

**Ferghana In The VII Century: It's Development As A Powerful State
And Its Collapse**

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***Abstract:** The article covers the political history of the Ferghana Valley in the VII century, based on historical sources and literature. In particular, the cause and consequences of the division of the Ferghana into two parts in the 40-years of the VII century were analyzed. Information about Ashina Shona, Yebochji in northern Ferghana, Alyaosan in Southern Ferghana, cousin of Khuttal king, also took place from the article.*

***Key words:** Ferghana, Arab Caliphate, Ashina Shona, Ta'n Bahadur, Kibi, Alyaosan, Khumin, cousin of the Khuttal King, ixshids, Syuan Szyan, Yazdigard III, al-Ahnaf, Yopi Ta'lu, Yebochji.*

The political, socio-economic history of the Ferghana Valley in the 7th century is one of the poorly studied periods. During this period, the valley was being dominated by the dynasty that founded the ancient Kushan dynasty, it obeyed the Turkish Khanate for formalism but it was almost independent. In written and numismatic sources, the names of several rulers who ruled in Ferghana in the VII century were mentioned. Among them, we can include Qopish (Kibi), who ruled the entire Ferghana until 630 and, as a result of internal disputes, was killed by the western Turkish Khan Toon Bahadur in the same year. After this event, Ferghana divides into two parts, the northern and Southern. This process continued until the middle of the VIII century, that is, in Ferghana, until the Arslan Tarhan came to power [11:150]. The northern part of the valley was ruled by representatives of the dominant dynasty of the Turkish Khanate, while the southern part of Ferghana was ruled by representatives of the local dynasty. For example, in

Northern Ferghana was ruled by Ashina Shona (630-650), Yebochji (650-660), Southern Ferghana was ruled by Alyaosan (Huminda) (640-660), cousin of Khuttal king (660-680).

After the Turks conquered the valley, it seems that the local dynasty, like the eftalis, was left under its rule. Because in Chinese sources there is no information about the political situation in Ferghana, about the ruling dynasty and, in general, about the participation of the ancient Turks in the political life of the valley in the period from 560-IES to 627-649-ies. Only in Suysu it is noted that the local ruler sent an ambassador with his products to China in 605 years [37:549]. From this it is possible to conclude that when the ambassadors from Ferghana to China were divided into two parts as a result of internal struggles, and with the help of China, using such a favorable situation, the Ferghana ruler could have sought to consolidate his position in the Valley.

However, by the beginning of the VII century, it is observed that the Turkish khakans were beginning to dispose of the dynasties in several Oasis rulers and appoint representatives of their own household instead [21:287-310]. This situation also did not bypass Ferghana. For example, according to "tan-shu " one of the rulers Kibi in the Zheng-Guan period (627-649) was killed by Gan Moxedu.

Ashena (Ashina sheni) took away from him (that is, from Gan Mokhedu) the city (Sizzyan)" [19:85; 8:34].

The Chinese traveler, Xiuan Jian, noted in his travel notes that at the time of his arrival in the valley there was not a single ruler in the Ferghana Valley, local rulers were fighting among themselves and this situation lasted several decades[5:95; 25:53]. Also, in the source of the Suy dynasty, the ruler of Ferghana state, his capital and other similar important information were given[37: 550]. For example: “ in the west of the capital of the Ferghana state Pamir (Sungling)is located about 50 li, which in ancient times was called Giashieu. The ruler's surname is Jabgil (Zhzhav'u), the name is Aalchi (Alich). To the capital wall turnover comes 4 li (2,304 km). The number of soldiers consists of several thousand people.

The ruler sits on the throne in the form of a Golden Ram. The ruler's wife wears a golden crown. Here is a lot of red sand, gold, iron " [19: 69]. The fact that the Ferghana ruler was met in the style of "Jabbah" in Chinese sources should be attributed to the period of Ferghana's subordination to the Turkish Khanate, since in other sources the Ferghana rulers were interpreted as "ihshid". Like other dependent countries, the Turkish Khan was given the title of "yabgi", which means that the Ferghana ruler had no right. Chinese historians can be based on this. However, local compactness management was also maintained.] The so-called ikhshid of the Ferghana ruler is also met in the works of Arab historians Ibn Khallikon and Ibn Hurdodbehaydi [35:49; 36:251]

One of the more significant events associated with the Ferghana Valley in the first half of the VII century was the clash of the ferganians with the Arabs. In the period of the western Turkish Khakani Yap full (640-651), the Ferghana collided with the Arabs in the upper reaches of the Tajan river[12:185;23:59].

About the first military conflict of the fergans with the Arabs, the historian Tabari cites the following information. In 643 year, the ruler of the Sassanid state Yazdigard III carried out military actions against the Arabs, sent an ambassador to Sogd ikhshidi and the Turkish Khan and asked for their help. However, since help does not come, he retreated to the Right Bank of the Amudarya. Later, the Turkish Khan decides to help Yazdigard III. Tabari writes about this: "he (Khakon – author) came with the Turks and collected [soldiers] from the inhabitants of Ferghana and Sogd. Then he walked with them. Yazdigard also came back to Khorasan and walked: he crossed the river and stood on the Balkh. And the Khan also passed by him from the water. And the unbelievers (that is, the troops of Yazdigard III and Khakon – the author) stopped walking from the Balx and coming to the Marvarud opposite al-Ahnaf" [23;59; 24:19]. So fargonians in the composition of the Turkish army of khakans participated for the first times in 643 year in a march against the Arab invaders near the city of Marvarrud.

Tabari says another interesting piece of information related to this event. After the event of Marvarrud, the Turkish Khan wanted to return to his homeland.

Then, apparently, Yazdigard, who did not believe in his own strength, also expressed a desire to go with him. But some of his armies expressed reverence. As a result, a dispute arose, part of the army left the King. Using it, the Arabs attacked against Yazdigard and defeated him. "He fled – - writes Tabari – – and came to Ferghana, to seek refuge, passing by the river (Amudya-author). He remained on that place until the end of the Umar Rule (khalif)" [23:62; 24:19]. Hence, the Iranian King Yazdigard took refuge in Ferghana for a period of about a year, in 643-644-th year. Yazdigard brought with him his daughter, who has reached puberty. Later this girl became famous in Arabic literature under the name "arusa al-Ferghana", that is, "the bride of Ferghana", becoming a literary hero.

In the sources, information about who led the fargonian's fight against the Arabs, did not clear us until now. Considered that the ancient Persian state had links with the city of Quva [38:21], it is highly likely that Yazdigard III came to the city of Quva. Accordingly, in the above conflict, we can say that the ferganians were led by Alaocene, who ruled the southern territory of Ferghana in the years 640-660 [12:185].

If we contemplate the fate of Yazdigard III, The Last King of the Sassanids, then he returned to Khorasan and continued to fight against the Arabs. In 651, he sent a letter to Ferghana's ishxid, asking for help from him again. At this request, the sources do not come across information that the Ferghana ruler helped him. As a result, in the summer of that year, Yazdigard III was killed, and the city of Marv was in the hands of the Arabs. In this way, the state of the Sassanids was destroyed.

After Kan Moxedu (To'n Bahadur) killed Kibi in Ferghana, it is understood that the management in the Valley took over Ashena. Some researchers argue that he is from the western Turkish Khakassia – the House of Ashina, that is, he is a prince. This is evidenced by the fact that his possession of Ferghana is associated with this Khan activity. The first Bahadur Khan, who became the Supreme Ruler of Western khanate, was sent to them by his close relatives – his trusted people-as a result of changes in the management of the countries. As cited in the Chronicle,

after Ebochji took control, he himself settled in the city Giyesay (Kosona) and sent an ambassador with gifts to China in 656 year. This means that the fact that Ashina Shuni's son Ebochji's sending an ambassador to China as the head of Ferghana indicates that the traitor was trying to establish an independent policy.

The sending of this embassy between the years 650 was associated with the political changes that took place in the region. In the 656 year, the troops of the tan dynasty in China came to Yettisuv to subjugate the western Turkish Khakon. A little later, in 658 year, near Ferghana, the so-called "Davan" was founded and the administration was given a Turkish deputy called Kan tudun (*Tudun Toon). In Ferghana, the representative of the Ashina household, Eboji sitting Kesay (Koson), was changed by the Chinese in the same year as the Ryu-shun province, which appointed Alyaosan to control the land. It is interesting that the Chinese appointed representatives of other dynasties, such as Kan tudun (ton tudun) and Alyaosan, not the Ashina dynasty.

The fact that there was Ashina dynasty in Ferghana has confirmation not only from Chinese chronicles, but also in some evidence from Arab-Persian sources. The name of the rulers of the Egyptian dynasty of Ixshidiy (935-969), whose origin was Ferghana, is found in Arabic sources and many of them are Turkish-based. In Ibn Hallikon's work "Death al-a'yonwa anbau al-Zaman" the full geneology of one of them was given: Tuguch ibn Chuq ibn Yel-tegin Axshid ibn Furon (Buron) ibn Furi (Buri) ibn Xogon (Xoqon) al-Fergani.. Some researchers rely on this meeting of Turkic names, such shajaradael-tegin, xoqon kabi unvon, Tug'uch, Chuq, Bo'ron, Bo'ri, and Arab historians also refer to the Egyptian Khakassidis as Turkic, linking this dynasty with the Turks, including Turkish Khakassia. In Central Asia before the Arab invasion, representatives of this household had the right to apply the title of "Khakon", just as the title of "Tegin". Ferghana was conquered by the Arabs and representatives of the land dynasty were taken to Egypt, although they continued to apply some Turkic titles to the memory of their origin or put them as a name to their children.

Now we dwell briefly on the personality of Ashina Shoni. Archaeologist A.N.Y. Bernshtam argued that Ashina Shuni was a person named Ashina, belonging to the Shunishis [3: 23]. However, given the fact that the name Ashina was given only to representatives of the khakassian ruling dynasty, it becomes clear that Ashina Shuni is not from the shunishi, but from the Ashina, which is the khakassian dynasty, and is one of the Turkic Prince.

Direct information about the ruling, which was taken over by the To'n Bahadur (Gan Moxedu), does not come across in the sources about the fact that later the same dynasty was taken over by the Prince Shonda. Therefore, based on the analysis of the events that took place in those years, it is possible to find some answers to this issue.

First of all, it is necessary to pay attention to 627-649-ies of the Zheng-Guan period. It is known that the highest period of western Turkish Khakassia coincides with the Yabgukhan period– 618-630-ies. However, in 630, the internal struggles that began as a result of the murder of Tun Yabgu-Khakon by his uncle Moxedu (Bahadur) and the illegal seizure of the throne escalated, and there were clashes between the khakons and the exchange of khakons in the short term. As a result of the support of one or another of the tribes of Nushibi and Dulu, the exchange of power ended with the rebellion of Ashina Khelu in 649 and the capture of all power in the khakanate [20: 85]. So, from 630 to 649 years, political violence occurred in the western Turkish Khanate, and these events, of course, also influenced the relics of the Oasis under the hands of Khanate.

The western Turkish khakans used to refer to the vassal rulers when the authorities were in conflict with each other. However, the khakans did not seek refuge in the reigns of the Oasis they encountered. According to G'. boboyorov, some of the coins minted by the title of "Khakon" in Ferghana can also be attributed to the western Turkish khakans. The researcher also writes that as a basis of his opinion, there is a very small probability that the aforementioned Ishpara Hili sher escaped to Ferghana and there was a possibility that the coin was

suppressed on his behalf while he was standing there, and this was also one of the assumptions in this regard.

After the end of the reign of the local dynasty by To'n Bahadur, who represented the Ashina dynasty, a dynasty of representatives of the Turkish Ashina dynasty is formed in Ferghana. As a result of the mutual strife of the throne in the Khanate, instead of the To'n Bahadur, one of the princes of the Ashina dynasty, the reign of Ashina was established. And this means that the establishment of a dynasty in Ferghana, which was a branch of the Ashina household, requires re-editing the conclusion that Ashina began the dynasty. Although, the researchers identified the management years of this dynasty by 630-750-ies, this date is not accurate, but approximate.

The subsequent political events that took place in Ferghana were reflected in "Tan-shu" as follows: "after Shuni's death his son ascended to the throne instead of Ebochji, Kibi's relative Alyaoshen was also appointed ruler. He lived in the city of Khumin, and Ebochji lived in the city of Gesay, north of Zhen-Zhu (Sirdarya). In 656, Ebochji sent an ambassador with gifts to the palace (China). Emperor Gaosun was very pleased with this " [19: 85]. These data provided the researchers with the basis for the conclusions that annexation occurred in the country, that the ancient Turks could not occupy the entire Ferghana, and that only the northern part of the valley was subordinated to the Turks. Therefore, many scientists believe that from this period the Ferghana Valley was divided into two parts, in the northern part of it the ancient Turks (more precisely, the princes of the Ashina dynasty), and in the southern part the representatives of the local dynasty took control into their own hands.

If we pay attention to the sentence in the Chinese Chronicle "Aliaoshan was also appointed as ruler", it is closer to the fact that in fact the ruler of the Turkish dynasty Ebochji appointed Aliaosan (Aliaoshan), a representative of the local dynasty, as his vassal (prefect) [19: 85]. The fact that Ebochji was the main ruler can also be understood from the fact that he sent a gift to the Chinese. If Alyaosan had been also the chief ruler, he would have also had the right to send his

ambassadors to China, like Ebochji. This also shows that Alyaosan was in the position of vassal ruler (prefect), who was subordinate to him, appointed to the local dynasty by the Turkish dynasty until 657-th year.

By the 657-th year, the western Turkish Khanate was torn apart by China, and in the relics under the hands of Khanate, an administrative division peculiar to the tan empire was introduced. Ferghana also becomes one of the Chinese military governorates in 658, when these events were reflected in the Chinese chronicles: "two years later (in 658-th year.), the province named after Gesay Hyusyyn. Alyaoshen was appointed ruler of U (Hyusyyn), from that time every year he sent an ambassador to the palace (China)" [19: 85].

So, after the Ferghana became one of the governors of the tan Empire, the name Gesay was changed in the form of a Hyusyyn, where the province was founded. There were also specific reasons for the appointment of not only the Ebochji of the Ashina dynasty, but also the representative of the local dynasty, Alyaosan, to this regional administration. One of these reasons, according to scientists, Ebochji, who belonged to the ruling household of the western Turkish Khanate, which was tormented by the Chinese Army a year ago, could not be a reliable representative in the eyes of the Chinese. On the contrary, his prefect Alyaosan under the arm could have been much more confident deputy than him. This can also be understood from the fact that Alyosan sends an embassy committee with gift certificates to the Chinese emperor every year. From the above information, it is difficult to determine whether the Ebochji was thwarted to power or not. It can only be said that the information about the fact that the city of Gesay, considered the residence of Ebochji, was designated as a center of Aliaosan, suggests that the position of Ebochji in Ferghana was declining. In the Chinese source, too, no other information about Ebochji comes across after 658-th year, which means that his reign should have lasted until this year .

However, the Turkish dynasty in Ferghana was not abolished in 658-ies, while Ebochji should have continued its rule, standing in another city of Ferghana, even if it was not in Gesay or Khyusyyn. This is also confirmed by the

archaeological finds of the Early Middle Ages found in the ruins of the ancient city of Ferghana Valley such as Kuva, Axsikat, Mug'tepa (Kosonsoy), Munchuktepa [20: 85].

It should be noted that in Ferghana confessed that not only the Arabs and the Chinese, but also the Turks were of great importance [3: 25], introduced the VI-VIII centuries into the history of Ferghana with the name "Turkish period", which was said by A. N. Bernshtam in the 50-ies of the last century.

The exact information in the sources about the cousin of the Khuttal King [12: 210], who ruled the southern part of Ferghana after Alyosen, is not met. What are the sides of the connection with the nephew of the king of Khuttal Fargana?, it has not yet found its solution.

Thus, in the first half of VII in Ferghana, a dynasty belonging to the Ashina dynasty of the Turkish Khanate was formed, and this dynasty did not lose its status even in the post-Arab occupation periods. At the same time, when it came to the 40-ies of the VII century, Ferghana was divided into two parts: north and South, and this situation was manifested as a bad prediction of the future of the Valley on the eve of the Arab invasion.

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