



THE ROLE OF ERNAZAR MAQSUD IN BUKHARA-RUSSIA RELATIONS

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ABSTRACT

This article discusses the role of Ernazar Maqsud in Bukhara-Russia relations. By 1756, Muhammad Rahim Khan (1756-1758) ascended the throne with the consent of the four clans of Uzbeks - the Mangit, the Chinese-Kipchak, the Baharin, and the big officials of the palaces, priests and clan elders and began the rule of the Mangit dynasty. This, in turn, will start a new era in Russian-Bukhara economic and political relations.

KEYWORDS

Ernazar Maqsud, Bukhara-Russia, Muhammad Rahim Khan

INTRODUCTION

Junior officer Philip Efremov has made great contributions to the study of the history of Russian-Bukhara relations[1]. In 1774, during the Pugachyov Uprising, he was captured by the Ural Cossacks and then by the Kyrgyz in the direction of Orenburg and brought to Bukhara. Here, due to his knowledge in the military field, Danyolbi is noticed by the father. He will be in Khiva and Marv on his father's orders. Then he left

the service in Bukhara and fled to Kokand. From Kokand, he returns to India via Kashgar, Yorkent and Tibet, and from there to Russia via England. Philip Efremov is able to collect valuable information due to his knowledge of Eastern languages and his official position in Bukhara [2].

THE MAIN RESULTS AND FINDINGS

In the fall of 1773, a large caravan belonging to several Bukhara merchants heading from Bukhara to Russia was robbed by the Pugachyov gang near Orenburg. And the survivors in the caravan tell the story of what happened to the Bukhara government. The price of goods in the caravan was about 500,000 rubles. The government of Bukhara decides to send an embassy group led by the son of Mullah Ernazarbi Maqsud to the Russian tsar on behalf of the then puppet Khan Abulgazi [3].

This embassy served to revive trade and diplomatic relations between Bukhara and Russia, which had stopped for a long time. In documents related to the State Council and the government of the Russian government, the son of Ernazarbi Maqsud is mentioned as a "Bukhara merchant, mullah and ambassador, a person [4] who brought glory to the nation", a learned, scholarly person[5]. His activities connected with Russia from 1745 to his death are highly appreciated [6].

Before that, he came to Russia several times (starting from 1745) as a merchant and performed various services in the imperial court [7].

The Russian government banned the export of strategic raw materials (copper, lead, etc.) and their products to Central Asia. Dissatisfaction with this policy is clearly visible in the activities of the ambassadors of Bukhara khans to Russia[8]. They mentioned that Russian merchants are trading freely in the cities of Bukhara, and were able to convince the Russian government that conditions should be created for Bukhara merchants as well. But despite such restrictions, Bukhara merchants were able to get the opportunity to take from Russia the limited raw materials and goods necessary for the defense of their country. The son of Mulla Ernazar Maqsud was not only

the official ambassador of the country, but also such an ambitious businessman.

In 1774, the Bukhara ambassador Mullah Ernazar Maqsud went to Moscow to the palace of Ekaterina II through Astrakhan [9]. The embassy consisted of the ambassador's son, head of state Muhammad Sharif, Mullah Akhun Arab, Mullah Imam Halil, adviser and mirza Mullah Bobosharif, treasurer Muhammad Sharif, centurion Ayozberdi, as well as a doctor from Bukhara, cooks, bakers, servants, 9 singers and 10 servants for to look after the horses Catherine II and Prince Pavel and total of 53 people.

The ambassador was entrusted with the responsibility of delivering valuable gifts to the Russian King Ekaterina II, in addition to the credentials of Khan of Bukhara Abulgazi [10].

The gifts for the king included the following: 7 Arabian purples decorated with precious cloth and saddles, 18 gold-plated Indian pieces (women's clothing), 127 pounds of loupes, 84 pounds of ravoeh(plants); 5 pounds of horseradish root, 3 Arabian horses with saddles for the her son Tsarevich 10 Indian pieces for her daughter, Arabian horses with expensive saddles for Osterman, Panin, brothers Orlov and Olsufev.

In addition, Ernazarbiy also brings 20 Russian captives who were in slavery and who were bought by the Bukhara government and sent as gifts to the Russian King. Taking advantage of the opportunity, the ambassador and his entourage, due to their diplomatic status, will also cross the border without paying any customs duties [11].

The embassy mission left Bukhara at the end of January 1774 and arrived in Orenburg in February via Khiva. He stayed here for half a year due to Pugachyov's rebellion and arrived in Astrakhan in early September 1774

through Mangishlok. The governor of Astrakhan, Major General Krechetnikov, will keep them inside the country until they receive permission from Petersburg. Catherine II instructed Krechetnikov to keep the embassy group in Astrakhan until the end of January 1775 and to send a group of no more than 20-30 people to Moscow at her request [12].

In the meantime, Krechetnikov stops the movement of the caravan with various bureaucratic obstacles, and according to Ernazarbi Madsud's son, a toll of 20-30 rubles is charged from the caravan for each day it stays. After Ernazarbi's letter to Chancellor Count Osterman, the situation eases. Finally, on February 9, 1775, 42 employees of the embassy mission, accompanied by Captain Egor Pavlov, one junior officer and two private soldiers, divided into two groups, set off for Moscow with an interval of two days [13].

The diplomatic mission arrived in Moscow [14] on March 14, accompanied by a cavalry unit under the command of Captain Pavlov, an officer of the Astrakhan garrison, and Poruchik Shchedyakov, and settled in a house belonging to the Foreign Affairs Committee on the Moscow River. However, they do not stay here long and rent a private house for 125 rubles a month.

On March 27, due to the absence of the chancellor, the embassy will be received by the vice-chancellor Count Panin. Ambassador Ernazar Maqsud handed over the credentials of Bukhara Khan Abulghozi to Catherine II, conveyed the greetings of his ruler and explained the purpose of the ambassador's visit to Russia [15].

After that, he sits to the right of the Vice-Chancellor, and to the left of Panin, State Councilor Bakunin. The ambassador's son and other representatives stand. Panin had a friendly conversation with the officials of

the Bukhara state, coffee and sweets were served to the guests [16].

On April 5, the delegation will be formally received by Empress Ekaterina II, Crown Prince Pavel and special officials. At the reception ceremony, the ambassador presented the empress with two labels of Abulgazi Khan. The first label contained proposals for expanding trade between Bukhara and Russia and compensation for the damage to a caravan robbed by the Pugachyov gang near Orenburg, and the second label contained a congratulatory note on the occasion of Prince Pavel's marriage [17].

Ernazar Maqsud asks the merchants of Bukhara to reduce customs taxes collected in the border cities of Russia, such as Astrakhan and Orenburg, and to be allowed to trade freely in the inner cities of Russia [18]. In this respect, it is emphasized that the purpose of the embassy of Ernazar Maqsud was important. In the reports of the Russian Foreign Affairs Committee, it is written that during the reception ceremony, the Bukharans wore colorful dresses made of silk, Ernazarbi wore a turban on his head, and the rest wore hats. After that, the people of Bukharan will be warmly welcomed at the reception of Prince Pavel [19].

On June 25, 1775, Ernazar Maqsud was received by Vice-Chancellor Osterman and conveyed to him the requests of the Russian government. The ambassador not only answered all the questions of the vice-chancellor about the trade routes leading to Bukhara, the distance from Bukhara to Orenburg and Mangishlok, Russian products in high demand in Bukhara, domestic and foreign market opportunities, water sources on the roads, but also a number of questions related to the expansion and further development of Bukhara-Russia relations [20].

The embassy will be engaged in trade activities during its next year in the Russian capital. During this time, they focus on selling the products they brought and buying the necessary products from Moscow factories to take to Bukhara.

On January 15, 1776, before returning to Bukhara, the ambassador was once again received by Count Panin, and before returning from Moscow, Ernazarbi received a reply from the Russian empress Abulgazi in the name of the Russian empress Abulghazi, as well as the reason for the rejection of the Chancellor's request for compensation for the looting of the Bukharan caravan. A letter explaining the factors will be submitted. At the same time, the ambassador was given an expensive diamond-encrusted chess set made for the Crimean Khan Sagin Girey, as well as diamond bouquets worth about 2000 rubles on behalf of the prince, as a return gift to the Bukhara Khan [21].

For his contribution to the development of relations between the two countries, Ambassador Ernazar Maqsud will be awarded the following valuable gifts according to the decree of Ekaterina II:

- a ship to trade with the territories of the Empire through the Caspian Sea;
- the right to free trade in the territory of Russia for five years and not to collect customs duties on goods worth up to 10,000 rubles;
- 2,000 rubles will be allocated as a reward, in addition, 1,000 rubles will be given for travel expenses;
- 2,000 rubles will be returned from the treasury on account of the goods brought by the ambassador for sale in Russia and confiscated in Astrakhan;
- A fur from the skin of an otter is given as a gift;

- 1,630 rubles will be allocated for travel expenses from Moscow to Astrakhan [22].

In addition, the son of Ernazar Maqsud was allowed to buy 15,000 pounds of iron, 5,000 pounds of steel, and 3,000 pounds of copper of strategic importance and send them to Bukhara without paying customs duties [23]. According to Russian Orientalists S.V. Zhukovsky, P.Yakovlev and P.P.Shubinsky, the gift of money indicated that the ambassador had accomplished his task skillfully[24], although he did not fulfill the main task of the diplomatic mission, which was to compensate for the damage of the robbed caravan[25].

At first glance, it seems that the main goal of this embassy was to develop Russian-Bukhara trade relations, but the political importance of the relations between Russia and Bukhara was also considered. That is, Bukhara was one of the first to recognize the rule of the Russian government over the Kazakh people [26].

In the middle of 1779, Ernazar Maqsud was sent to Russia as an ambassador for the second time. This time he had to go to Moscow to meet with the empress Catherine II, to renew the claim for compensation for the stolen caravan in Astrakhan, to ask for 3000 pounds of copper for the Bukhara government, and a very delicate and complicated task - to pass through the territory of Russia, which at that time had great power in the Muslim world. There is a demand to strengthen relations with Turkey [27].

The diplomatic group consists of 28 people, and this time, like the previous one, will leave with the following gifts:

The empress was presented with two Arabian saddles decorated with saddle-harness, a sword decorated with diamonds and precious stones, 35 pairs of Indian

silk cloth decorated with gold and silk; one purple cloth for the prince, 10 pairs of silk cloth for the princess; Five Arabian horses for Potemkin, Panin, Bezborodko, and others, 115 Bukhara goldsmith's robes woven from precious fabrics, gold-plated weapons, as well as other unique handicrafts made in Bukhara [28].

In addition, Mulla Ernazarbi brought the following gifts to the Russian court at his own expense: a diamond-encrusted chess set worth 18,000 rubles, 20 pairs of Indian pieces, four bundles of ostrich feathers at 2,000 pieces each; arabian persimmon to the prince; 10 pairs of Indian breeches to the queen and 2 bundles of ostrich feathers at 1000 each. Horses and other valuables to ministers and high officials of the palace [29].

The embassy left Bukhara in the spring of 1799, arrived in Orenburg on August 10, and stayed there until the beginning of December.

On December 24, representatives of the Bukhara embassy mission, accompanied by Orenburg border battalion ensign Palchikov, will arrive in Moscow. On January 4, they will arrive in Petersburg and settle in the residence belonging to the Foreign Affairs Committee on Vasilevsky Island. This time, 360 rubles per month will be allocated by the state for the expenses of embassy representatives; a carriage with an umbrella is bought for 800 rubles to carry the ambassador; and two Izvosh are hired to carry other representatives of the embassy. 50 kopecks per day for an officer attached to escort the ambassador, 25 kopecks for an interpreter, 15 kopecks for a contractor, and 10 kopecks for an ordinary soldier; 80 rubles will be awarded to second lieutenant Kolokol'tsov, who will carry the horses brought as a gift, 10 rubles to the contractor, and 5 rubles to the Cossacks [30].

On January 21, the embassy will receive Count Panin, and on February 2, they will receive the empress. Unlike before, this time Ekaterina II shows a great favor to the ambassador of Bukhara. However, the empress accepted the gifts sent by the khan and refused to accept the personal gifts of the ambassador. Muratov, the Secretary of the Foreign Affairs Committee, is specially sent to announce this. Because these gifts were not from Bukhara Khan, but personal gifts from the ambassador.

During his stay in Petersburg, Ernazarbi submits the following questionnaire to the State Council of Foreign Affairs on behalf of the government of Bukhara and himself:

- Allocation of 471,830 rubles to the government of Bukhara to compensate Bukhara merchants for the looted caravan in 1773;
- 3000 pounds of ingot copper from the Troitsk factory as a gift to the Khan;
- In 1775, the embassy bought 20 Russian captives and returned them to Russia with a monetary reward;
- To allow the ambassador, his son and representatives of the embassy to freely pass through Russian territories to and from the Ottoman state;
- Presenting a royal fur coat and a mink on behalf of the royal family as a compliment to Turkish, Persian and other ambassadors for an honorable reception at the Russian court [31].

All these requirements were among the secondary objectives of the diplomatic mission. As mentioned above, Ernazarbi's main goal was to restore Bukhara-Turkish trade relations through the Russian-Turkish borders and to open the way to Mecca for pilgrimage [32].

This survey was studied by the Russian government, and according to the decision of Ekaterina II, on May 9, 1780, the decision of the Council of Foreign Affairs was adopted.

According to him, it is indicated to send the Bukhara ambassador's mission to Constantinople via Kiev or Kherson and provide them with all possible assistance on the way to the border. Also allocate 2,600 rubles for the distance to the border and 1,200 rubles for travel expenses; 1,300 rubles to buy and present a carriage with an umbrella to carry the ambassador; Ernazarbi and his son were given a royal fur coat on behalf of the royal family and 2000 rubles as a reward; Khan of Bukhara was instructed to give 3,000 pounds of cast copper from the Troitsk plant and to inform the ambassador about it by mail [33].

Ernazarbi's request to pay compensation to Bukhara merchants for the looted caravan is again rejected. Bukharans will leave Petersburg on October 10 and arrive in Kherson on October 19. From there, one of the two Greek ships hired by the governor of Kherson, Lieutenant-General Hannibal, will sail to Ochakov, with the ambassador and the group members and cargo in the other. Second lieutenant Kolokoltsov and ensign Palchikov will escort the convoy to Kherson.

According to Bulgakov, the authorized minister of the Russian embassy in the Ottoman state, representatives of the Bukhara embassy led by Ernazarbi arrived in Constantinople on October 27, 1780, and were received by Sadri Azami (prime minister) of the country on November 9. After the political negotiations, Ernazarbi leaves for Mecca. In September 1781, on his way back to Bukhara, Mulla Ernazarbi died in Konya after suffering from a plague spread in Asia Minor [34].

This is the end of Mullah Ernazarbi's two-time ambassadorial mission to Russia. However, his son

Muhammad Sharif continued his work and visited the Russian palace twice. For the first time in 1783, when returning from Constantinople to Bukhara, and later in 1785, he entered the reception of Ekaterina II as the ambassador of Bukhara. The fact that the credentials presented by Mohammad Sharif during his second visit were not stamped by the Bukhara government raises some doubts among the Russians. It is not known whether it was a simple misunderstanding, or because of the internal conflicts that flared up in Bukhara. However, although the Russian government does not accept Mohammad Sharif as an official ambassador, it welcomes him warmly. Money will be allocated from the state treasury for expenses during his stay in Petersburg, and he will be awarded with a monetary reward upon his return to his homeland. During Muhammad Sharif's trip to Russia, he was initially accompanied by Philip Efremov and in 1785 by Kolokoltsov [35].

Although, like his father, he was considered worthy of Catherine II's favor, he could not solve the main idea that his father had started - to open trade routes from East Asia to Western Europe via the shores of the Caspian, Baltic and Black seas. After the death of Ambassador Ernazarbi Maqsud, this idea was forgotten for a long time. The general state of political events in Western Europe, chronic misunderstandings with Turkey and Sweden, and the turbulent situation in Poland, Crimea, and Georgia diverted the attention of the Russian government to East Asia and focused all its efforts on the western and southern borders. Ideas about Turkestan were pushed back [36].

CONCLUSION

As for Mulla Ernazarbi, as a world-viewed progressive, he was able to feel how backward his country was, and to develop it, he was able to explain to the rulers of Bukhara that it was necessary to strengthen trade

relations with Western countries and the Ottoman Sultanate. Although his efforts as an ambassador ended in failure, the madrasa he dreamed of was built in the center of Bukhara with the funds he collected through entrepreneurship. Apparently, the construction work was completed by his son Muhammad Sharif. Ernazarbi's ambassador left a name in history as a skilled diplomat who successfully negotiated with the king of the most powerful country of his time, an enlightener who risked his life for the noble idea of building an educational institution for his people [37].

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