

T.S. whose jealousy and hatred of Musalmán Culi were well known to him. A party of twenty of them leagued together to carry out the Khán's and their own wishes. They seized the *wazír* one morning as he came to the court for the usual salutation, and hurrying him off to the execution square there "spread-eagled" him on a board, and so left him for three days to the insults and jeers of a rabble of hired ruffians, and then gibbeted him on the gallows hard by. And such was the recompense the "king-maker" Kapchák received for setting Khudáyár Khán on the throne, and for having ruled the country for thirteen years with more moderation and justice than any of the legitimate Kháns had shown themselves capable of.

Khudáyár now took the reins of government into his own hands, and, amongst other changes, appointed *Koshbegi* Yákúb Beg to the charge of the Kiláochi Fort and made some ineffectual attempts to recover the Akmasjid Fort from the Russian grasp. Whilst absent on one of these expeditions his elder brother, Mallah Khán, with the aid of the Kapchák and Kirghiz, captured Khokand after a siege of seventeen days, and was immediately joined by most of the nobles.

Khudáyár and a younger brother, Sultán Murád, on this retired to Bukhárá for asylum and aid; whilst Mallah Khán, establishing himself at the capital, posted his own governors over the country. Thus he sent Súfí Beg to Namangán, Hasan Beg to Marghinán, Alím Beg to Andijan, Isrár Culi to Chamyan, Muhammad Músá to Táshkand, Syad Beg to Khujand, and Yákúb Beg, *Koshbegi*, he raised to the rank of *Shagháwul*, or "Foreign Minister," and appointed to the charge of the fort of Kuramma. Alím Culi he appointed as his own *Zinbardár*, or "Equerry," and Khadí and Beg Muhammad each as *Hudáychi*, or "Court Chamberlain," and Caná'at Sháh he kept at Khokand as his *Náib*, or "Deputy Governor," and subsequently sent him to Táshkand to watch the Russian movements in the direction of Hazrat Sultán Turkistán.

In the commotion and excitement following the murder of Musalmán Culi the Khoja Walí Khán, *Tora*, set out from Khokand on his expedition against Káshghar. Whilst he was perpetrating his barbarities there the Kirghiz and Kapchák in Khokand rose in revolt under the lead of Alím Culi, and killing Mallah Khán set Sháh Murád, a grandson of Sher Ali, on the throne. Khudáyár on this advanced from Jizzák with a Bukhárá force and seized Táshkand, where Caná'at Sháh and Yákúb Beg, *Shagháwul* of Kuramma (he had been associated with the other to watch the Russians) surrendered the city, and, joining him, set him on the throne there as Khán. For this service Yákúb Beg was again taken into favour by Khudáyár Khán and re-appointed to his former office of *Koshbegi*.

Meanwhile Sháh Murád, who had been put on the throne by Alím Culi, Kapchák, set out with him as *Amírilashkar* against Táshkand. On their arrival Yákúb Beg, *Koshbegi*, joined the Kapchák leader, and they both retired to Kuramma, the fort of the former. Here they increased and fully equipped their army, and then returned and besieged Táshkand. After a month of close investment and desultory skirmishing, finding their troops disheartened and beginning to desert, they raised the siege and withdrew to Khokand, whence Alím Culi sent Yákúb Beg as Governor to Khujand.

Khudáyár, having in the meantime summoned the aid of the Bukhárá Amír, now marched against Khujand with the Bukhárá army under Muzaffar-ud-dín himself who in the previous year, 1860, had succeeded to the throne on the death of his father, Nasrulla, and now joined him on the banks of the river. Yákúb Beg surrendered the fort, and Khudáyár sent him away under surveillance with the army returning to Bukhárá with the Amír, and then went on with a detachment of it to be set on the throne for the second time at Khokand.

The Bukhárá army took the city after a siege of ten days, when Alím Culi escaped to Karású, and Sháh Murád Khán to his uncle amongst the Kirghiz in the hills. Khudáyár now took possession of his old quarters in the citadel, and sent