

Alam dynasty's role in uprising of ninth February 1952 Sistan

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Abstract: This study is in line with the importance of the activities which the Emirs of Khazima or Alam's dynasty has done in Sistan. So the goal of this study is Alam dynasty's role in forming of uprising of nine February 1952 in Sistan. The research method is scientific and the necessary data is collected by using the library studies. The results show that the Alam and Pahlavi dynasty have treated with cruelty and injustice in Sistan. People were aware of this issue and formed the popular uprising of nine February 1952 and showed their opposition against them. In this regard, people were demanding their right and in this way a lot of people have been killed.

Key words: Alam's dynasty, Political developments, Uprising of 9th February 1952, Sistan

Introduction

Sistan region is in eastern of Iran and is located in north of Sistan and Baluchistan. This region has always been considered by the foreign governments because it has a special geographic position and it is near large river of Hiramnd and Hamoon Sea and it has also a special politic place and it has Special credit from strategic perspective. The main problem of this research is to study Alams' role on political developments in temporary time (the uprising of 9th February 1952). The ancestors of Alams were from the Arabian Peninsula and from the Arab tribes of Khazima. The name of this family was mentioned for the first time in history at the time of the second caliphate of Abbasid, Mansur, at the time of Mansur some riots happened around Sistan and khorsan against him. For quelling the riots of Sistan and Southern regions of Khorasan, Mansur sent Kahzem bin Khazima to these regions. He suppressed the riots and created a dynasty of Emirs of Khazima with his tribes in Ghahasatn (Kohestan) including Ghayen, Gonabad, Toon and Tabas. They chose the title of Alam for themselves at the time of Pahlavi and from this date onwards they were known as the dynasty of Khzima (Alam). During the reign of Nasareadin Shah the rule of Sistan was assigned to this family (Emir Alam Khan III). Emir Khan Alam was considered as one of the prominent face of this family. He took the title of Heshmat o Almolck from Naseradin Shah. The Alam's dynasty had an effective role in border regions of Iran for centuries as a local government (border guard). English boundaries group led by Gold Smith and Mack Mahoon and forming the current borders of Sistan (Helmand River) was formed by Alam's help and thought. On the other hand the influence and the movements of this family and the English factors led to an uprising in region in 1952 that it is one of the major political events in the region. In this study, the political status of Alam's family is independent variables and uprising of 9th February 1952 is dependent variable.

The hypothesis of the research

It seems that Alam's dynasty was effective in Uprising of 9th February 1952.

The history of the research

1. In a book entitled " Alam's dynasty and colonial policy", Dr. Sistani Afshari.I has studied the British colonial policy in Sistan and while introducing the main characters of this family, he reminds them as a colony which was effective in boundaries and policy situation of Sistan and introduced them as an effective politic factor in forming of Uprising of 9th February 1952.
2. In a book entitled " little players in the big game" Dr.Mojtahedzadeh.P reminds England as the big players and Alam's dynasty as the little players. In this book, he points to foreign ties of Alam's dynasty and also to similar circumstances of emergence of borders of Sistan and evolution of the border with Afghanistan.
3. In a book entitled " The burnt Land" Dr.Toosi.R has studied Sistan political status and importance of the external parts and reminds it as Sistan and competition of major powers and he also points to role of Heshmat o Almolck as an important and effective character of Alam's dynasty in furtherance of political issues of Sistan.
4. In a book entitled " Political and social developments of Sistan and Baluchestan" Dr Ibrahim.M introduces Alam's dynasty and points to the emirate's strategic situation and its role as a border state and then she studies the role of the family at the time of Qajar and Pahlavi II and also their role in the events of 9th February 1952.

5. In a book entitled " The history of Sistan in Qajar era" Dr Piri.M points to the place of Sistan and the events of south-east of Iran and Sistan at the time of Alam's dynasty and ultimately he points to the role of this family in destruction of Sistan and their collaboration with the United Kingdom in shaping the political boundaries of Sistan.

6. In a book entitled " a look at the history of Sistan" Dr hosainpour.P studies the secret friendship and ties of Alam's family with the English by Goldsmith and McMahan and has pointed to the role of Alam's dynasty in happened events of 9th February 1952.

Research method

The applied method in this research is scientific.

The method of data collection

The method of data collection in this research is library method.

The tools of data collection

The tools of data collection in this research are taking notes.

Discussion and Conclusion

Alam's authoritarian rule and its effects on the uprising of 9th February 1952

The name of Alam's dynasty has been tied to eastern borders of Iran for many years and they have had a critical role to play in political scene of this region especially in temporary time.

The politic power increase of Alam's dynasty was simultaneous to the presence of colonialism in Iran and eastern regions especially in Sistan. «There was a surface contact between the rulers of Ghayen and English official during the reign of Fath Ali Shah».

The attempts of the English to penetrate in areas near the India and to make them dependent was formed in the early nineteenth century and was simultaneous to Russia attempt to reach the free waters. Accordingly, England tried to attract local critics in the East of Iran to take steps in direction of the interest of their country. The coincidence of Alam's power increase in east of the country with increasing power of the English has shown that the English has had a significant role in increasing of Alam's power.

In 1872 AD, by the recommendation of the officers who were sent to the region, the Government of Britain established a potential link with Emir Alam Khan III (Heshmat o Almolk) and it was assigned to establish a local army by Britain to protect the east borders and at the same time it could be a bulwark against Russian expansionism in colonial India. Following this policy, Alam's dynasty established their unrivaled domination on the eastern regions of Iran and was changed to an autonomy government¹. The Alam's penetration in Sistan was faced with people's resistance of Sistan. Successive defeats of Emir Alam Khan's troops (Mir Masoon khan Heshmat o Almolk) in strait and (Darabandan) who were attacked by Sistani tribes caused that he would change his method and Instead of fighting, he decided to use a connection with the tribe's leaders and paved his path to Sistan. Heshmat o Almok's marriage with Abarhi Khan's daughter was one of these connections. The first European (English) was murdered by this girl (Abraham khan's daughter)². His elder son, Emir Ali Akbar Khan, also married Sharif Khan's daughter. In these ways, he was trying to penetrate in Sistan. But they didn't penetrate and was hated by the most people of Sistan according to found documents. This family was cruelty to the innocent people of Sistan. Unfortunately, Shavkat o Almolk II was appointed as the governor of Sistan rather than Heshamt o Almolk in direction to the cruelty of this family in Sisatn that the central government was aware of it and the previous trend continued again and tyranny and oppression of the Qajar rulers on the people of Sistan was continued.

Generally, the economy and the livelihood of the people of Sistan and Ghaenat were very bad and unfortunate during the time of Heshmat o Almolk I and II and Shavkat o Almolk II. Despite the report of Shavkat o Almolk, there is no document to show the constructive action to improve the condition in this region at the time of Shavkat o Almolk II³. Left traces of destruction from that age, the age of Qajar and Pahlavi in Sistan, will proof the claim that Sistan has been completely destroyed during the period of Alam's authoritarian rule. This family

1-Alam.A, the same reference, page 31

2 -Gholamali, Dehbani.R.Z, midday journal of Mashhad, Department of Arts and Culture of Khorasan, 1957, p 136.

3- the former, p 53.

was the largest landowners in Sistan and more people were landless and most of them were farmers and craftsmen. Economic problems in Sistan were increased so much that people of Sistan and Khorasan and Eshghabad immigrated to Russia.

National Assembly elections in Sistan and Ghaenat were conducted with the involvement and approval of Heshmat o Almolck. For example, in the fourth round of the National Assembly in 20th June 1921, the people of Sistan elected Moatasam o Alsaltaneh as their representative but a telegram was sent to the capital and demanded the revocation of his credentials and his representative was denied. It can be clarified based on some evidence that Shavkat o Almolck implicated in election so that «Misbah e Divan was elected as the representative of Sistan in the fourth round of the National Assembly by the power of Shavkat o Almolck and he had a major role in extinction of Qajars and formation of Reza Shah Pahlavi regime⁴».

Quoting from Colonel Pridaks, the Consul General of Great Britain in Khorasan, English interference in the fourth round of voting in elections in Sistan is evident he says:

«After revocation of Moatasam o Alsaltaneh's credentials, the representative of Sistan, two friends of mine demanded me to support their candidacy and I think that Misbah e Divan is the most appropriate one⁵»

Misbah e Divan became lawyer of Sistan and it can be observed that it needed the prior approval of English for candidacy. So the index of lack of adherence to the law and imposing the will of government on citizens with cooperation of domestic tyranny and foreign colonialism will be apparent.

Husein Ferdoost believes that the English created the worldwide network of "aristocracy of intelligence" for 4/5 century. The members of this aristocracy were the influential and wealthy class of the countries. The British agents in Iran were led by the Viceroy of India and Alam's dynasty was in the list of information aristocratic families that their relations with English were heritable⁶.

After Reza Khan's taking power, Shavkat o Almolck was discharged from the rule of Ghaenat and Sistan and Baluchestan to be appointed to more important posts in 1924. After him, Masoom Khan E Hesam o Aldoleh and Mohammad Reza Khan e Emsam o Aldoleh were appointed as the ruler of Sistan and Ghaenat. It means that after the formation of Reza Shah's coherent government, there was no inherited government in those regions (Shahedi, the same, pp 134-135). But the power of Alam's family was continued in eastern regions of Iran until the uprising of 9th February 1952 and after it until the victory of Islamic revolution.

During these times, Alam's dynasty was involved in all aspects of affairs in Sistan. Mohammad Ebrahim Alam was discharged from the ruling of Sistan but he was elected by Reza Shah as the head of the Iranian side of the Helmand river water dispute resolution in 1931 and ultimately no agreement was obtained and the mission failed.

After the fall of formal government, the power of this family was continued in Iran especially in eastern regions of Iran. For example «in summer of 1945, Sadr o Alshraf, the prime minister, due to the frequent complaints of officials cruelty in government, demanded Alam to go Zabol and end to this chaos as his personal representative». He went to these regions and heard the people's complaints and then he suggested some of the chiefs of the gendarmerie who had not begrudged from any harassment and looting were dismissed and also he dismissed Esmaeil Khazima, the governor of Zabol who was Alam's brother in law because he believed that Esmaeil was incompetence.

This event occurs when Asado Allah Alam penetrated in king court as Mohammad Reza Shah's valet and practically he had gained the Alam's glory after Shavkat o Almolck. In 13th May 1952, Dr Mossadegh became the prime minister of Iran and there was no place in his cabinet for Asad o Allah Alam but during the first period of Mossadegh's premiership, he showed the unquestionable loyalty to the King and joined to the Shah's circle and Shah confided him very much and he was working with foreign colonizers. It seems that despite that fact that there was no place for Assado Allam in Mossadegh's cabinet but his penetration in Mossadegh's government was not decreased but he was trying to plot against his government with cooperation of foreign colonizers and as we know he had a significant role in the coup of August 19, 1953 and the power of this family in eastern regions of Iran was continued.

Husein Ferdoost believes in importance of Alam's role in Mohammad Reza Shah's kingdom in east of Iran and he believes that it was the traditional policy of England which in it, time is not important but the principles are important. It means that preserving the role of the Alams in the Middle East seems meaningless while the central government was powerful and the Soviet had a good relation with Pahlavi's regime and there was no potential

4- Shahedi, the same, p 133

5-Sistani, the former, p 464

6-Ferdoost, the same, pp 309-310

threat against the government but the England had a long term plan for its colonial interests (Ferdoost, the same, p 256).

With respect to that fact that in the first period of Mossadegh's premiership (21th June 1952), Assad o Allah Alam had no official post in his cabinet and in his court but he has had a significant role in the seventeenth National Assembly elections in Sistan according to the found documents. He supported Amir Hussein Khazim who was his brother-in-law and was from Alam's dynasty and his election planning was done with Assad o Allah's cooperation. During the seventeenth Assembly election campaign in Sistan one witness at that time who was studying the religious sciences with Ayatollah Sharifi quotes Khazim Alam and Assad o Allah's meeting with Ayatollah Sharifi and Says: I observed that Mr. Alam and Khazim Alam with several others men came to Mr.Sharifi's home and they talked about many things that I couldn't understand most of their words but it could be concluded from Ayatollah Sharifi's remarks that Assad o Allah Alam had offered a set of automobile to Ayatollah and then Ayatolla Sharifi has stated in his answer that: An Automobile needs a driver and I can't employ a driver and pay his pension, I use my rod to carry my body better. After several hours of negotiations they left Mr. Sharifi's home.

It seems that Assad o Allah Alam and Khazima Alam wanted to win this election at any cost by relying on the court of Shah Mohammed Reza Pahlavi and it shouldn't be forgotten that Amir Hussein Khazim was the candidacy of the court. By winning this election they wanted to obtain their former position and also they could provide the interest of colonial forces and also they could provide more benefits for foreign colonists. Because the Shah's power on political affairs was weakened in that time and just a few faithful friends was remained by him that Assad o Allah was one of these true friends (Document Category 3 - 323-794 as recorded in 2243, the Institute for Iranian Contemporary Historical Studies).

After uprising of 9th February 1952 in Sistan, in a letter dated 15th February 1952 written to the Imperial Office, Assad o Allah Alam has demanded high ranking officers to pursuit the issue and punishes the right perpetrators.

He has demanded that some of the oppressed people of Sistan were prosecuted and punished in military courts while the main agent of these crimes in uprising of 9th February 1952 in Sistan was Pahlavi's authoritarian regime with Amir Hussein Khazim Alam and his entourages who wanted to rob the people's real vote illegally and arbitrarily and attempted to impose Amir Hussein Khazime Alam on the people of Sistan who was not accepted by the majority of the people of Sistan and violate the people's rights.

In two letters dated 10th February 1952 written to his uncle, Monsef, Assad o Allah Alam has called for the investigation and punishment of those responsible for it.

The mentioned document implies that the uprising of the people of Sistan was not expected by people like Assad o Allah Alam. They did not foresee that the people of Sistan revoluted against tyranny and injustice of this dynasty (Alam's dynasty) because they had governed on the oppressed and deprived people of Sistan in this way for many years and it hasn't been any protest as large as the uprising of 9th February 1952.

Conclusion

It is noteworthy that the most documents of uprising of 9th February 1952 implies of oppression and injustice and arbitrary action of the Pahlavi regime and Alam's dynasty in this election round is in Sistan and the people of Sistan also had a relatively high level of knowledge about it.

According to the explained expression it will be cleared that Alam's dynasty has been determinant in election affairs of Sistan and appointing of representatives as far as the fact that there was a legitimate and right election in agenda at the time of Dr. Mossadegh, the influence of this family was trying to change the results of the election again but this time people forms the uprising of 9th February 1952 with knowledge and showed their opposition and the people have always demanded their rights and have combated for it and many people have lost their life in this way.

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