

P. people to join the *ghazát* and slay the infidel Khitáy. The city chiefs, fearing the vengeance of the Chinese reinforcements as on previous occasions of revolt, attempted to quell the tumult and restore order, but the mob of ruffians, gamblers, drunkards, and others who were more or less in debt to the Chinese traders, rushed all over the city and with their knives killed every Khitáy man, woman, and child they could lay hands on, and plundered their houses. So rapid was the work of their destruction, that by noon not a Khitáy was left alive in the city, except a few who had found concealment in the houses of Musalmán friends. From the city the mob, joining the Tungání mutineers, issued into the bazar connecting it with the Yángíshahr, five hundred yards to the west and wholly occupied by Khitáy and foreign traders and settlers, and there by sunset completed the rôle of death commenced in the morning. And thus on one of the hottest days of the year, 23rd *Safar* 1280 H. (10th August 1863), perished some 7,000 Khitáy souls.

The Ambán meantime barricaded the citadel in Yángíshahr, and during the next three days with his Khitáy troops drove the Tungání mutineers from the outer fort in which they had regained a footing. The Tungání, now without a leader, made a wealthy and saintly divine of the city, one Sahibzáda Abdurrahmán, their king, and appointed the merchant Nyáz Beg, the recently-elected governor, to be his *wazír*. They next sent off messengers with the news of their success to the adjacent cities, and then set to organize a force to besiege the Khitáy shut up in the Yángíshahr citadel. On receipt of this intelligence, the cities of Khutan, Yángi Hissár, Káshghar, and Aksú all rose simultaneously against the Khitáy; and within six weeks had massacred them all, of both sexes and every age, except the garrisons which held out in the forts; and then they each and all became the scenes of the most rampant discord and contention amongst rival pretenders to the government till Yákúb Beg came and reduced them all one after the other to his own subjection.

The siege of the Yángíshahr at Yárkand had lasted three months, when Khoja Isá from Kúchá and Khoja Mahmúd from Aksú, with others who had been ousted in the struggle for ascendancy in those places by more powerful leaders, arrived at the city with a numerous following of adventurers. They were welcomed by the besiegers, and a succession of unsuccessful attempts were made to take the Yángíshahr by assault. Finally, after six months' siege, having blown down a considerable portion of the outer wall by mining and powder, the besiegers stormed the breach and massacred the defenders without quarter.

The Ambán had assembled his family and principal officers in the reception hall of his palace, and on finding all was now lost emptied his pipe on a previously laid train of powder at his feet, and perished with them in the explosion. On this the soldiers rushed to the powder magazines, one on each side of the citadel square, and setting fire to them disappeared in the ruin of their explosions. For three days similar upheavals of concealed mines continued to scatter the limbs and heads of the defenders amidst the disturbed mass of ruin.

The Khitáy being now entirely destroyed, the Kúchá and Aksú Khojas soon quarreled with Abdurrahmán as to the control of the government on the grounds of the victory having been won by them; but the Tungání rallying round the king they had set up drove the Khojas from the city. After a while these Khojas were joined by reinforcements from Aksú under Khoja Burhánuddín of Kúchá, and through his mediation Abdurrahmán consented to a division of the government; the Khojas to rule in the city, and the Tungání to hold the Yángíshahr Fort. This arrangement lasted for two months, when the Tungání went to attack Khutan, but were repulsed, as will be related hereafter.

Whilst these changes were occurring at Yárkand, another somewhat similar course of events was being enacted at Káshghar. Here the Chinese *Hákím Beg*, or "District Governor," over the Musalmáns was Cútlúgh Beg of Kúchá. He had recently, owing to the stoppage of funds to pay the troops from China, by order of the Ambán, imposed a new tax of 2 per cent. on all sale transactions in the city.