

P. force, but pushed on the attack against the fort with redoubled energy; and it fell to the vigour of his assault on the fortieth day of the siege, about the beginning of July 1865, with a loss of 100 killed, and Hamráh Khán amongst the number; whilst 2,000 Khitáy were slaughtered without quarter, and 250 taken captive. The booty found in the fort was divided amongst the troops, and after a week Aziz Beg of the adjoining town was appointed its governor with a suitable garrison. Mír Bába *Hudáyichí* was now sent to Alím Culí to report the victory and present as offerings 100 Khitáy captives, 40 *tyfú* guns, 100 silver *Yámbú* = 17,200 Rs., 50 silk *túwár* (saddle cloths), and many slave girls including nine virgins.

After securing and settling the district, Buzurg and his General returned to Káshghar and celebrated their success by a week of festivity and rejoicing. After this Yákúb Beg came out of the city, and taking up his residence in the new house built for him at Pakhtaghlic, set to press the siege of the Yángíshahr which, since his departure for Yárkand, had become very slack.

Mír Bába had arrived at Marghinán with his charge when he heard of the capture of Nyáz Beg Fort by the Russians and the departure of Alím Culí from Khokand with a large army to the support of Táshkand. He accordingly hurried on with his party towards Táshkand, and had crossed the Kandír Dawán to Tiláo, when he met the fugitive troops and learned of Alím Culí's death; so he halted where he was.

At this time Beg Muhammad, Kapchák, Governor of Andiján, and Mirzá Ahmad, Governor of Marghinán, both shamming sick, were at the summons of Alím Culí proceeding to the front leisurely together in carts. They had crossed the Chilchik River to Coylic when they met the fugitives from Táshkand and heard of the death of Alím Culí. They at once threw off their mask and mounting their horses hurried back to Toytappa, and there collecting the scattered troops consulted with the chiefs as to a successor to Alím Culí. Mirzá Ahmad, the malingerer, proposed, and the others consented, that Beg Muhammad, his fellow malingerer, be raised to the government with the title of *Mingbáshí*; and he forthwith appointed his colleague, Mirzá Ahmad, to the office of *Parwánchí*. Both reprobates then marched to Tiláo, and summoning Mír Bába with the Káshghar offerings, divided all amongst themselves and followers, and then returned to Khokand, where they joined the upstart Khudá Culí Khán.

Meanwhile, as before mentioned, Nabbi Baksh from Táshkand had summoned the aid of Bukhárá, and on the restoration of Khudáyár to Khokand and the flight of Khudá Culí Beg thence to Mádí, these worthies deserted him and went to Gulsha with a number of others. At this place Sadíc Beg, Kirghiz, persuaded Kichik Khán *Tora* to join him in an attack to seize Káshghar from Buzurg Khán; and they set out on this enterprise with 1,000 men under the Kirghiz leaders Uthmán, Mullá Arzú, Cosh, Khadír Ali, and others.

On arrival at Táshmalik they were joined by more Kirghiz, and took the fort of Farrásh by "coup." Its governor on the part of Buzurg Khán, one Halím *Ishikaghá*, escaped and fled to Yákúb Beg with the intelligence. He at once despatched Abdulla with 100 men to attack them, and himself followed with a larger force. The advance party drove in the Kirghiz picket at the Farrásh River, and Abdulla rushing at the fort put Sadíc to flight in the hills, and captured many horses and prisoners, and, amongst other things left in the fort, all his musical instruments, by the strains of which his Kirghiz were encouraged to the fight. Yákúb Beg came up on the recovery of the fort, and sent letters promising life and pardon to Sadíc and the *Tora* on condition of their coming in and submitting to Buzurg Khán.

The Kirghiz and Kapchák on this consulted together, and seeing no prospect of a career in Khokand, decided on casting in their lot with the Khoja at Káshghar; and accordingly sent Uthmán *Dádkhwáh* to Yákúb Beg with a tender of submission and service from all their party. He was reassured, conciliated and robed, and then sent back to bring the party in. Sadíc Beg and Kichik Khán, with the other chiefs