

of that place, who had bought over the Ambán with a bribe of eight *chárak* of gold, equal in weight to a hundred and sixty pounds. Afrídún Wáng, on being deposed, returned to his home at Lukchun, near Turfán, and there joining the nascent Tungani revolt came back to Kúcha, and took an active part in setting Ráshuddin Khoja at the head of affairs there. He subsequently submitted to Yákúb Beg, who squeezed him of all his wealth, for he was one of the richest men in the country, and made him reside at Káshghar; where the decrepid old man died, and left two sons in poor circumstances. Afrídún was thoroughly Chinese in his interests, and aided Ráshuddin to found a Tungání government under Khoja leaders of his own family at Aksú, Yárkand, and Khutan, in opposition to the Khokand party who had got possession of Káshghar. But his efforts failed owing to the jealousies dividing the Tungání, the Khoja, and the Musalmán Chinese officials parties, and he finally succumbed to Yákúb Beg, who rose on ruins of this house divided against itself. P.

Rustam Beg on assuming his dear bought office at once commenced to recoup his outlay, and squeezed the people by severe punishments, fines, and exactions of sorts. They endured his tyranny for three months, and then rose in riot to expel him from the city. He at once called in the aid of the Ambán, who marched a party of Chinese soldiers from the adjoining Yángíshahr Fort into the city; but quiet was not restored till Rustam Beg was deposed, and Nyáz Beg, a candidate put forward by the citizens, was appointed in his place.

Following this, an ill-feeling arose between the Musalmán Tungání and their Buddhist Khitáy comrades in the garrison, and many quarrels broke out amongst them. Just at this time, too, the Ambán received secret tidings of the Tungání mutinies in the eastern cities. He kept the news secret for some time, and then his communications with the head-quarters at Ila being cut off by the rebels, he held a private council of his principal officers, and by the consent of all it was decided to disarm all the Tungání troops. Some delay and hesitation occurred in carrying out the decision, and in the interim the intention was secretly conveyed to the Máh Dáláy who commanded the Tungání by one of his spies; and he determined to be beforehand with the Ambán, and set a strict watch upon his palace.

Shortly after, a second private council was held by the Ambán, and the Máh Dáláy, learning that the morrow had been fixed for the disarming of his men, immediately took his measures to frustrate the decision. Accordingly, that same night he summoned a number of his officers privately to his quarters, briefly informed them of the Ambán's design against them, and told them to go off to their quarters and at once inform their men of the part they were to act in the plan he had arranged to prevent its execution, and to seize the government for themselves. Having done this, he left his quarters with some 50 men, surprised the Khitáy guard sleeping outside the fort gate, and cut the throats of all as they lay more or less drugged with opium. By this time he was joined by about 400 others who, according to instructions, had followed in his track, and he then set fire to the gates and dispersed them inside the fort to rouse the garrison with the alarm of fire.

The Khitáy and Tungání troops were quartered together in the outer part of the fort, whilst the inner part or citadel was occupied by the Ambán and principal officers and their Khitáy guards. And this inner fort was shut off from the outer by walls and gates of its own. As the garrison in the outer fort was roused by the alarm of fire, the men, Tungání and Khitáy, came running out of their quarters together, but for very different purposes. The Tungání were all armed, and each now, according to his instructions, slew his Khitáy comrade as he issued from his quarters.

By this stratagem the Tungání killed 2,000 of their Khitáy brethren before the day dawned, when those in the inner fort, being roused by the tumult, attacked and expelled them from the Yángíshahr.

The Máh Dáláy and his mutineers then entered the city just as the gates were opened with the rising sun, and with white scarves tied round their heads and drooping in lappets over the shoulders dispersed through the bazars, calling on the