

## Economic life in Khorezm in the 18th - 19th centuries: on the example of the rule of the Kungirats

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**ANNOTATION** In the 18th - 19th centuries, economic life in Khorezm developed further. During this period, the internal and external trade relations of the Khiva Khanate intensified, and diplomatic relations with many countries began to be established. This article examines the development of economic life in the Khiva Khanate during the period of the Kungirats.

**Keywords:** economic life, Kungirats, Ogahiy, “Riyaz ud-dawla”, Munis, internal and external trade, monetary reform.

**Introduction.** By the beginning of the 19th century, political power in the Khiva Khanate passed into the hands of a new dynasty, the Uzbek Kungirat dynasty. Eltuzar (1804-1806), the grandson of Muhammadamin Inaq, a representative of this dynasty, declared himself Khan of Khiva and founded a new dynastic power in Khorezm. The rule of this dynasty lasted until February 2, 1920.

**Literature analysis.** The socio-political processes during the reign of the representatives of the Kungirat dynasty are reflected in historical sources of that period, in particular, in the historical works of representatives of the Khorezm genealogical historiography school Munis and Ogahiy [1], Bayaniy [2], Tabibiy [3], Laffasiy [4], Bobojon Tarroh [5], A. Boltaev [6], P. Yusupov [7] and others, as well as in the memoirs and historical information of Russian orientalists N. Muravyov [8], P.P. Ivanov [9], N.I. Veselovsky [10], M.I. Ivanin [11], L. Sobolev [12], L.F. Kostenko [13], V. Grishfeld and M.N. Galkin [14], V. Lobachevsky [15] and the American journalist McGahan [16].

The seizure of power by representatives of the Kungirat clan actually began in 1770. Muhammadamin (Madamin in the Khorezm dialect) is considered one of the first khans of the Kungirat dynasty to interfere in power politics. The origin of these pseudo-khans is unclear, they were mainly elected from among the Kazakh sultans who considered themselves descendants of Genghis Khan.

Before Muhammadamin, who came from among the local Khorezm landowners, seized the state, the Turkmen landowners, taking advantage of the internal struggles here, fought to dominate the Khiva Khanate and take control of the state, as a result of which the country was destroyed, and the people were left in an unbearably difficult situation, suffering from hunger and nakedness. This is indicated by the information provided by Munis in his work *Firdaws ul-Iqbal*: "Until Muhammad Amin joined the army, they fought 53 campaigns against the Yavmud army in one year [1]." This indicates the continuous wars waged by the Yavmud (Turkmen) living in the territory of the khanate against the Khan of Khiva.

Avazbiy Inaq also continued the work of his father Muhammadamin during his reign (1790–1804), ruling the country on behalf of the khans. After the Inaqs in Khiva considered themselves independent and had the opportunity to pass the throne from generation to generation, the son of Avaz Inaq, Eltuzar (1804–1806), deposed the false Abulgozi V, a descendant of Genghis Khan who had no rights in the khanate and was a puppet in the hands of the Inaqs, and declared himself khan on 13 Sha'ban 1218/29 (1804). From this period, the period of official and de facto rule of the representatives of the Kungur dynasty began. Russian orientalist P.P. Ivanov writes about the name of this dynasty as the Kungirats: "Muhammadamin, who founded this dynasty, was from the Kungirat clan of the Uzbeks" [9, p. 9].

After Eltuzar took the throne, he also fought against the Bukhara Emirate, which was interfering in the affairs of the Khiva Khanate. The battle between the two khanates in 1806 ended with the defeat of the Khiva soldiers

and the death of Eltuzar (he drowned). After that, one of the prominent representatives of this dynasty, Eltuzar's brother Muhammad Rahim I (1806-1825), ascended the Khiva throne.

Muhammad Rahimkhan I tried to establish a centralized state in the country, and carried out important reforms in the administrative administration, financial and monetary circulation, and tax system of the khanate. Muhammad Rahimkhan I introduced a new order in the administrative administration of the khanate, abolished the division of the khanate territory into counties, and divided the country administratively into 15 khokimiyats. The regional khokimiyats, in turn, were divided into mosques - tribes. There were a total of 1578 mosques-tribes in the khanate, and this reform put an end to the arbitrariness of the bekliks who advocated independent khokimiyats.

Muhammad Rahimkhan I also did exemplary work in regulating monetary circulation in the country. The reform carried out by Muhammad Rahimkhan I was aimed at improving the economy, and a special mint was also established in the Old Ark.

After the death of Muhammad Rahimkhan, his son Allahqulikhan (1825-1842) ascended the throne. During this period, there were many wars between them. Allahqulikhan inherited from his father a rich treasury and a country with great influence on neighboring states. To preserve this inheritance, Allahqulikhan led armies against neighboring states several times. Despite the conclusion of peace, he marched on Bukhara 7 times and took back several villages. Under the pretext of a campaign, he also marched on Khorasan every year.

Historical information about the relations between Russia and Khiva and between Khiva and England during the reign of Alloqli Khan is given. This can also be seen in the information in the works of Ogahiy.

In 1256 (1840-1841), due to the fact that about a thousand Russian prisoners were kept in the hands of the Khan of Khiva, the Khiva merchants sent to Russia were also detained for a certain time without being returned to their homeland. If the Russian prisoners were not released, the Khorezm caravan might not return either. It was stated that after the prisoners reached Russia, the Khorezm caravans would be allowed to return [17].

According to N. Zalesov [18, p. 45] and N. I. Veselovsky [19, p. 315], when the issue of prisoners could not be resolved, an order was given in 1836 to detain persons belonging to the Khiva Khanate who were on Russian territory. On behalf of the Russian government, Perovsky sent a letter to the Khan of Khiva demanding the return of Russian prisoners to their homeland, the cessation of plundering of Russian lands, and the creation of conditions for Russian merchants similar to those in Russia. However, this request was not fulfilled. Relations between Khiva and Russia began to deteriorate. The main task of those who came to Khiva after Nikiforov, led by G.I. Danilevsky, was to improve relations between the Khiva Khanate and Russia and to penetrate the internal politics of the Khanate.

It is known that the British colonial East India Company sent its spies to Central Asia. Abbot arrived in Khiva in 1843. He proposed an alliance against Russia and promised to send troops to fight the Russian troops. Valuable information on this is provided in the works of the Khiva historians Ogahi and Bayani. Ogahi writes about Abbot's arrival in Khiva in his work "Riyaz ud-Dawla": "On the fifteenth of the month of Dhu-l-Qada in the year 1255/1839-1840, the English ambassador, the horseman Hindustandin Haibat [Abbat], arrived and was honored with the throne" [17]. If we dwell on the information in Bayani's works on this, Abbot Khan said to Allahguli: "The Russians ... will take your province in another fifty years. If you wish, your province will remain in your hands forever, and no one will be able to challenge it, but give it to us by writing it down. Let the word that Khorezm has become an English country spread, and then you will be free from this danger. Our words to you are not perhaps from a sense of lust, but rather from friendship, our intention is to open the Indian route to Russia. You will benefit from us, and not at all harm, when you write down the treaty, write it down as you wish, and we will accept it" [2, p. 301]. But these attempts of the Abbot were unsuccessful. Khan of Khiva, Allahguli, categorically rejected his proposals and replied: "Well, he has not yet invaded us. Some are here for fifty years, some are not. We will not give up our country today, fearing what will happen in fifty years. Let those who come after us do whatever they want to do" [2, p.302].

One of the good deeds of Khan Allahqulikhan of Khiva was the construction of the Deshon fortress wall in 1842 in order to maintain peace in the khanate, strengthen his power and ensure its security. Ogahiy writes about the construction of the fortress as follows: "In the year 1250 (1842), the order of the ruler of the paradise, the king of the khanate, was given to build a fortress with a high wall and a wide base (a fortress with a high wall and a wide base) around the perimeter of the Khiva fortress" [17].

The reason for the construction of this fortress is written by Russian historians of the 19th century as a cover for their colonial policy of invasion and protection from the frequent attacks of the Turkmen Yavmids. Since this fortress surrounded the previous fortress from the outside, the old fortress remained inside and was called "Ichon-Qala" in the Khiva dialect. The city between the two fortress walls was called "Deshon-Qala" [13] (outer fortress).

Khan of Khiva, who ruled for 18 years, fell ill during a campaign against the city of Chorjoi and died in 1842. He was survived by 7 sons. He was buried next to the Pahlovon Mahmud mausoleum, which had been prepared during his lifetime. After him, Rahim-Qala (1842-1846) came to the Khiva throne. During Rahim-Qala's reign, campaigns were also organized against neighboring states. For example, in 1259/1843-1844, a campaign was launched against Bukhara. After the breakdown of relations with Amir Nasrullah, a special force was prepared to plunder the lands of Bukhara. They regularly attacked the lands of Bukhara for a certain period of time [24]. Historical works written in Khorezm in the 19th century also contain materials on diplomatic relations with the Kokand Khanate. For example, in 1259/1843, "on Wednesday, the fourteenth of the month of Dhu-l-Qada, Rahimquli Khokand sent the ambassador of Qarabash Dadkhoh to Bobobek with the embassy code and a letter of love to the Khokand region" [19, p. 404]. Or "on Friday, the nineteenth of the month of Jumadi-l-Awwal in 1260 1844, the ambassadors who went to Khokand, namely Bobobek and Yakshimurodbek, brought the envoy of the ruler of this region, Qarabash Dadkhoh, and the gifts he had sent to Khiva" [2, p. 7]. Relations between the Bukhara Emirate and the Khiva Khanate are also mentioned in the works of Ogahiy. If we turn to Russian-Khiva relations during this period, the Russian conditions that Alloquli Khan rejected were accepted by Rakhimguli Khan. According to the conditions, the Khiva Khanate had to closely assist Russia in trade, protect Russian merchants, collect duties from them along with the local population, and agree to be a permanent representative of the Russian state in the khanate. Several conditions, including the death penalty for Khiva residents who tried to collect taxes from the Kyrgyz, who were subordinate to Russia on the Syrdarya River, were accepted and approved by Rakhimguli Khan on December 27, 1842.

After the death of Rahimqulikhan, Muhammadamin (Madaminkhan in Khorezm dialect) ascended to the top of the state in 1845, who died in 1855 during a campaign against the Turkmens, and the army fleeing from Sarakhs elevated Abdullah to khan (May 1855). However, he was killed by the Turkmens shortly after, six months later, in a war with the Yavmuds, and Kutlug Murad (Kutlimurad in Khorezm dialect July 1855) ascended the throne of the Khanate in Khiva.

After the assassination of Kutlug Murad, Sayid Muhammad ascended the khanate in 1856-1865, and after his death, his son Muhammad Rahim II Feruz ascended the throne in 1865. One of the longest-ruling khans of the Khiva Khanate was Sayid Muhammad Rahimkhan II, who ruled the khanate for 47 years and 15 days. His real name was Bobojon Tora, Feruz was born in 1845 on the day of Navruz in the family of the Khorezm Khan Sayid Muhammadkhan. After the death of his father, Bobojon Tora ascended the throne of Khiva at the age of nineteen. In the process of studying the history of this period, it is appropriate to divide the reign of Muhammad Rahimkhan II Feruz in Khiva into two stages. The first period of Muhammad Rahimkhan II Feruz's reign, i.e. the period of independent khanate from 1864 to 1873. The second period, i.e. the colonial period after the Russian invasion, covers a period of 37 years of dependence from August 12, 1873 to August 15, 1910.

In the second half of the 19th century, the Khiva Khanate encompassed territory as far north as the Elbe (Ural) River, as far east as the Syrdarya basin, as far west as the shores of the Caspian Sea, and as far south as southern Turkmenistan. Before the Russian conquest, the total area of the Khiva Khanate was 130,598 sq. km. The lands of the Khanate were surrounded by the Kyzylkum, Karakum, and Ustyurt deserts. The works of Khiva historians Munis [1], Ogahiy [2], and Bayaniy [3], as well as the documents of the Khiva Khanate archive, confirm that the administrative-territorial, financial, military, and religious-educational foundations of state administration were created during the reign of Khiva Khan Muhammad Rakhimkhan I (1806–1825), which was an important stage in the development of Khorezm statehood. As evidence of this, the following can be cited about the political-administrative administration of the khanate.

One of the highest courts established in the palace by representatives of the Kungrat dynasty was the Supreme Council. At that time, the Supreme Council performed the functions of a legislative, administrative, and supreme body. The Council was personally headed by the khan himself. The Council was held every day, and decisions related to state policy were made there. A small council also functioned in the palace, where the

khan discussed everyday issues with his relatives. The Khan's advisors gathered in the palace every day, discussed issues of state governance related to the state's internal policy, and after reaching a certain opinion, the mehtar conveyed their opinions to the Khan. The decisions made at the council were recorded in a separate notebook. Decisions made on the state's internal and external policy were made with the Khan's consent [20, p.276].

The highest positions in the khanate, the mehtar, the kushbegi, and the devanbegi, corresponded to the position of the prime minister in the palace, and their rights were almost equal [21, p. 33]. They were given great authority. The khan himself set the monthly salary for the holders of the above positions, while the mehtar, kushbegi, and the devanbegis set the monthly salary for the lower officials. The financial department held a special place in the administration of the Khiva Khanate. The mehtar, kushbegi, and the devanbegis headed the finance, tax, and collection departments. In the khanate, the mehtar was the prime minister, who supervised financial, tax, and hashar affairs, as well as the state's foreign affairs. The mehtar was considered one of the first advisers and trusted people of the Khiva Khan in state affairs. For this reason, he was specially engaged in the development of regulations, laws, and regulations, the regulation of taxes, and the receipt of revenues to the treasury [22, p. 80].

In the second half of the 19th century and the beginning of the 20th century, the Khiva Khanate had more than 25 types of taxes. These were: begor, kazuv, kachuv, olgut, solgut, rifle tax, cart fire, goat capture, konalga, soysin, chapar puli, tarozi haqi, mirobona, varzaboan puli, otlanuv, ipak moli, mir tuman haqi, shigovul puli, korovul puli, pul tax, kuruvbon puli, mushrifona, afanak puli, chivik puli, money for priests during public events, etc. [20, p.45].

**Conclusion.** It should be noted that during the reign of the Kungirat dynasty, positive work was carried out in the Khiva Khanate in the monetary circulation and tax system. Three types of money were introduced into circulation in the Khiva Khanate: “tilla” - gold money, “tanga” - silver money, and “pul” - copper coins. The khanate also used money called “shoyi”, “abbas shoyi”, and “yamim shoyi”. The main money in the Khiva Khanate was gold and silver coins. The name and rank of the khan were inscribed on one side of the gold coins, and the place of minting was inscribed on the other side [23, p.88]. These measures had a positive impact on the financial situation of the khanate. Coins minted in the Khiva Khanate and their molds were taken away during the occupation of the Russian Empire and are now stored in the museums of Moscow and St. Petersburg. Money regulated economic life, facilitated trade, and ensured the khanate's active participation in the international trade network. Gold and silver coins (made from high-quality metals) were in circulation on the international market and played an important role in the economic life of the khanate.

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