

POLITICAL RELATIONS OF THE SAFAVID STATE WITH MUNGAL EMPIRE**Abboskhan Ubaydullayev***Department of Eastern Civilization and History of Tashkent State University of Oriental Studies, 4th year student, abbos.daniyarevich@gmail.com (+99899)3454907***Khulkar Ostanaqulova***Department of Eastern Civilization and History of Tashkent State University of Oriental Studies, 4th year student, astanaqulovahulkar@gmail.com (+99899)6635522*

Abstract: *This article summarizes the past processes between the Mungals and Safavid empires, mainly covering the political processes from 1510 to 1708. Also, the processes in the article consist of the main events.*

Key words: *Ismail I, Babur, Shah Tahmasp, Humayun, Akbarshah, Abbas the great, Shah Jahan, Shah Abbas II, Kandahar, Aurangzeb Alamgir, Tarbiatkhon.*

INTRODUCTION

Relations between the Safavids and Baburids began during the time of the founders of both dynasties, more precisely, after the Battle of Marv in 1510. Babur's sister Honzada Begum was with Shaibani Khan, and after her defeat, Ismail sent Honzada Begum to Babur [2:156]. Responding with gifts and letters, Babur asks Ismail for help in conquering Samarkand, and also promises to deliver sermons and mint coins in his name. Thus, with the help of Mirza Shah Ismail, Babur captured Samarkand twice. However, after the defeat of the Ottoman Turks in Chaldiron, he could not help Shah Mirza any more, and Babur also gave up hope on Movarounnahr and headed towards India.

MAIN PART

The next Shah Tahmasp's victory over Shaybani Ubaidullah Khan in the Jam battle encouraged Babur, he sent a letter to his son Kamran Mirza in Kabul and ordered him to establish good relations with the king [1:198]. However, the Uzbeks, who took advantage of the shah's preoccupation with the Turks in the west, captured Mashhad and Herat, and after that, the last hope of the Baburids towards Samarkand disappeared. After the death of Babur in 1530, even though Humayun Mirza sat on the throne, relations with Iran continued through Kamran Mirza. However, Som Mirza, the brother of Shah Tahmasp and the ruler of Khurasan, attacked Kandahar without the permission of the king. The governor of the city, Khwaja Kalon, asked for help from Kamran Mirza, who immediately came to help. Although this campaign was carried out without the Shah's permission, the defeat of the Safavid army angered Tahmasp and he himself marched to Kandahar. Frightened by this, Khwaja Kalon handed over the keys of the city to the Shah [2:165], while Humayun Mirza, governor of Gujarat and Bengal, watched the events silently. In the early years of his reign, Humayun Mirza had no

contact with the Safavids, and there are no sources about this, only after his abdication in 1544, he sent a letter to the Shah asking for refuge and received a positive response [5:250] .

He was highly regarded in Iran, but as time went on, the Shah's entourage began to try to make Humayun Mirza a bad horse to Tahmasp, so that the Shah would ask Humayun Mirza to take over the lands left by his grandfather if he taught by adding the names of 12 imams in his sermons. offers to help and Humayun Mirza accepts it [5:269]. Humayun regained the throne with the help of Mirza Tahmasp. According to some reports, in order to maintain good relations with Mirza Shah, he always carried Bayram Khan, who looked like a Shia and was a Shia, with him and continued the relationship through him [6:35]. Although Humayun was afraid of angering the Safavids, in 1548 he gave a positive response to Sultan Suleiman Qanuni's proposal to form an alliance against the Safavids. At the time when Qanuni occupied Tabriz, Tahmasp asked for help from Humayun, and Humayun wrote a letter to Qanuni saying that he would attack Tahmasp from behind as if he had gone to help Tahmasp. Actually, in the summer of 1549, despite the fact that Qonuniy was fighting in Iran, he did not go to help, instead he was busy with the Uzbeks in Balkh [7:93]. With the death of Humayun Mirza in 1556, the Safavid-Baburi relations cooled over Kandahar, but in 1562, Shah Tahmasp sent Sayyid Bek as an ambassador from his family to congratulate Akbar Shah on his accession to the throne. Through this, he expressed his desire to correct the relationship [3:201].

After the death of Shah Tasmasp, the proposal of Abdulla Khan from the Uzbeks to become a neighbor to the Baburites by conquering Balkh and to join forces with Akbar Shah to divide Iran was given a cold response by the Baburites. Shah Abbas sent ambassadors to Akbar Shah during his reign. However, at that time the ruler Baburi did not pay attention to it. After ascending to the throne in 1591, he sent Yadigor Ali and Sultan Rumlu with letters and gifts. The purpose of the embassy was to sign a peace treaty between Iran and India, to encourage Akbar Shah to march against the Uzbeks, and to study the political situation in India. The Safavid ambassador stayed in India for 5 years [2:203]. Then Akbarshah marched to Kandahar and occupied the land in 1595. Due to the high volume of trade between Iran and India and the king's need for it, Abbas did not act against India. When Shah Abbas sent ambassadors to sign a treaty of friendship and help from the Baburis in the war against the Ottomans and Uzbeks, Akbar Shah was content to write a reply [5:255]. Friendship ties between them were broken due to Shah Abbas's desire to regain the lost territories in Khurasan and Kandahar. In the meantime, Akbar Shah rejected the intention of the Uzbeks to form an alliance against the Safavids, because the destruction of the Safavids would create conditions for the Uzbeks to set their sights on India.

In 1595, Akbar Shah sent a letter to Shah Abbas recommending signing a peace treaty with the Uzbeks. In 1597, Shah Abbas replied that he would not sign a

peace treaty, but would take revenge [5:263]. After the death of Akbar Shah in 1605, Salim Shah (Jahangir Shah) took the throne. Abbas corresponded with him from the time of the prince. Despite the good relations, the Persian warriors attacked Kandahar, when the march failed, Abbas expressed his desire to continue peace relations, saying that the march to Kandahar in 1607 was without his permission. In subsequent communications, Temur sent a ring with his name and various rare jewelry. In 1621, knowing that Jahangir was ill, Abbas tried to capture Kandahar. At first Jahangir did not believe that he would take Kandahar because he was very sincere in his letters [6:38]. After Shah Abbas conquered Kandahar, coins were minted in his name in the city and his name was added to the sermon. The Pashtun tribes that lived in the area were subordinated to the Gilzoi and Abdali Safavids. They mutually appointed rulers named "Kalantar" to rule these tribes [1:233].

Although Shah Abbas captured Kandahar, he sent an envoy led by Mir Wali Beg and Haidar Beg to improve relations with Jahangir Shah. He said that he had gone to Kandahar for a pilgrimage, but that he had to occupy the fort because the captain of the fort refused to do so. Jahangir Shah told the returning envoys that Kandahar was never mentioned in Zeinal Beg's letter, and that he had heard nothing of Kandahar until Zeinal Beg arrived [1:245].

Shah Abbas continued his contacts to soften Jahangir Shah. He wrote letters not only to Jahangirshah, but also to Shah Jahan, Nur Jahan Begum and Khan Alam. In 1625, Shah Abbas sent a letter to Jahangir, stating that he had captured Baghdad from the Ottomans, and sent some of the spoils [2:187]. He did not mention Kandahar in the letter, and Jahangirshah did not mention it in his reply letter, on the contrary, because he had internal and external problems, he wrote warm words about eternal friendship and respect for the twelve imams. In October 1626, Shah Abbas sent a delegation led by Tokhta Bek to India to offer condolences on the death of Jahangir Shah's son Parviz. The special aspect of this embassy is that it was the first time in Iran-India relations that the Shah was sending a letter to the queen, that is, Nur Jahan Begum [1:192]. In it, he told about his victory against the Ottomans and expressed sympathy for Prince Parviz. However, Jahangirshah died before the delegation returned.

During the reign of Shah Safi, who ascended to the throne after Shah Abbas, the Safavids were fighting the Ottomans in the west and the Uzbeks in the east. Therefore, he had to be on good terms with the Baburi Empire. However, Shah Jahan and Uzbek khans Imam Quli Khan and Nadir Muhammad Khan, who took advantage of the dissensions of his time, reached an agreement to organize a general campaign against Iran in 1635. From the first days of his reign, Shah Jahan started efforts to recapture Kandahar, and in 1632 he took Shir Khan Afghan, who revolted against Iran, under his protection, and in 1636 he wrote to the Ottoman sultan Murat IV and offered to attack Iran from three sides together with the Uzbeks [3:67]. By 1638, the Babur army started

marching to Kandahar. The Ottomans marched on Baghdad. Being attacked from two sides was a real tragedy for the Safavids. Because Shah Jahan's army was too large, he could not send help to Kandahar and Kandahar was lost, but Shah Jahan sent an ambassador to Shah Safi and told him that the issue of Kandahar would not interfere with them, and that he was ready to pay the annual tax of the city. Meanwhile, the Safavid Shah was defeated by the Ottomans in the west and lost Baghdad [3:73]. After that, preparations were made for 2 years to recapture Kandahar, but Shah Safi died when he arrived in Isfahan, and the Kandahar campaign stopped.

Shah Jahan, who was hungry, tried to use his leadership in Balkh to take it away from the Uzbeks, but the two-year-long Balkh campaign of the Baburis cost the state financially. Also, the hostile actions of the Afghan tribes here have increased. Shah Abbas II, who ascended the throne after Shah Safi, tried to use this situation to regain Kandahar. He made peace with the Ottoman state in the west. In April 1648, Shah Abbas II left Isfahan. Meanwhile, Shah Abbas II, who ignored the weather conditions, approached Kandahar in December 1648 [3:78]. The Safavid army entered the city through the Bobovali gate, and in 1649 the city was incorporated into the Safavids. After that, the Baburis tried to recapture the city several times, but they failed. Aurangzeb won the war of succession in India and ascended the throne in Delhi in 1658. Aurangzeb was both a martial ruler and a staunch Sunni. Therefore, he was the ruler that Shah Abbas did not want. But he also needed good relations with Iran. Therefore, in 1660, Shah Abbas II sent Budak Bek as an ambassador to Aurangzeb [3:79]. Budak Bek reached the border of India in February 1661. 500 well-dressed horsemen lined up on both sides of the road for Budak Bek's arrival. Budak Bek was accompanied by dignitaries, drums and trumpets. When Budak Bek entered the palace, rifle shots were heard in his honor. Aurangzeb received Budak Bek with great respect. Budak took the letter from Bek and put it on his head. Aurangzeb gave him many gifts. Aurangzeb was pleased with the arrival of the Iranian delegation. After holding Bek for two months, Budak allowed him to return to Iran and said that he would soon send an ambassador to Iran.

After the break, he sends Tarbiat Khan, governor of Molton, as an ambassador to Iran [4:98]. Tarbiat Khan brought a letter of friendship to the Shah of Iran. Although Kandahar was not mentioned in the letter, due to the previous conflicts, Aurangzeb replied that he relied only on God's help to the Shah's offer of help. Finally, he thanked the Shah for restoring diplomatic relations and strengthening friendship. Although Shah Abbas received Tarbiat Khan very well, he treated him strangely in the palace, i.e., he mocked Tarbiat Khan, spoke inappropriately about Aurangzeb's usurpation of the throne, the title of Alamgir, and Indians. He also threatened to invade India. There are different statements in the sources about the reasons for the change in their behavior. However, the general opinion is that the king is drunk and Tarbiat Khan is also inexperienced. Due to the deterioration of the situation, in March 1666, the king

returned Tarbiatkhan from Mazandaran to his country. To Aurangzeb, Tarbiatkhan sent an insulting letter to Tarbiatkhan. In its content, it was written about the power of Iran [4:102] and said that Aurangzeb was not able to rule the country well, was not worthy of the title of conqueror of the world and was a murderer of his father, and that he would come with his troops to eliminate the disorder. On his way to Tarbiatkhan, news reached Aurangzeb that the king would attack India.

When Tarbiatkhan also reported the same, Aurangzeb sent the army to the border of Iran. He himself left Agra for Delhi. Trade with Iran was embargoed and the governor of Surat was ordered to stop shipping. But Shah's death ended the unrest and military preparations in India. However, Aurangzeb always kept the border under control. Although Aurangzeb was aware of the political situation in Iran, he did not try to recapture Kandahar. Because during this period, Aurangzeb was busy with revolts and wars in the Afghan, Rajput, Jat and Maratha and Deccan regions. He did not have time for Kandahar. Aurangzeb managed to unify India under one roof by annexing Deccan and Maratha lands between 1670 and 1690 [4:124]. Aurangzeb's son Muhammad Akbar rebelled in 1681. In 1686, he sought refuge in Iran. The current Safavid Shah Suleiman welcomed him very warmly. Muhammad Akbar asked Shah Suleiman for military assistance. King Solomon did not actually fulfill this requirement [4:147]. Because the Safavid state was much weaker in terms of power. During the reign of the next Sultan Husain, the embassy almost did not continue. Aurangzeb did not send a delegation to congratulate Shah Sultan Husain. However, Shah Sultan Husain continued to support Aurangzeb's son Muhammad Akbar. Muhammad Akbar took advantage of the unrest in India while he was in Kandahar and Kabul and captured Molton. However, he died before Aurangzeb in 1706. Aurangzeb died in 1707. After his death, struggles for the throne began between his sons and grandsons. The struggle for the throne was so fierce that in 13 years until 1720, 10 princes took the throne and were deposed.

CONCLUSION

In general, the relations between the Safavids and the Mungals began with warmth. The result of this can be seen in the military assistance given by Shah Ismail I to Mirza Babur in the fight against Shaybani Khan. During the reign of Akbar, it became an empire and became one of the leading countries. As a result, conflicts began between the Mungals and the Safavids. The area where the interests of the two countries intersected was Kandahar. During the reign of Aurangzeb Alamgir, the situation worsened due to his son, who sought refuge in the Safavid state. However, due to the problems within the state, the struggle did not take place. In the following years, the two countries were in internal struggles, and as a result, political relations stopped.

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