnahr, characterized by internal conflicts among the amirs and lords, caught the attention of Tughluk Temur Khan, the Mongol ruler of Mongolia, who sought to take advantage of this favorable situation. In 1360, he began his invasion of Movarounnahr with a large army. As mentioned earlier, 1360 marked the beginning of Tughluk Temur Khan's invasion under the pretext of re-establishing the Chaghatay Khanate, which had split into two parts through the northeastern territories, and uniting Movarounnahr and Mongolia. Tughluk Temur, who was from the Chaghatay line, invaded Movarounnahr. The governor of the large region of Khujand, Amir Boyazid Jaloyir, surrendered without a fight to the powerful enemy. Here, it is worth analyzing why he surrendered without resistance, the reasons for this occurrence, and what goals Boyazid Jaloyir was pursuing. Although the events in the sources are described in a similar way, there are differences worth noting. Nizomiddin Shami describes the march of Tughluk Temur as follows: "He reached Chonak Buluq, two stages away from Samarkand. After holding a council with his amirs and state officials, he ordered Toq Temur from the Kerait tribe, Amir Hoji Erkuni, and Amir Bekijak to go toward Movarounnahr and ordered them to submit to Boyazid Jaloyir. The amirs, accepting the khan's order, set out on their way. When they reached the border of Khujand, Amir Boyazid Jaloyir joined them with his full army and proceeded toward Shahrisabz."



Sharafuddin Ali Yazdi elaborates on this event in his *Zafarnama*: “Tughluk Temur Khan, who was the son of Emil Khoja, and Emil Khoja, the son of Duvakhon, and this Duvakhon was from the Chaghatay dynasty, was a king in the Jeta region. Gathering his people, in the month of Rabi al-Sani (January, 1360), hearing about the turmoil in the Movarounnahr region, he decided to invade Movarounnahr. The thirty-three years that followed saw eight khans rule the Chaghatay Khanate. Tughluk Temur reached Chonak Buloq near the Khujand area, crossing the plains of Tashkent. There, he consulted with his amirs. It was decided that Ulugh Temur, who belonged to the Kerait tribe, and Hojibek, and Bekkichik, would lead their armies under the khan’s orders. Crossing the border of Khujand, Boyazid Jaloyir and his people joined them, and together they advanced toward Kesh region.”

The information presented by Muiniddin Natanzi also repeats some of the details mentioned earlier, but there are important points concerning the actions of local lords that shed light on the situation: “The fire of war raged high, and the discord among mankind, instigated by the devils, caused strife among the people, disrupting the harmony of the world. The Turkish amirs, in fear of the sword and arrow, abandoned Movarounnahr and fled to Mongolia. All the Mongols, united, began urging King Tughluk Temur to conquer Movarounnahr. He brought numerous armies to the region, advancing without fear and reaching Humoyun's headquarters, eventually establishing his rule at Chonak Buloq, located in the heart of Movarounnahr. Amir Boyazid Jaloyir faced the collapse of his state and, under duress, accompanied by the Mangli amirs—Amir Tughluk Temur, Amir Hoji Erkonut, and Amir Bekichak—moved toward Shahrisabz and Samarkand.”

B. Usmonov, who researched the information from these sources, evaluates the position of Boyazid Jaloyir, the governor of Khujand, as follows: “The analysis of the sources allows for the following considerations. After crossing the Syr Darya, the three amirs sent by Tughluk Temur Khan, Boyazid Jaloyir joined the Mongol army. This shows that he did not participate in the council at Chonak Buloq. Boyazid Jaloyir acted with great caution; although he expressed his willingness to submit to Tughluk Temur Khan, he waited in Khujand, hoping to see how the amirs of Movarounnahr would act. It was clear that he could not resist the enemy on his own. Once it became evident that no assistance would come from the amirs of Movarounnahr, and the invaders crossed the Syr Darya and neared Khujand, Boyazid Jaloyir joined them with his army. Therefore, Boyazid Jaloyir sent an envoy to Tughluk Temur, signaling his readiness to surrender to him at Chonak Buloq, while simultaneously waiting in Khujand for help from the amirs of Movarounnahr. When the Mongol army appeared at the gates of Khujand, he joined the invaders. Tughluk Temur, to gain the trust of the other amirs of Movarounnahr and sway them to his side, appointed Amir Boyazid as the leader of his army, according to Yazdi and Natanzi, and as the head of the Mangli amirs, according to Shami.”

In addition to the above information, it can be said that the governor of Khujand, unable to resist the large Mongol army, managed to maintain his power in the region by surrendering to them. In fact, the amirs of Movarounnahr, unable to unite against the external enemy, left the governor of the neighboring region with no other choice. By entering into negotiations with the strong enemy and submitting to them, Boyazid Jaloyir was able to retain the control of Khujand under his leadership. This was a notable achievement in preserving his rule.

When Tughluk Temur Khan stopped at the camp established at Chonak Buloq, his army, along with Boyazid Jaloyir, the governor of Khujand, headed towards the center of Movarounnahr. Amir



Bayon Suldus, who ruled in Samarkand, decided to abandon the capital and retreat to the Hisar region, where his main estate was located. One of the leaders of the Yasavurids, who held considerable influence in Movarounnahr and governed the Zarafshan Valley, Tashkent, and Saripul, Hoji Muhammad Yasavuri, followed Boyazid Jaloyir's example and joined the Mongol army. Initially, the governors of Kesh and Qarshi, Hoji Barlos, were determined to fight against the Mongols, but based on the analysis of the above events, he decided to retreat towards Khorasan.

Amir Temur, who was part of Hoji Barlos's army and served him, with the permission of his leader, returned from the banks of the Amu Darya. He aimed to defend the region by gathering as many troops as possible and through diplomatic negotiations, accepted the Mongol rule, but intended to keep Kesh under the control of the Barlos tribe. As a result of the negotiations, the Mongol commanders, satisfied with the gifts and payments, decided not to plunder the Qarshi and Kesh regions, and Amir Temur agreed to submit to Mongol Khan Tughluk Temur.

As a result, by this time, Tughluk Temur had established his rule over the regions of Tashkent, Khujand, Jizzakh, O'ratepa, Samarkand, and Kesh. The Mongols continued their campaign with the aim of conquering all of Movarounnahr. However, unexpectedly, due to internal disputes among the Mongol commanders, Tughluk Temur returned to his homeland with his army. This gave the local amirs the opportunity to restore their power in the regions that the Mongols had abandoned.

From the historical processes outlined above, it is clear that during the campaign of Tughluk Temur Khan in 1360, the amirs of Movarounnahr were divided into three groups.

In the first group, we can include the regional governors who, upon the arrival of the Mongol army, saw it necessary to submit and recognize the rule of Mongol Khan Tughluk Temur. They aimed to retain control over their territories by accepting Mongol authority. For the local amirs of Movarounnahr, who were not united against the external enemy, this was the most suitable course of action. This group included Amir Boyazid Jaloyir, Amir Hoji Muhammad Yasavuri, Barlos leader Amir Temur, and others.

The second group consisted of those amirs who, instead of fighting against the Mongol army, abandoned their territories. However, this group can be further divided into two subgroups. One subgroup consisted of those amirs who retreated to the southern regions of Movarounnahr, which had not yet been reached by the Mongol forces. These amirs, along with the forces they gathered in these areas, may have been preparing to fight the Mongols. For example, Amir Bayon Suldus abandoned Samarkand and retreated to the Hisar region. The second subgroup included amirs who, fearing the Mongol invasion, fled Movarounnahr entirely. Amir Hoji Barlos, the governor of Kesh and Qarshi, was one of these.

The third group comprised the governors of the southern regions of Movarounnahr, where the Mongol army had not yet reached. These governors did not provide any assistance to the amirs in the northern and central parts of Movarounnahr who were fighting the Mongols. While these amirs were not attacked due to internal conflicts within the Mongol army, it is still possible that they could have joined one of the other two groups.

A brief summary of the above can be provided here. Although the Mongol campaign in Movarounnahr in 1360, led by Mongol Khan Tughluk Temur, was officially presented as an effort to re-establish the Chagatayid ulus, it was actually another plundering raid by the nomadic Mongol



tribes. The fragmentation of Movarounnahr into small principalities and the escalation of infighting among them created favorable conditions for the nomads to carry out further raids. The return of Tughluk Temur Khan to Mongolia sparked a new wave of internal conflicts in Movarounnahr. According to B. Usmonov, "The events of the summer and autumn of 1360 led to the strengthening of Amir Boyazid Jaloyir's position in Movarounnahr." This was particularly relevant to the central and northern parts of Movarounnahr. In the south, however, Amir Husayn emerged as the main contender for power. Taking advantage of the situation, he opposed Amir Bayon Suldus, who had seized power from his uncle, Amir Abdullah. The governor of Samarkand, Bayon Suldus, fearing the Mongol forces of Tughluk Temur Khan, fled to Hisar. Amir Husayn, with the help of Khizr Yasavuri and Amir Temur, defeated his rival. According to Sharafiddin Ali Yazdi, Amir Husayn also called on Boyazid Jaloyir to join this campaign. However, based on an agreement between the three amirs—Boyazid Jaloyir, Khizr Yasavuri, and Amir Temur—Boyazid Jaloyir was tasked with keeping the governor of Khujand informed about the political situation in Mongolia. It is also possible that Boyazid Jaloyir did not wish to assist Amir Husayn, as he considered himself a claimant to the throne of Movarounnahr. After the victory over Bayon Suldus, Amir Husayn was able to claim the throne of Movarounnahr. Yazdi described this as "the visible decline of the state in Husayn's rule," while Natanzi stated, "They placed Amir Husayn on the throne of the amirate." This indicates that it was at this point that Amir Husayn began his reign as the ruler of Movarounnahr. However, his rule was primarily acknowledged in the southern part of Movarounnahr, while in the central and northeastern regions, Amir Boyazid Jaloyir was striving to increase his influence.

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