

Iron Discipline and Personnel Policy in The Army of Amir Temur

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Abstract: This article discusses the military discipline and personnel policy of the great commander Amir Temur, who left a distinct mark on world history, which played an important role in forming the most powerful army of his time and building a large centralized state. Meanwhile, from a historiographical point of view, scientific literature written by Uzbek historians during the years of independence on this topic has been studied, supplemented by sources and information from foreign researchers, and problematic aspects have been explained. The article also pays special attention to aspects related to the mobilization system in the Sahibkiran army.

Scientific research by Uzbek historians and orientalists emphasizes that the army of Amir Temur was dominated by the ideas of mutual respect between commanders and subordinates, the rule of law and tolerance in military units. According to scientific research that analyzed the information from the first sources, Sahibkiran managed to implement almost flawlessly the important components of military management, such as the staffing of military units and the selection of fighters, as well as the establishment of strict discipline in the army.

It should be noted that the article uses such well-known sources as the "Tuzuki Temuriy" (Temur's Statutes), "Zafarname" by Persian historians Ali Yazdi and Nizomiddin Shami, "Ajayib al-Makdur fi tarihi Taymur" by the Arab historian Ibn Arabshah, which cover in detail the history of the period of Sahibkiran and the Timurids, as well as research by modern Uzbek and Russian orientalists.

Keywords: Amir Temur, Sahibkiran, army, military discipline, crime and punishment, personnel policy, mobilization, "Tuzuki Temuriy", onboshi, yuzboshi, mingboshi, tumanboshi, beklarbegi, tovachi.

Introduction: A properly implemented personnel policy and the observance of internal discipline by the personnel are the main elements that ensure that not only the army, but also any institution, fully meets the requirements of the developing world.

In this regard, the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan Shavkat Mirziyoyev noted the relevance of: "education of students who are devoted to the people of Uzbekistan, who have a firm outlook on life and an active civic position, relying on the rich history and culture of our people, the priceless heritage of our great ancestors, primarily Amir Temur, and the heroism of our modern compatriots who gave themselves for the freedom and prosperity of the Motherland".

Therefore, studying, researching and analyzing the iron

discipline and personnel policy established in the Sahibkiran army, as well as studying the little-covered or undiscovered aspects of the topic, is useful in maintaining effective internal order and conducting personnel policy in teams that have not lost their essence even in the present era.

METHODS

In the research process, general scientific methods such as analysis and synthesis, comparative and historical analysis were used.

Based on the analysis of sources and literature, the military discipline and personnel policy established in Amir Temur's army, as well as the mobilization system, are considered.

RESULTS

Scientific studies by Uzbek historians and orientalists emphasize that in the army of Amir Temur, mutual respect between commander and subordinate, the rule of law and tolerance in military units were the primary ideas.

According to the scientific research that analyzed the data from the sources, Sahibkiran was able to implement almost flawlessly the important components of military management, such as the formation of military units and the selection of fighters, and the establishment of strong discipline in the army.

In particular, as noted in the book "The Military Art of Sahibkiran Amir Temur", written jointly with scientists of the Academy of the Armed Forces of Uzbekistan and historians, Amir Temur, like his predecessors, understood well that in order to govern the country, ensure its peace and protect it from attacks from surrounding territories, it is necessary to have a militarily trained, seasoned and a disciplined army.

The duties and rights pertaining to each commander and soldier of the army are clearly defined in the "Tuzuki Temuriy", which are known as the military regulations of the invincible hero. For example, in the "Rules for the Formation of Sipahis (Military Units) of More Than Forty Thousand Horsemen" it is mentioned that "If my army has more than forty thousand horsemen, beklarbegi, emir, mingboshi (commander of a thousand), yuzboshi (commander of a hundred), onboshi (commander of ten), brave fighters and other sipahi must be under my victorious banner and wait for my command. I have ordered that if I send a command (battle order) to the emir of any army, let him act in accordance with it and do nothing contrary to it. "If any of the beklarbegi or emirs acts contrary to the decree, they must put him to death and appoint in his place a deputy worthy of being an emir".

This shows that Amir Temur, even in the most dangerous battles, called for discipline in the army and severely punished those who did not obey his orders.

The competence of military leaders included the punishment of subordinates who did not want to obey them, refused to perform their duties and violated discipline, as well as their expulsion and replacement with other soldiers. Amir Temur did not approve of physical punishment, adhering to the belief that "a leader whose power does not go beyond the whip and club is unworthy of his position", and prohibited such punishments.

According to Sharofiddin Ali Yazdi, Murchil - in the established order, each onboshi, yuzboshi, mingboshi and tumanboshi acted in battle formation with their units and subdivisions, strictly observing the discipline corresponding to the rank, position and budala -

position in the formation. Violators of the order were severely punished by the Supreme Commander-in-Chief.

In the state of Sahibkiran, the issues of crimes and punishments of sipahis were strictly regulated. According to Z. Inagomjanova, shaving the beard of sipahis, powdering their faces and walking around the city were considered punishments equivalent to the death penalty. Amir Temur said that if the wealth, condition and pleasures of a soldier devoted to his master and faithfully serving him increased day by day, then the opposite happened: "Any soldier who forgets about his service, rights and duties and turns away from work (labor) during service, such a soldier should be turned away. Any soldier who seeks excuses during service, asks for permission during battle and clashes, intends to run away and postpones today's work until tomorrow, such soldiers are not worthy of even mentioning their names. Such people should be given to the Lord of the worlds".

During the reign of Sahibkiran, the methods of moral punishment also yielded good results. In particular, treason was considered the most serious crime. In this regard, as the researcher H. Mamatov claims, based on the "Tuzuki Temuriy", if a servant conspired with the enemy and betrayed his master, such a servant was handed over to the enemy. If any of the sipahi or emirs conspired with the enemy and joined his ranks, they were expelled from the country, they were not given a place in the country. Amir Timur pursued a policy based on the principles of law, justice and humanity in assigning punishments to those who committed injustice and lawlessness, which allowed him to suppress such negative actions on the part of other members of society.

According to the data of the Timurid era historian H. Dadaboev, presented in his scientific work "The Military Art of Amir Temur", in its structure, Amir Temur's army was divided into the traditional for the Turkic-Mongol peoples tens, hundreds (centurions), thousands and tumans (tens of thousands), and they were led by onboshi, yuzboshi, mingboshi and tumanboshi.

The great commander managed to create a perfect system of appointment to military positions and promotion in the form of a hierarchical ladder, as evidenced by the "Tuzuki Temuriy". They say: "I ordered that when ten people who served as real warriors and were seasoned in battles gather, the one of them who turns out to be more courageous and brave, with the consent and approval of the other nine, be elected by them as their leader and named their onboshi.

If ten commanders gather, let them appoint as their emir the most experienced of their ranks, who has accumulated skill in battle and gained fame for his bravery, and call him their centurion. If ten commanders gather, let them choose as their leader a wise, courageous and brave emir, and call him their thousand-man, and give him honor as an emir of a thousand.

If any of the subordinates die or run away, then the onboshi should appoint a new man in his place. In such circumstances, let the yuzboshi appoint onboshi, and let the mingboshi appoint yuzboshi. If any of them die, run away, or are reappointed, let them inform me of the reason”.

Thus, the onboshi had the right to recruit warriors to replace those who died or fled. The yuzboshi approved onboshi for the ten under their command, and the mingboshi approved the yuzboshi. Information about all personnel changes was reported personally to Amir Temur.

Of course, a system of rewarding military personnel for bravery in battle was also established. In this regard, Amir Temur applied the following order: who showed himself in fencing for the first time among the brave fighters was appointed a onboshi, the second time - a yuzboshi, and the third time - a mingboshi.

Amir Temur personally selected and trained commanders. The correct selection of onboshi, yuzboshi, mingboshi and tumanboshi determined the military success of the army. Amir Temur paid special attention to experienced warriors. Experienced warriors who participated in many major battles and considered military actions their main occupation were gathered in one place before the campaign. They were included in the lists of recipients of state salaries.

Temurbek appointed to the post of commander-in-chief only those who had mastered the secrets of military art to perfection, knew how to disperse the ranks of the enemy, acted boldly and quickly in difficult situations, did not give in to any obstacles and knew how to promptly eliminate possible unrest in the army.

According to the Arab historian Ibn Arabshah, after conquering Asia Minor, Amir Timur began to capture mountain fortresses in Georgia. In this area, there was a fortress that could be reached via a drawbridge, located in an extremely inconvenient place. No matter how hard Sahibkiran tried, the army could not take it. In the end, he despaired, gave up the idea of taking the fortress, but did not dare to leave. In Timur's army, there were two brave warriors who competed with each other in heroism. One of the warriors was called Pirmuhammad. He came to the fortress at night, waited for the gates to open and the bridge to be lowered, and

when the bridge was lowered, he entered into a fight with the defenders of the fortress. Before help arrived, Pirmuhammad was wounded in eighteen places in an unequal battle with the Georgians. Hearing the ringing of swords, Sahibkiran's warriors quickly approached and captured the fortress. When Amir Temur learned of this incident, he provided him with medical assistance and promoted him to the rank of commander.

In Sahibkiran's army, by his decree, four of the most prominent military leaders were appointed to the positions of beklarbegi, that is, military leaders of the first category. One of the military leaders was appointed to the position of amir ul-umaro - commander-in-chief, and reported directly to the Supreme Commander-in-Chief - Amir Temur .

Military historians emphasize that, depending on the situation, when performing a particular operational-strategic task, several tumans could form an association called “Qoshin” (operational-strategic), and several “Qoshin” could form a strategic association called “Qoshinot”.

Twelve commanders (emirs) were appointed to lead the troops. The first emir was the commander of a detachment consisting of 1,000 warriors, the second emir headed the second detachment of 2,000 warriors. The third emir commanded the third detachment of 3,000 warriors. In this order, the twelfth emir commanded a detachment of 6,000 to 12,000 warriors. According to the established order, one emir was appointed as the deputy (deputy) of another, for example, the first emir was the deputy of the second emir, the second emir was the deputy of the third emir, and in this order the eleventh emir was appointed as the deputy of the twelfth emir. The twelfth emir was appointed as the deputy of Amir ul-Umar, and Amir ul-Umar was the deputy of the Supreme Commander-in-Chief - Amir Temur. If something happened to one of the emirs, his place was taken by the deputy.

Thus, they established that the next in rank immediately takes the place of a beheaded or killed in battle commander or other military official, that is, each person has a deputy ready to perform his duties in various situations.

The twelve-degree amirs, subordinate to Amir Temur, were elected primarily from twelve tribes (Barlos, Tarkhan, Argin, Jalir, Tulkichi, Duldoy, Mongol, Suldus, Tugoy, Kipchak, Orlot, Tatar) out of forty tribes subject to him. In particular, in “Tuzuki Temuriy” on this issue it is said:

“Whoever of the twelve emirs defeats an enemy army or captures a country under enemy control should be rewarded. If he is an emir of the first degree, he should

be given the rank of second emir, if he is an emir of the second degree, he should be given the rank of third emir, if he is an emir of the third rank, he should be given the rank of emir of the fourth degree. In this order, it should continue until the emir of the eleventh rank. If he is an emir of the eleventh rank, he should be made an emir of the twelfth rank and given a banner, standard and drum. Thus, the emir of the first rank should be given one banner, the second two banners, the third three banners, the fourth four banners and a drum, and they should be encouraged to receive the tumantug and chartug (two types of banners or a pointed spear denoting the rank of an emir)".

Amir Temur paid special attention to the worthy encouragement of the activities of the emirs and rewarded the emir who conquered the country or defeated the enemy army with three things: first, he gave him an honorary speech, a banner and a drum and called him a hero; second, he recognized him as a partner in the state and empire and admitted him to the meetings of the council; third, he was given a border region, and the local emirs were subordinate to him.

Scientific literature and historical sources provide extensive information about the state and military administration of Sahibkiran, the military discipline established in his army, personnel policy and mobilization. Of course, Amir Temur created and improved the strongest and most combat-ready army of his time. He amazed the commanders of his time with his skillful improvement of the composition and battle order of the army, as well as the methods of conducting battles, taking into account the shortcomings of previous military operations.

According to H. Dadabaev, before the military campaign, Temurbek convened a military council - a meeting of government officials, ministers, military leaders, beks and emirs. At the same time, a special order was given - tunkal on the collection of troops from various regions and areas of the state, as well as from subordinate states, which was quickly delivered to the necessary places by a senior official, the adjutant of the commander-in-chief - tavachi. In addition to recruiting soldiers, the commander was also responsible for supervising the disposition of army units in camp or on the march, their formation in battle order - yasol and movement from one place to another.

According to the Tunkal, the rulers of regions, districts or cities, commanders of fortresses and fortifications (garrison commandants) had to arrive promptly and without delay, without noise and in an organized manner at the assembly point - myod and, according to the list compiled by Sahibkiran - son with their warriors,

the necessary weapons, food, clothing, horses and forage, and occupy the place assigned to them - buljar .

It is known that it is not economically profitable for any state to maintain an army in peacetime in the quantity that allows it to be effectively combat-ready, as in wartime. Historical data show that with the beginning of a war, the number of armies increased tenfold or more.

The increase in the number of troops is carried out on the basis of mobilization. During the reign of Amir Temur, mobilization took a different form, when before the war the ranks of the troops were replenished with civilians, volunteer detachments were formed, the number of soldiers and horses in the troops increased, the volume of production of weapons and equipment increased, the amount of taxes collected from the population increased, and the collection of material resources necessary for the war increased.

Another source says that Amir Temur's large army consisted not only of warriors recruited from the people, but also of mercenary warriors from small tribes of that time, who voluntarily joined the army, knowing that it was honorable to fight in Temur's army and that a lot of money could be earned from it.

Amir Temur maintained a regular army, that is, warriors in constant readiness, in a precisely defined number, and formed detachments and divisions with specific tasks, battle formations and goals. According to sources, the number of Temurbek's army exceeded 200 000 people. Given the inability of the emir and other military leaders to gather such a large army, he introduced the position of tovachi to quickly solve this problem.

For example, as the famous Uzbek source scholar, academician B. Akhmedov, reports in his work "Amir Temur", in 1398 Timur's grandson Pirmuhammed, who ruled Balkh, Kabul, Ghazni and Kandahar, began a campaign to India with his emirs and beks, defeated the Afghan tribes in the Suleiman Mountains, crossed the Sindh River and captured the city of Uch (located in the Punjab Valley of Pakistan, on the left bank of the Sutlej River, 25 km to the east of it), and then continued the campaign and besieged the city of Multan (Pakistan). Having heard this news through the ambassador, Amir Temur, realizing that he could not leave Pirmuhammed alone with a huge country and a dangerous enemy, announced mobilization through tavachi. And Termez sent official emirs and ordered to build a bridge across Jaykhun, attaching ships to each other like a chain, and later the troops of Amir Temur passed over this bridge and gathered in Kabul.

There are disagreements regarding the size of Amir

Temur's army during his campaign in India. Information about this is presented in the decrees of Timurbek as follows: "The total number of my army, assembled for the campaign in India, reached ninety-two thousand horsemen.

Here, the opinion of the modern Russian military historian L. Bobrov deserves special attention. In his opinion, Amir Temur managed to use the nomadic and sedentary population of Maverannahr and neighboring regions, which constituted the country's mobilization potential, in the ranks of his army as effectively as possible. In particular, infantry detachments of archers (later crossbowmen) were formed from warriors selected from the sedentary population of Maverannahr and Khorasan and trained to fight under cover of a chapar (a large easel shield). In turn, the nomadic tribes loyal to Temurbek regularly supplied numerous and well-armed cavalry detachments. Skillful combat formation and use of the mobilized army by Sahibkiran, who was considered a brilliant commander of his time, was the key to victories.

DISCUSSION

From the above it follows that Uzbek and foreign historians have conducted sufficient scientific research into the mechanism of military discipline and punishment in the army of Amir Temur. However, the personnel policy and mobilization system in his army are among the insufficiently studied topics. In particular, these include studies devoted to the activities of the tavachi, the selection of infantry and cavalry from different nationalities and faiths, nomadic and sedentary populations, the training of pontoon mercenaries, Greek flamethrowers, musical instrument makers, siege weapon masters and artillerymen from among the mercenary class, artisans and other specialists.

CONCLUSION

It is advisable to educate the youth in the spirit of military patriotism and improve the system of training the personnel reserve for the Armed Forces of the Republic of Uzbekistan and the civil service by continuing the in-depth study of iron discipline and personnel policy in the army of Amir Temur. The study in combination with the present time of internal discipline, personnel policy and the mobilization system laid down by our great ancestor in the spirit of justice in a multinational state can become the basis for future achievements.

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