

Odiljon A. Makhsudov*associate professor, lecturer of the Academy of the Armed Forces of the Republic of Uzbekistan
mahsudovodil84@gmail.com***MILITARY ART OF AMIR TIMUR IN THE CONQUEST OF INDIA**

Abstract: Various sources provide a lot of information about Amir Temur's contribution to the development of state administration, science and culture. Among these, his contribution to the development of military art is also incomparable. In this article, Amir Temur's art of preparing the army for the conquest of India, creating a battle order, comparing the forces and means of the sides, and conducting the battle is covered.

Key words: the horseman, a boat, an army, a reserve, fight, military art.

It is known from history that Amir Temur founded a strong centralized state in his time. He united huge territories into the centralized state he founded. These regions included India.

Amir Timur started marching to conquer India in 1388 with 92,000 cavalry. Regarding the real purpose of the march, Nizamiddin Shami, who was a direct witness of the events and accompanied Amir Temur for a long time, described all of this in the following way: He showed grace to cleanse the sinful infidels from their unclean bodies and extinguish the veil of the infidels' conspiracy, which determines their quality, with the blade of a flaming sword [1].

At first, Amir Temur's army crossed the Amudarya through a bridge built on boats around the city of Termiz, and after two months of travel, he left behind the Hindikush mountains. The process of crossing the mountain caused many problems. In particular, during the day, the snow softened under the sun's rays and the horses got stuck in the snow, while at night it became cold and the snow froze, making it more difficult for the troops to move. In this way, the army reached the pass. Going down the pass also caused a lot of problems, some were lying on their backs, others were holding the ropes. Amir Temur was lowered into a smaller boat by tying ropes. After crossing the pass, Amir Temur's army reached the city of Kabul. From here, the army marched across the Indus (Sindh) river to India:

in the column on the left, there are 30,000 people led by Sultan Mahmud Khan, Emirzada Rustam and other emirs, in the direction of the city of Lahore;

in the middle, (slave, in some sources - slave) that is, 30,000 people in the middle column under the leadership of Amir Temur himself, in the direction of Andarob;

in the column on the right, 30,000 people under the leadership of Prince Pirmuhammad Jahangir are in the direction of the city of Molton.

On September 24, 1398, Amir Temur's army crossed the Indus River through a bridge built by engineer units. In early October, the army crossed the wide and deep Chitora River (one of the tributaries of the Indus River, now in the Punjab province of Pakistan) on a bridge built on boats for three days.

Amir Temur's army came to the banks of the Bayah River (one of the tributaries of the Indus River) to join the right-wing army besieging the city of Molton. The army besieging Molton faced great difficulties and losses. Due to the heavy rains, floods, changing climate and the lack of fodder for the horses, almost all of the warriors' horses contracted disease and died. Amir Temur allocated 30,000 horses from his reserve to this army.

After that, a part of Amir Temur's army crossed the Bayah river in boats, and another part swam. Under the guise of surrendering to his city, Amir Temur headed towards the city of Dibalpur, where he brought in 1000 people from Movaraunnahr's army and massacred them. When Amir

Temur's army approached, the people of Dibalpur left the city and took refuge in the neighboring fortress of Batnir, which had strong fortifications.

Amir Temur took an army of 10,000 men to occupy the Batnir fortress [2]. At the end of the first attack, the fortifications around the fortress were captured. On the first day, the defenders of the fortress managed to repulse the attack of Amir Temur. On the second day, the engineering units of Amir Temur's troops started to dig tunnels towards the fortress. The defenders of Batnir, who learned about this, surrendered and left their fate to the hands of the winners, this event took place on November 8, 1398 [3].

On December 8, the lashkar (combination) that occupied Batnir caught up with the separate lashkars (combinations) on the threshold of Dibalpur. On December 12, the entire army (92,000 people) that went on a trip to India gathered at the designated place (the assembly area) [4].

The army moved from the vicinity of the city of Somina to Delhi in three more directions: the center and the army (rear of the front) along the straight road leading to the city of Delhi, and the right and left wings - began to move along side roads. After capturing the city of Luni on November 15, Amir Temur convened the Supreme Military Council, and the only problem on the council's agenda was how to conduct the siege of Delhi.

The army continued its movement from Luni to the east, after crossing the Yamuna (Jamna) river, settled near Delhi and established a camp. In order to prevent an unexpected attack by the Indian troops, measures were taken to protect the settlement, that is, a trench was dug around it and various barriers were erected.

On December 18, 1398, Sultan Mahmud of India left Delhi with his army and arrived at the battlefield. His army consisted of 10,000 well-armed sepoys, 40,000 foot soldiers, and 120 war elephants, protected from bow arrows, spears and swords by thick coverings, with huge poisoned daggers attached to their tusks. Towers (towers) were placed on the elephants' backs, where archers armed with crossbows and bows were placed. Next to the elephants, the radandoz (soldiers armed with flamethrowers) and archers (crossbowmen) stood and fought [5].

When Amir Temur became aware of the exaggerated imagination (fear) of his warriors about elephants, the following measures were taken during the preparation for the battle:

during the attack of the Indians, iron spike-like stars were prepared to throw under the feet of elephants;

oxen (camels in some sources) had tree branches and straw tied to their heads and, lighting them, drove the oxen against enemy elephants;

soldiers wounded the trunks of elephants with spears, arrows and swords.

These events raised the spirits of the warriors and showed their effectiveness in battle. At this point, it is necessary to emphasize that 1/10 of the soldiers were allocated to guard the prisoners taken during the hostilities until Amir Temur arrived at the gates of Delhi [6].

The order of battle of Sultan Mahmud's army included the right and left wings, the center and a line of war elephants in front of the center. Amir Temur lined up his troops in two lines with a reserve. In some sources, there is also information that cannons were placed on the wings of Amir Temur's troops.

The battle began with the battle of the flanks. During the relentless battle, Amir Temur's warriors deliberately damaged the trunks of the war elephants on the enemy's flanks, causing them to retreat and disrupt the order of battle of Sultan Mahmudshah's troops. Noticing this in time, Amir Temur brought the center of the army into the battle and destroyed most of them by attacking the enemy's line of elephants and then the center of the enemy's soldiers. The enemy was confused and fled. The pursuit of the enemy continued to the outskirts of Delhi. Sultan Mahmud entered the city and

saved his life, and after a while, secretly left the southern gate of the city at night, fled to the south, surrendered the capital of India to Amir Timur without a fight.

A number of leading experts in the world recognized the following as the conclusions and main conclusions of the march to India from the point of view of the development of Military Art:

Amir Temur made the march to India with an army of only 92,000 men, even though he had enough reserves for mobilization. This is a well-organized study of the situation in India, collection of intelligence data, generalization and assessment of the situation. The collected data were carefully analyzed and the necessary operational-strategic calculations, including the ratio of forces and means, march calculations, and the calculations of the distribution of forces and means were carried out very accurately;

the fact that the army passed through the Turkey Mountains with extremely difficult conditions in a short time, almost without casualties, not only the divisions and parts that move in mountain conditions (now mountain riflemen), but the whole army is a high-level mountain proves the assumption that he has passed his training;

The fact that the armies crossed a number of wide and narrow rivers encountered on their way using various methods of crossing (via bridges, boats, sailing, etc.), it was necessary to occupy cities and fortresses with strong defensive fortifications (lahm) excavations, occupation devices - manjaniq, arroda, etc. skillfully used, as a result of which the besieged enemy troops were surrendered in a short time, it means that all-round support of combat operations, including engineering support activities, was carried out effectively in Amir Temur's army;

despite the fact that it was the first time he faced war elephants, which were in the arsenal of the enemy and were considered the most terrible weapon of that time, the fact that Amir Temur used effective methods and tools to fight against this weapon testifies to his great strategist and wisdom;

in the successful completion of the battle, the high level of organized cooperation among the armies is of great importance in the victory achieved;

the decisive main blow was directed at the weakest point of the enemy's battle order, at the center of the battle;

Amir Timur's army's actions in the battle were so fierce and serious that the spirit of the enemy commanders and army was completely broken, and they did not even dare to defend the capital of the country, Delhi.

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