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AMIR TEMUR'S ARMY

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Annotation: This article provides information about the armed forces, units, weapons, and military positions created by the great commander Amir Temur to centralize his state.

Keywords: Tavochi, Onbashi, Yuzbashi, Mingbashi, Qoshun, Tunqal, Amir ul – umaro.

Our great ancestor, the invincible commander Amir Temur, was able to create a powerful state in the second half of the 14th century. In creating this centralized and large state, Amir Temur greatly helped in creating a perfectly organized army, a thorough plan drawn up before the battle, and skillfully managing his army. The established commanders and positions in the army, as well as the fact that he rewarded ordinary soldiers with good salaries and awards for good performance in battle, increased the loyalty of his army.

After Amir Temur came to the throne of Transoxiana in 1370, he conducted extensive military campaigns to expand its borders, punish enemies and establish settlements in neighboring states. He won all these battles. The factor of victories was the courage and loyalty of the strong army formed by Temur.

Amir Temur began to organize an army suitable for his time. He was the first in the East to introduce firearms, that is, cannons, into the army. From, he organized special military units consisting of infantry fighting in the mountainous region. Amir Temur was the first in the history of military art to divide his army into seven divisions and introduce order on the battlefield. There were also women in the army, who stood in the same row as men during the battle.

The army consisted of infantry and cavalry. Timur attached more importance to the importance of infantry than the Mongols. For movement during long campaigns, the infantry was also provided with horses. Sometimes, when it was necessary to shoot at a specific target, the cavalry also dismounted and moved on foot.

The main role in the army was played by cavalry. They were divided into fast-moving light cavalry and heavily armed cavalry. The task of the heavily armed cavalry was to deliver a decisive blow to the enemy. Amir Timur also had guards and guardsmen.[2. – B 84]

The army was divided into “Tens” (“ayl”), “Hundreds” (“qoshun”), “Mingliklar” (“hazara”) and “O’n mingliklar” (“tuman”) and they were led by “O’nbashi”, “Yuzbashi”, “Mingboshi” and “Amir”. “The number of soldiers in the districts was 10 thousand, and in the army 100 thousand. Military positions such as “Tuman aghasi” were created to lead the 10 thousandth army, “Mirikhazora” to lead the thousandth unit, “Qoshunbashi” to lead the hundred, and “Aylbashi” to lead the ten.

Amir Temur always took care of the equipment and supplies of his soldiers. He introduced a law that every eighteen ordinary soldiers took a tent (yhama) with them during the campaign. Each soldier was to receive a sword, a saw, a bigiz, a sack (juvol), a juvoldoz, an axe, ten needles, and a leather bag that hung on his back. Every five of the brave men received a tent, each one a suit of iron armor (javshan), a helmet, a sword, a sadaq (arrow), a bow, and five horses. Each of the hundred chiefs received a tent, ten horses, a sword, a sadaq bow, a hammer, a choqmor, a koskan (helmet, iron cap), a zirh (armor),

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and a bagtar (a suit of iron covered with velvet or other fabric). The thousand chiefs received a tent, an umbrella, and as much armor as they could carry—a suit of armor, a helmet, a spear, a sword, a sadaq, and a bow and arrows. The first emir received a tent, a hut, a pair of umbrellas, and weapons and equipment sufficient for his subordinates. Similarly, the second, third... up to the emir ul-umaro, each of whom was ordered to receive weapons and other equipment according to their rank. The procedure for using horses was determined as follows. The first emir received one hundred ten horses, the second one hundred and twenty, the third one hundred and thirty, the fourth one hundred and forty. It is prescribed to take horses in this order until he reaches Amir-ul-Umar, and it is emphasized that Amir-ul-Umar should take no less than three hundred horses with him. Each of the infantry soldiers took with him a sword, a bow, and as many arrows as they could carry. [4. – B 387]

The cavalry, armed with bows, crossbows, and swords, was mainly engaged in reconnaissance and guard duty, and in times of extreme necessity had the right to fight enemy forces. Before setting off on a campaign, Temurbek summoned the heads of state, ministers, commanders, beks, and emirs to a military council - consultation. At the same time, a special order was issued to collect troops from various regions and districts of the ulus, as well as from subordinate countries. The decree was quickly delivered to the necessary places by the adjutant-tavochi, a high-ranking official, the commander-in-chief. In addition to collecting troops, the adjutant was also responsible for monitoring the location of army units in camp and on the march, their combat formation, and their movement from one place to another. According to Temurbek's decree, four of the prominent military leaders were appointed to the position of first-class commanders, that is, beklarbegi. One of the prominent emirs was given the position of amir ul-umaro and served as the supreme commander-in-chief, that is, Temurbek's deputy. In wars and battles in which Sahibkiran did not directly participate, the amir ul-umaro commanded the army. In addition to these four beks, there were twelve more beks. They commanded from a thousand to twelve thousand cavalry. The commander in the lower rank was subordinate to the commander in the higher rank.

Three hundred and thirteen beks led the various units and divisions of Amir Temur's army. The first hundred of them held the ranks of ten-begi, the second hundred held the ranks of a hundred-begi, and the third hundred held the ranks of a thousand-begi. The districts were led by the children and grandchildren of Sahibquran and a number of prominent military leaders.

Sahibquran paid special attention to forming the composition of the commanders from individuals who had the required level of skill and competence in military work. The salaries of ordinary soldiers who showed courage and heroism in battles were increased. Some Soldiers who fled the battlefield for any reason were deprived of participating in the distribution of booty. Those who returned wounded in the war were placed in a place of honor and His Majesty's blessing was shown to them. [3. – B. 14 - 17]

Amir Temur paid special attention to four things in his military campaigns, which he organized to establish peace in countries where order was broken, strengthen the laws of Sharia, and punish disobedient people.

The first is to act with proper council and preparation in any country he wanted to conquer.

The second is to think carefully and be vigilant and careful in order to avoid mistakes.

The third is to unite around him three hundred and thirteen noble, courageous and intelligent young men. Their unity was very strong.

The fourth is that Amir Temur did not postpone today's work for tomorrow. When softness was needed, he was gentle, when it was time to use firmness, he took tough measures. He did not rush where there was no need to rush, he did not postpone urgent matters. If it was possible to finish a task in a timely manner, he did not use the sword.

Amir Temur did not spare worthy rewards for those who showed heroism in battles. For example, if any of the ten heads, a hundred heads and a thousand heads broke the enemy's ranks and defeated the

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enemy's army in front of him, then if he had ten heads, he became the governor of the city. If he had a hundred heads, he was given the rule of a country. For example, in the battle with Tokhtamysh, Barlos Bahadir went face to face with the enemy and defeated them. He rewarded him and appointed him the governor of the country of Hisari Shadmon. If the thousand heads defeated the enemy in front of him, he made him the ruler of the country. For example, Muhammad Azad defeated the black-clad army that had defeated Burhan Oglan's army (shortly before the Battle of Katur) and dealt them a severe blow. Muhammad Azad appointed the governor of Kunduz and Kulib.

If any of the emirs conquered any country in the hands of the enemy, that country was given to him as a gift for three years. Any soldier who showed bravery by wielding a sword was given a hammer, a hilt set with precious stones, a belt, a crane-shaped sword, and a horse as a gift and was promoted to the position of a commander. If he showed bravery for the second or third time, he was promoted to the position of a commander of a hundred and a thousand. [1. – B 117 – 135 .]

In conclusion, Amir Temur's army was one step ahead of the armies of its time. Because this army was perfectly organized in all respects. He was able to use new types of weapons and battle tactics wisely. Also, after Amir Temur gave worthy titles and wealth to the soldiers who showed heroism in battles, they became more loyal and invincible on the battlefield than ever before. The martial arts of Amir Temur are still taught in military schools today.

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