

Following this, the Regent, Alim Kuli, proceeded by Kuramma to secure and settle Tashkand. Here he executed the Governor, Shádmán Mirzá, and reinstated his own father-in-law, Nar Muhammad, *Parwánchi*. On his return towards the capital he placed the *Hudáychi*, Hydar Kuli Kapchák, in command of the Kuramma Fort, and took the *Koshbegi*, Yákúb Beg with him to Khokand for attendance at court. Whilst here, about April 1864, news arrived of the advance of the Russians against Chamkand, and Alim Kuli at once sent forward Yákúb Beg to secure and strengthen the defences of Tashkand. On his arrival there he was joined by Mirza Ahmad, *Koshbegi*, retreating with his troops from Chamkand. In October the Russians appeared before Tashkand. Yákúb Beg issued to fight them, but was defeated and driven back into the fort; and the Russians on their part, having lost several men, retired on Chamkand. Alim Kuli now hurried up with reinforcements, and set to work to fortify the place. Whilst so engaged, the envoys of Sadik Beg Kirghiz arrived with news of the revolt in Káshghar, and the want of a Khoja to fill the vacant throne there. Alim Kuli sent off Buzurg Khán, with *Koshbegi* Yákúb Beg as his *Bátor-báshi*, but could spare no troops to help them to take the country. The rest of Yákúb Beg's career has been given in the history, up to the date of his assuming the title of Amir Muhammad Yákúb Khán.

He has ten sons and several daughters living. Only two of his Khokand sons are with him in Káshghar, *viz.*, Beg Kuli Beg, aged twenty-six years, and Hacc Kuli Beg, aged twenty-three years. The other sons, born in Káshghar and brought up in the palace, are children, the eldest of whom are now learning to read their lessons; their names are Abdulla Beg, Rahmán Kuli Beg, Karim Kuli Beg, Khadayár Beg, &c.

*The Court.*—The Amir's court is said to be formed on the model of that of Khokand. It certainly contains many of the former courtiers of the late Mallah Khán, and not a few refugees from the court of the ruling Khudayar Khán; all of whom, with rare exceptions, have left their families and property on their patrimonial estates in Khokand, or in the districts now incorporated with the Russian empire.

The Amir, however, has no fixed establishment, nor regular gradation of ranks, such as formed the court of the Khokand Khán. The principal of these officers attached to the palace were the *zínbardár*, groom in waiting; the *dasturkhwánchi*, butler; the *hudáychi*, chamberlain; the *yasáwul*, mace-bearer; the *mirákhor*, master of the stables; the *muhram*, confidential messenger; the *khazinachi*, treasurer; the *aflábachi*, cup-bearer; the *bacáwalbáshi*, chief provisioner; and a number of other minor grades of court domestics.

The principal officers of state were the *mihtar*, prime minister; the *parwánchi*, chancellor; the *dádhkwáh*, district governor; the *atálik*, preceptor or controller of the state; the *koshbegi*, lord of a tribe or lieutenant of a country; the *shagháwal*, foreign secretary; the *ishikágha*, lord warden; the *tocsáwá* or *tocsábáyy*, lord of a standard or leader of an army in the field; *caráwulbegi*, intendant of frontier defences; the *corchi*, master of ordnance; the *jabachi*, revenue collector; the *zakátehi*, custom officer; the *mirzábáshi*, chief secretary; the *umara*, courtier, and some others of lower rank. Besides these officers there were certain ranks of nobility such as *sudúr*, *orác*, *inác*, *khoja*, *torah*, and *eshán*, the possessors of which periodically attended court and gave the king the benefit of their advice in matters referred for their judgment.

The military officers under the direct authority of the king were the *mingbáshi*, "commandant of a thousand;" but in reality the office is equivalent to general of a division; the *amírilashkar*, brigadier; the *bátorbáshi*, detachment or troop leader; the *náyb*, deputy or second in command; the *pansadbáshi*, commandant of five hundred, or regimental colonel; the *yúzbáshi*, commandant of a hundred, or captain; the *pinjúbáshi*, commandant of fifty, or lieutenant; the *onbáshi*, commandant of ten, or sergeant; the *yáwur*, aide-de-camp; the *corbáshi*, provost marshal; and the *jallád*, the executioner. The foot soldier was called *sarbáz*, and the horse soldier *jigit*.

The ecclesiastic department, which includes that of law, comprised the following officers, namely, *shekh-ul-islám*, elder of the faith, or bishop; *cazi-kalán*, chief justice; *cazi askar*,