

M.V. During the period of this invasion, Western China was disturbed by the revolt in Shensi and the capture and massacre of Bárkúl by the Musalmáns, and consequently the Chinese troops did not concentrate at Ghúlja or Ila till the following January, after the Khokand army had retired from Káshghar.

In the spring of this year (1831), whilst they were re-occupying the evacuated towns, Muhammad Ali Khán, who had staved off his difficulty with Bukhára, sent Hacc Culí Beg with an army of 7,000 men to subjugate the Kará Kirghiz who, during the recent troubles, had been raiding his border. He dispersed the Sáyak camps on the Upper Nárín, and took prisoners their chiefs Atantai and Tailac; whilst the Koshbegi of Táshkand at the same time pursued the Boghu tribes and penetrated beyond Ila to the military post of Sibo.

These successes of the Khocand Khán altered the policy of the Chinese Governor, who now sent four envoys to treat with Muhammad Ali Khán. He detained three of them as hostages, and with the fourth sent Alím Pádsháh, a rich merchant, as his agent to Pekin, with certain demands for the government of the Musalmán population of the towns of Eastern Turkistan. He secured the following concessions for the Khán: *first*, dues as per *shariat* on all merchandise brought by Musalmán traders to the towns of Acsú, Ush Turfán, Káshghar, Yángí Hissár, Yárkand and Khutan to go to the Khán of Khocand; *second*, the power to appoint in each of these towns an *Aksakál*,—"white-beard" or "elder" as commercial agent to collect these dues under a Khocand inspector to reside at Káshghar as political representative; and *third*, that all foreign Musalmáns residing in these towns were to be under the entire control of these agents. In return the Khokand Khán agreed to restrain the Khoja party and to prevent their invading the country, and to imprison any member attempting to do so.

The envoy on his return from Pekin, in 1832, was appointed Inspector at Káshghar on the part of Khokand, and, according to the Andijan custom, held the post on lease. His authority extended over the "six cities" to which the treaty regulations applied, and hence the country was called by the Andijan people *Alty Shahr*, or by a different reckoning (in which Marálbáshí belonging to Yárkand was counted separately) *Yatty Shahr* "seven cities." And this was the region in which Khokand influence was greatest, its effects being as yet barely perceptible in the eastern cities.

Thus were established trade and political relations between Western China and Khokand. Through them the Khokandi acquired an increasing influence in the country, and a firmer grasp on the sympathies of the people, in opposition to the rule of the Chinese, to whose prestige the revolts of Jahángír in 1826, and of Yúsuf in 1830, coupled with the influence exercised by the proximity of the Russians, proved serious blows.

After reducing the Kará Kirghiz Muhammad Ali Khán extended his frontiers, and in 1832 built the Kurtka Fort on the Nárín (and that of Táshkorghán on the Pámir border, and he held besides nearly a fourth of the population of these towns under the rule of his agents. To keep this power, it was his interest to restrain the Khojas, and he consequently strictly watched their movements.

Until 1846 the country enjoyed peace under the just and liberal rule of Zuhúrudín, the Governor on the part of the Chinese. He appears to have been a native of Káshghar, and to have emigrated to Khokand in 1830. From this he went to Petropawlovsk and Kazán, and returned thence by Semipalatinsk to Ghúlja where he represented to the Chinese Governor that he had escaped from prison at Khokand. He was, in consequence, taken into favour and appointed *Ishikághá*, or "Mayor" of Káshghar, and gradually rose to the post of *Hákím Beg*, or *Sol Ambán* as he is styled in the inscription over the gate of Káshghar, of which, in 1255 H. (1839 A.D.), he restored the fortifications and built the palace. During his rule were erected the new Chinese forts, called *Mángshín* or *Yángíshahr*, outside each of the towns of this country, for the accommodation of the Chinese garrisons and arsenals, instead of the former citadels, called *Gulbágh*, which were destroyed by the rebels.