

TURKIC TITLES IN EARLY MEDIEVAL SOGD RULE

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Abstract: *This article interprets the names of the titles and positions available in the state administration of the Sogd Confederation within the Western Turkish Khanate, the meaning and origin of the existing titles and positions are historically organized. Although representatives of the general household of the Turkish Khanate – the Ashina Dynasty-did not stand directly in the management of the Sogd rulers, it is indirect that in a number of rulers of the OASIS the titles characteristic of the Khakassia begin to be seen, although the Khakassia Administration shows its influence on the Sogd. In particular, among the dozens of relics of the khakans, they established marriage relations mainly with the rulers of Sogd, confirming how important it was in the eyes of Sogd, who gave them their daughters. The western Turkish Khakassia used certain methods of keeping their vassals in control, such as giving titles to local dynasties (eltabar), sending a special representative as supervisor noib (tudun), transferring control to the vassals by transferring their daughters and using other direct and indirect methods of management.*

Keywords: *Sogd, Western Turkic Khanate, system of government, local dynasties, rank, positions, confederal power, method means in management.*

In the Zarafshan and Kashkadarya basins, the Sogd oasis in the early Middle Ages was first under the Eftalites (420-565), and then under the Ashinali (Turkish khanate, 552-744) Samarkand, Kushonia (Kattakurgan), Ishtikhan, Fay, Maymurg, Kabudon, Panch (Panjikent), Kesh (Shahrisabz), Nakhbaz (Nasaf/Karshi) consisted of dozens of dependent estates. If we look at the written monuments (Chinese, Byzantine, Sogdian, Arab and Persian) and numismatics of that time, it is understood that a certain part of them was under the control of local dynasties, and political forces related to the Ashinalites ruled the rest.

During this period, a number of researchers focused on the management of the Sogd oasis, among them E. Shawann, O.I. Smirnova, V.A. Livshits, B. Gafurov, L.I. Albaum, J.K. Skeff, F. Grene, E. Dela Vessier, Z. Stark, R. Sulaymanov, M. Ishakov, Sh. Kamoliddin, A. Otaho'jaev, G'. Boboyorov and B. Goyibov studies stand out [1]. In particular, O.I. Smirnova determined that the Turkic and Sugdian dynasties ruled in Samarkand, Maymurg, Kabudon and Panch estates, while V.A. Livshits showed that the dynasty in Panch had a Turkic origin based on the names of the rulers, titles and coins. L. I. Albaum stated that in the middle of the 7th century Samarkand was under the control of the Turkic dynasty based on the wall paintings of Afrosiyab and the information in Chinese chronicles. A. Otakho'jaev, who paid attention to the origins of the Panch rulers to the Turks, based more on the names and titles of the representatives of the family that managed this property [2]. R. Sulaymanov, who argued that the rulers were Turkic, paid attention to numismatics and other archeological objects [3]. G. Boboyorov, who spoke about the origin of the Sogd ruling dynasties, showed that Turkic and Turkic- Sogd mixed dynasties ruled in Samarkand, Panch, Kabudon and Nakhlab, mainly referring to numismatics and written sources [4].

In Chinese chronicles, the term wan (ruler) is used for the managers of almost all the properties of Sogd [5]. In Arabic and Persian sources, they are mentioned with the titles of malik, godt, farmer. Sogdian documents have xbw / xbww, MLK' (= ikhshid), MR'Y (= afshin), and Sogdian-language coins minted by each estate have MLK', MR'Y, xbw / xbww, "xwrp't (only in Kesh) titles have taken

place [6]. In this sense, it should be mentioned that the word "xwrp't" akhurpat, which is found in Mugh Mountain Sogd documents as "head of the stable, sais", as a title of one of the high-ranking officials, appeared on Kesh coins in the form of "Kesh ruler Akhurpat" [7].

Although in this period local traditional titles were used in all properties in the oasis of Sogd (in Samarkand - ikhshid, in Panch - afshin, in Kesh - ikhrid, in Nakhlab - ispahbad, etc.), the occurrence of Turkish titles in connection with them in written and numismatic objects requires an explanation. For example, in the administration of Samarkand and Panch, the titles and attributes of chur (probably also in Samarkand), bilga, eltabar, as well as khagan in Samarkand coins of the 7th century, and khatun and bilga in the Panch coins of the 7th-8th centuries were included, according to some researchers [8], it is related to the fact that during this period, a mixed Turkic-Sogdian dynasty ruled in Samarkand and they minted coins in the name of the Khagan, the chief ruler in the central management of the Khaganate. Indeed, during this period, the title of khagan was reflected on the coins of a number of dependent estates between Amudarya and Syrdarya, and this situation is not related to the fact that the local rulers named themselves with this title, but rather to the fact that they minted coins in the name of their masters. For example, there is no information in any written source about dependent governors taking the title of khagan or trying to do so. In the administration of Sogd, the title of eltabar is found, and in several of the Mugh mountain Sogd documents (720) there is mention of an official with the title of lyttypyr, dyttypyr (eltabar) or xisu eltabar, who noted that this information is related to properties in Panch and North Tokhoristan F.Grene and E. Dela Vesier connects the high-ranking official with these areas [9]. In fact, this title allows us to assume that it was also introduced in Sogd from the first years of Ashinalist rule.

The old Turkish title of chur is also found in the management of the estates of the Sogd oasis, mainly Panch and partly in connection with Samarkand. Most of the representatives of the Ikhshidi dynasty of Turkic-Sogdian origin, who ruled in Samarkand between 650 and 750, continued to use the title of Ikhshid despite having Turkic names such as Tarhun, Furak, Turgar, Bekchor/Boguchor. On the contrary, Devashtich, who was of Sogdian origin and received the authority of Panch (Panjikent) as a son-in-law from the representatives of the Turkic dynasty with the title of Chur, continued to use the title of Shur (Chur), along with the use of the title of Afshin, according to Arab sources [10]. At this point, it is noteworthy that the occurrence of the title of slave in the dependent estates coincides with the period of the II Eastern Turkic Khanate (682-744). For example, in the chronicle "Tan Shu" there is information that the ruler of Samarkand Ulega (Gurak; 710 - 738) appointed his second son Mochjo (Boguchor) as the governor of the city of Mi (Maymurg) [11]. Also, as seen above, the name of the ruler of Panch in 693-708 was Chakin Chur Bilga, and in Arabic sources, shur (chur) is recorded as the name of the ancestors of the rulers of Panch [12]. This title, found mainly as a military title in the administration of the Khakhanid, began to appear in the administration of the Sogd oasis, mainly in the end of the 7th century - the first quarter of the 8th century.

The title of Tarkhan is found in a fixed form in connection with Panch, and in a probable form with Samarkand. One of the Sogdian documents A-13 mentions the title of trx'n (tarkhan) as the title of one of the Panch officials [13]. According to L.N. Gumilev, the person appearing as Bijan Tarkhan in Firdavsi's "Shahnoma" was one of the Turkic rulers in Sogd [14]. Greek historian Menander (6th century) writes that the name of one of the ambassadors sent by Istami Khan to Byzantium was Tagma Tarkhan (son of Maniakh). There is a possibility that he was one of the officials of the Sogd oasis with the title of tarkhan.

The term Bilga is found as a component of the name of the Panch ruler Chakin Chur Bilga, in one of the Panch coins of the end of the 7th century, in the form of khwb pncy MR'Y bylk" "Panch ruler Afshin Bilga" [15]. It is understood that this term, which comes before the titles, performs a certain quality function in the Ashinali administration. The issue of exactly what role it played in the

management of the oasis or whether it was only a component of the ruler's name requires special research in the future.

Although in this period, in contrast to these estates, there were no representatives of the Ashinali dynasty directly in charge of the estates of Sogd, the fact that titles specific to the Khaganate began to appear in a number of properties in the oasis, although it is indirect, indicates that the administration of the Khaganate had its influence on Sogd. At the same time, it is clear that the influence of the Ashinalites here was not less than that of other dependent properties, on the contrary, the Khaganate paid great attention to this place and their mutual relations were very close. In particular, the fact that the khagans established kinship ties with the governors of the Sogd oasis among dozens of oasis properties and gave them their daughters confirms how important Sogd was for the khaganate.

In short, as a kingdom, the Turkic khanate (more precisely, the Western Turkic khanate) used certain methods of keeping its subjects under control during its nearly two centuries of rule over dozens of clan principalities and oases, including giving titles (eltabar) to local dynasties, sending a special representative as a controlling viceroy. (tudun), it is clear that they used direct and indirect methods of control, such as increasing control by transferring their daughters to the heads of dependent estates.

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