

## TAJ SALMANI'S WORK "TARIKHNOMA" AS A SOURCE OF ECONOMIC PROCESSES IN MOVARAUNNAHR (1404–1409)

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**Abstract:** This article is dedicated to the issues of economic life in the Timurid kingdom after the death of Amir Temur which are mentioned in "Tarikhnomas" by Taj Salmani and other sources of this period.

**Key words:** "Tarikhnomas", "Zafarnamas", "Habib us-siyar", "Harvor", sarraf, barot and parvancha, "Bor ol", anban furushon, jarib, miskal, ban.

Written sources have a great place and importance in the study of our history, especially its medieval period. One such source is the work "Tarikhnomas" (History) written by the famous calligrapher and historian Taj Salmani, who was known as a famous secretary in the administration of Amir Temur.

Taj Salmani lived in a period of political instability and profound economic transformation of the Uzbek state after the death of Amir Temur and these events were not reflected in his works. "Tarikhnomas" is the first historical work written after Amir Temur's death, which reflects political and economic processes not fully reflected in many sources.

We know that after Amir Temur's death a period of relative political chaos started in the Timurid kingdom. From this point of view, most of the historical events and incidents recorded in the work are about the political processes that took place in the region. After the death of Amir Temur the idea of unification to achieve the last military goal by his trustees (Shah Malik\* and Sheikh Nuriddin\*), the work they did, the failure of this plan and distortion of Amir Temur's will by Khalil Sultan are mentioned in the work and such important information as illegal seizure of power, countless plundering of state treasury, mutual military campaigns and coups, attempts of Shahrukh to keep the kingdom united as in the time of his father Amir Temur.

The work also pays special attention to the economic tensions arising from political instability. The author gives very important and valuable information about economic life in Movaraunnahr during the reign of Khalil Sultan and the financial policy of the ruler, such information is not covered in such detail in any source of this period.

It is known that Khalil Sultan came to Samarkand in the middle of Ramadan 807/March 1405 and, having come to power, naturally seized state treasury and Amir Temur's property accumulated for many years. On this occasion the "Tarikhnomas" gives the following information: *"All inheritance of Khalil Sultan Hakan, all that he left, mines, different animals, property brought from different countries of the world for 37 years, sultans, wives and ladies of Hazrat Hakan, children, other emirs and took all wealth that belonged to servants without any difficulties and injustice"*. [1; 481].

Historian Khandamir in his work "**Habib us-siyar**" gives the following information about these countless riches: *"the quantity of the treasure and hoard consisting of money, property and jewels,*

*abundance of jewels and stocks was to such an extent that it was difficult to calculate it. The other equipment of the kingdom - arrows, bows, arrows, shields, tents, large tents, women's tents and the king's palace tents were so numerous that it was difficult to write them down with a pen and interpret them with language". [8; 313].*

Also in Samarkand, at that time, Sharafuddin Ali Yazdi, collected the treasures of the kings of Iran and Turan for years from Kalmyk to Rum and from India to Syria, from Khorezm and Dashti Kipchak to the Russian lands, much wealth was brought from such countries as Bulgar and Farang, and also from the territories and areas conquered by Sahibkiran in thirty six years, has noted, that the collected taxes have been taken from this treasure, and that in four years after this treasure and the weapon have got in hands Khalil Sultan, from it there was no trace left [4; 902].

The "Tarikhnom" also pays special attention to the economic tensions that arose as a result of political turmoil. In particular, when Sheikh Nuriddin was ordered to collect all the treasures in one place, the treasure was looted, because he did not take the Bukhara treasure under his control and could not protect it. The result of this event is described in the source as follows: All the treasures of the late Hazrat Hakan in Bukhara, gold, silver, horses and other animals, as well as princes, beks, viceroys and all the property of their relatives were thrown to the onslaught of market thieves, and these goods became a means of subsistence in the hands of thieves. [1; 170-171].

After Khalil Sultan took the Samarkand throne, the country's economy began to derail as a result of the sultanate's inexperience in management and wrongly chosen economic policies. In this regard, the "Tarikhnom" contains the following information: Gold and silver coins, diamonds, various items (امتعه), rubies and fabrics were handed over to his people in Arki Oliy (ارگ عالی). On that very day, Amirzada Halil began to distribute the wealth and items in the treasury to the dignitaries (اشراف). The treasures and things in the storehouses were distributed to such an extent that no one needed to ask him for anything anymore. So many donations were made that a person worth less than ten dinars took away gold in the amount of "kharvar" \*. And the one who was worth a hundred dinars did not get a single dinar [1; 176-177] ...Even a person who does not have the right to wear clothes, wears a fancy dress. The one who did not have the value of a grain of barley took away a hirman worth of jewels. Those who do not have the right to receive a piece of palos (پلاس), dowries and dowries, wear a magnificent crown (تاج مگل). When they realized that the country is run not by money, but by people, it was no longer useful to be sorry, the listed corruptions eventually led to bad consequences [1; 176], Taj Salmani pointed out this economic poverty.

At the same time, the situation had reached such a level that Khalil Sultan, fearing that members of the government would turn against him, began handing out public funds to them with ease, a situation that was conducted without any accounts or records. The author expressed it as follows: *"When this news (of Sultan Hussein's rebellion) reached Amirzadeh Khalil and his men, they became worried again. Immediately they started giving property from the treasury again. The state of the treasury was revised to cover the needs of the army. Out of fear and confusion, gold in the amount of "harwar" was donated. Waste was allowed to such an extent that if one tenth of one tenth was counted, it would not end in centuries."* [1; 230-231].

Khalil Sultan, in order to cover the needs of the army, commits incalculable extravagance in the disposal of state funds [1; 230-233]. As a result, treasury management is left almost unchecked. In this regard, the "Tarikhnom" provides the following information: *"In the process of spending the treasury in this form, the order of barot\* and parvancha (برات و پروانچه) was completely obsolete, and recording of daily income and expenses (ثبت روزنامه یکسر) was also prohibited. In this way, there was a lot of confusion in the management of the treasury. The situation has reached such a*

level that as soon as a Turkish word such as "go" (بار آل) is spoken to a soldier, he will take 100 of his own price (خط مغشوش) from open treasury money with a forged order (نمونه مهر آل) and a specimen of the ruler's seal (بهاء خویش) every day they took the surplus and looted it. No one was worried about it."

Due to the aimless and excessive distribution of money and funds, issues such as the devaluation of money and the sharp rise in prices are also revealed in the source through specific examples: In the end, after countless expenses, the soil is equal in value to gold, and the pot is equal to jewels. to be placed. According to the words of one of the reliable people: On that day, they gave a donation to one of the Iraqi beys. Two of his servants went to the treasury to get this money. The dinars could not be counted because of the great number of money takers. Several money changers (صراف) weighed (the dinars) with scales and counted them in bags and gave them to them. One of those two laborers noticed that the money changers had made a mistake of seven hundred dinars during the counting, and asked his partner Khojatash: "Why should I accept this shortfall that serves the benefit of others?" said. He ignored his partner's words, knowing that the said money would not be harmed: "After the exchange of silver coins, there is little time to recalculate what was handed over, and other men and women are waiting to receive money, so he spent more time in this crowd and agreed again for this amount (of money)". "It's not worth sitting," he took whatever was given to him without harm or care. According to another narration, the sellers of leather bags in the city (انبان فروشان) sold one bag for one dinar the day before, and seeing that the people were in a hurry and leaving with a profit, they brought (its value) to 30 dinars next to the treasury that day.

Also Ibn Arabshah stops on a deep economic crisis in Movaraunnahr during the reign of Khalil Sultan and states that at that time in Samarkand there was hunger and high prices, and there was nothing more valuable than gold and silver among people [7; 51].

During the reign of Khalil Sultan the process of leaving Samarkand was also reflected in Tarihnom, which was caused primarily by the economic crisis caused by Khalil Sultan's wrong economic policies in the country. In particular, the Iraqis transferred to Samarkand by Amir Temur, due to the fact that the ruler had not fulfilled the economic contract concluded between them and Khalil Sultan by appointing Alouddawla\*, son of Baghdad ruler Jaloyir Sultan Ahmed, as their leader\*, they went to Khorezm\* by the Kuzi Mundog road\* as well as a group of civilians. The victims also preferred to flee, because of economic scarcity and difficulties, and headed towards Bukhara and Khorezm [1; 405-406].

By the end of Khalil Sultan's rule, the borders of the territories under his control had shrunk and his financial power had extremely diminished. The History gives a clear account of this, and the author stresses that there is no exaggeration. According to him, the borders of the country belonging to Khalil Sultan did not extend beyond Kesh on the side of Jeyhun and Dizak\* on the side of Sayhun, in fact there was not even a few hectares of land left to feed the palace animals [1; 485].

The economic crisis that took place during these periods was observed not only in the districts of Mowaraunnahr, but also in the district of Khorasan. According to sources, in 809/1406 there was a famine in Khorasan, especially in the city of Herat, due to a poor harvest unprecedented in history, and the price went up. For example, the price of a man\* of wheat equal to the weight of two hundred and fifty miscales\* reaches three kabaka\* dinars, which corresponds to two miscales of pure silver minted [2; 141, 5; 105, 6; 126]. Then Shahrukh opens warehouses and orders people to sell one maund of grain for one dinar [2; 141, 5; 105].

## CONCLUSION

In conclusion, it should be noted that during the rule of Amir Timur he succeeded in building a prosperous society according to the criterion of justice, but the political instability that arose after his death did not fail to affect the economy of the region. This was primarily due to power struggles among the Timurids and their inability to unite to achieve a common goal.

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## APPENDIX

- a) Shohmalik (died in 1426) - one of the most trusted and important officials of Amir Timur.
- b) Sheikh Nuriddin (killed in 1411) - one of the major officials of Amir Timur.
- c) Kharwar (خروړ) is a measure of the weight of a donkey.
- d) Toqi (ṭāqīh) is a type of high conical cap.
- e) Barot - has several meanings: 1) a written instruction given by the ruler to get gold or similar valuables from the treasury; 2) the fifteenth night of the month of Sha'ban or the blessing recited for the deceased on this night.
- f) Alouddavla - the son of Sultan Ahmad ibn Uwais Jalayir, who pursued Sultan Ahmad who fled Baghdad in 1393, was captured by Osmanbek ibn Abbas Bahadir and brought to Sahibqiran. At the end of 1408, he was freed from captivity in Samarkand and went to his father.
- g) Ibn Arabshah stated that the leader of the Iraqis was Haji Poshsha, and Sultan Alouddawla accompanied them [7; 38].
- h) Quzi Mundog (موند داغ وزي) is probably the village of Qiziltepa in Qamashi district.
- i) In "Tarihi Ja'fari" it is mentioned that they went to Obivard (120 km south-east of present-day Ashgabat) via the Bukhara road, from there they went to Mozandar and returned to their destination [3; 46].
- j) If Ibn Arabshah states that Iraqilan left Samarkand at the beginning of Shawwal / Monday night, March 22, 1406 [7; 38], Hafiz Abru noted that Aloud Dawlani, the leader of the Iraqis, arrived in Baghdad in late 809 / May 1406 [2; 232].

- k) Dizaq (دیزق) is the present city of Jizzakh.
- l) Jarib (جریب) - land measure. means an area of 958 square meters.
- m) Misqal is an ancient unit of weight: equal to approximately 4.24 grams.
- n) Man - a unit of weight, the Herat man was equal to 3700 grams.
- o) Kabakiy (Керакі) is a silver coin issued by Kepak Khan (1318-1326) from Chigatay. One dinar was equal to two shekels of silver or six dirhams.