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Annotation: This article analyzes the foreign policy and diplomatic activities during the reign of Abdulaziz Khan. Abdulaziz Khan sought to establish good diplomatic relations with neighboring states and protect Bukhara's political interests. The article highlights his diplomatic missions with India, Iran, Russia, Khiva khanate, as well as the exchanges and agreements made through these missions. Abdulaziz Khan strengthened Bukhara's diplomatic position, particularly in the aftermath of the Balkh conflicts, by forming alliances with Iran, receiving support from India, and enhancing trade relations with Russia. The article discusses his diplomatic efforts to reclaim Balkh, establish trade routes, and position Bukhara as a key player in regional geopolitics.

Keywords: Foreign policy, Abdulaziz Khan, Bukhara Khanate, India, Iran, Russia, Khiva khanate, Diplomatic relations, Balkh, Aurangzeb.

Annoatsiya: Ushbu maqolada Abdulazizxonning hukmronligi davridagi tashqi siyosat va diplomatik faoliyati tahlil etilgan. Abdulazizxon, qo'shni davlatlar bilan yaxshi aloqalarni o'rnatish va o'z hududining siyosiy manfaatlarini himoya qilish maqsadida ko'plab diplomatik missiyalarni amalga oshirdi. Maqolada, uning Hindiston, Eron, Rossiya, Xiva xonligi va Usmonli imperiyasi kabi davlatlar bilan o'rnatgan diplomatik aloqalari, shuningdek, bu davlatlar bilan amalga oshirilgan diplomatik kelishuvlar va o'zaro sovg'a almashish jarayonlari batafsil ko'rsatilgan. Abdulazizxon, xususan, Balkhni qaytarish bo'yicha o'z tashqi siyosatini kuchaytirish maqsadida Eron bilan ittifoq tuzdi, Hindistondan yordam oldi va Rossiya bilan savdo aloqalarini rivojlantirdi. Diplomatiya orqali davlatlar o'rtasida savdo, harbiy hamkorlik va siyosiy ittifoqlar mustahkamlandi.

Kalit so'zlar: Tashqi siyosat, Abdulazizxon, Buxoro Xonligi, Hindiston, Eron, Rossiya, Xiva xonligi, Diplomatiya aloqalar, Balx, Aurangzeb.

Аннотация: В статье анализируется внешняя политика и дипломатическая деятельность в период правления Абдулазиз-хана. Абдулазиз-хан осуществил множество дипломатических миссий с целью установления хороших отношений с соседними государствами и защиты политических интересов своего региона. В статье подробно рассматриваются его дипломатические отношения с такими странами, как Индия, Иран, Россия, Хивинское ханство и Османская империя, а также дипломатические соглашения и обмен подарками, которые имели место. Особенно стоит отметить, что Абдулазиз-хан усилил свою внешнюю политику, заключив союз с Ираном для возвращения Балха, получив помощь от Индии и развив торговые отношения с Россией. Через дипломатию укреплялись торговые, военные и политические альянсы между государствами.

Ключевые слова: Внешняя политика, Абдулазиз-хан, Бухарское ханство, Индия, Иран, Россия, Хивинское ханство, Дипломатические отношения, Балх, Аурангзеб.

Foreign policy during the reign of Abdulaziz khan

Abdulaziz khan also sought to establish good diplomatic relations with neighboring states as much as possible. Following the Balkh conflicts during his father's reign, he aimed to improve ties with India. To this end, the khan of Bukhara sent a congratulatory letter to the Mughal ruler

Aurangzeb (1658-1707) upon his ascension to the throne. (M. Xayrullayev, 2013, 113) During Abdulaziz khan's rule, relations with Iran also improved. Notably, in December 1647, an envoy led by Hasan Koshbegi was received by the Shah of Iran. This information was reported by the Russian envoy Anisim Gribov, who was in Isfahan at the time. (Akbar Zamonov, 2021, 69) The envoy brought:

- a chest full of gold.
- 70 camels laden with furs.
- and other gifts, accompanied by 2,000 men.

When Gribov asked Iranian officials about the purpose of Hasan Koshbegi's visit, they replied that they could not disclose such information. However, according to Gribov's findings, after Nadr Muhammad khan lost Balkh to Shah Jahan, Abdulaziz khan launched a campaign to reclaim Balkh. As tensions rose between India and Bukhara, relations between Iran and Bukhara improved. Since Iran had helped Bukhara in its efforts to regain Balkh, Bukhara, in return, supported Iran in its campaign to recapture Kandahar from the Mughals. Subsequently, an Iranian envoy was sent to Bukhara, marking the establishment of friendly relations. On March 13, 1648, Shah Abbas II, along with the envoy Hasan Koshbegi, set out for war against Kandahar, in February 1649 they captured the city. (Alimova R, 2017, 17) With Bukhara's support, Shah Abbas II successfully recaptured Kandahar from Shah Jahan. Relations between Bukhara and the Khiva and Kazakh Khanates were also positive. For example, during the effort to reclaim Balkh from Shah Jahan, Abdulaziz khan received military support from Kazakh khan Yangir and Abulghazi khan, who brought a force of 3,000 soldiers with them. (Nizomiddinov. I, 1966, 55–56)

On March 26, (4th of Rabi' al-thani), 1061/1651 Abdulaziz khan sent an envoy named Khoja Ahmad ibn Khoja Khawand Mahmud to India. Kubad khan and Sayfi khan received them in the Indian lands. The envoy presented

- a letter, ambling gaits Turkic horses.
- male and female camels.
- a ruby worth 24,000 rupees, and other gifts.
- In return, the envoy was gifted a dagger decorated with pearls.
- a robe of honor, 25,000 rupees in cash, and accommodation.

On June 24, 1651 (6th of Rajab, 1061), he was granted 30,000 rupees and permission to return home. (Muhammad Musta'idxon Soqiy, 2013, 38-39) In 1652, Abulghazi Bahadur khan sent an envoy named Yodgor Inoq to Abdulaziz khan. The purpose of this diplomatic mission was to form an alliance between the two khanates against the Jungars. (Allworth Edward, 1990, 89) In 1665, Aurangzeb sent gifts to Bukhara worth 150,000 rupees, led by Mustafakhan Khafi. On May 11, 1669, a Bukhari delegation headed by Rustambiy delivered Abdulaziz khan's letter and gifts to India. (Nizomiddinov. I, 1966, 60)

That same year, in 1669, Abdulaziz khan sent a diplomatic mission to Russia headed by Mulla Farrukh, addressed to Tsar Mikhail Alekseyevich. (Audrey Burton, 1993, 29) In response, Russia dispatched the Pazuhin brothers to Bukhara. Their delegation consisted of 10 people, and they stayed in Khiva and Bukhara for 2.5 years, studying caravan routes leading to Central Asia, Iran, and India. (Nakaz Borisu i Semenu Pazuhinim 1993, 8)

Their mission was to:

- Promote friendly relations and trade between Central Asia and Russia;
- work for the liberation of Russian slaves held in Bukhara, Balkh, and Khiva;

- Gather intelligence on the internal state of the khanates and assess which powers Russia could rely on;
- Investigate the export of silk fabric from Turkey to Germany;
- Develop strategies to encourage silk merchants to trade with Moscow and Astrakhan, by any means necessary.

In May 1670, Aurangzeb Alamgir sent an embassy to Bukhara headed by Yakkataz khan. The delegation brought:

- 100 noble horses,
- An elephant, valued at 4,000 rupees,
- A sword, dagger and saddle decorated with precious stones,
- And gifts for Abdulaziz khan worth over 2 million rupees, including valuable Indian items, five greyhounds, and four *Kajhi* horses. (Muhammad Musta'idxon Soqiy, 2013, 88)



Abdulaziz khan 1672nd year

In 1671, a Bukharian delegation led by Muhammad Sharif visited India. Aurangzeb gifted the envoys 25,000 rupees, an honorary robe, and a horse with a golden saddle. (Nizomiddinov. I, 1966, 61) Between 1673 and 1675, Abdulaziz khan sent envoys to Istanbul in hopes of securing Ottoman support against Subhankuli khan, who controlled Balkh. However, the response letter from the Ottoman side stated that no assistance could be provided. (Vasiliev.A, 2014,94) In the final years of his life, Abdulaziz khan handed over the throne to his brother Subhankuli khan and, in 1680, set out on a pilgrimage to Mecca with over three thousand pilgrims. While passing through Iran, Shah Suleiman welcomed him with hospitality and accommodated him in the Chil Ustun palace in Isfahan. There, Abdulaziz witnessed the Iranians celebrating Nowruz and spent several days enjoying the beauty of Isfahan. Afterward, he continued his long journey through Hamadan and Baghdad. (Arminius Vambery, 1873,327)

Conclusion

Abdulaziz khan elevated Bukhara's diplomatic presence by deepening relations with the Mughal Empire, the Russian Tsardom, Khiva, the Kazakh khanate, and even reaching out to the Ottoman Empire in a bid for broader geopolitical support. Abdulaziz khan, continuing this legacy, expanded diplomatic outreach with India, Iran, Russia, the Kazakh and Khiva khanates, and even sought support from the Ottoman Empire. His reign saw a flurry of diplomatic missions, including mutual exchanges with Aurangzeb, diplomatic overtures to Tsar Mikhail Alekseyevich, and coordination with Abulgazi Bahadur khan of Khiva. These efforts were not only aimed at securing military and political alliances but also fostering trade, protecting national interests, and positioning Bukhara as a key player in regional geopolitics.

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