



## SOME VIEWS ON THE PERSONALITY OF ISFANDIYARKHAN

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Article history:	Abstract:
<b>Received:</b> 10 <sup>th</sup> June 2023 <b>Accepted:</b> 11 <sup>th</sup> July 2023 <b>Published:</b> 14 <sup>th</sup> August 2023	The personality of Isfandiyarkhan (Asfandiyarkhan) is given classifications and tariffs by different historians and different people, especially one of the people of that time Polyozhoji Yusupov. However, we cannot say that all of them are close or far from the truth. Nevertheless, some historical works and memoirs of historical figures are close to reality descriptions of the personality of Isfandiyarkhan.
<b>Keywords:</b> Isfandiyarkhan, Asafandiyarkhan, agitation, Khanate of Khiva, Polyozhoji Yusupov	

It is no secret that the Khanate of Khiva occupied an important place in the history of not only Uzbekistan but also Central Asia. The identity of one of the last rulers of such a state, Isfandiyor Khan (Asfandiyor Khan), and his role in state management is a separate topic.

Isfandiyar Khan - Khan of Khiva who ruled from 1910 to 1918. The twelfth ruler of the dynasty from the Uzbek "Qo'ng'iro't" tribe of the Khiva Khanate. Isfandiyar Khan was born in 1871. In 1910, after the death of his father Mukhammad Rakhim Khan II, Isfandiyar Khan ascended the throne. Unlike his father, he had no special abilities. Emperor Nicholas II gave to Isfandiyor Khan the orders of "Holy Stanislaus" and "Holy Anna". In 1910 also Isfandiyar Khan was awarded the title of Major General of the Russian Army. In 1911, This was one of the rare honors shown to few people. In 1913, he received the status of "His Highness" from Emperor Nicholas II.<sup>1</sup> During Isfandiyar Khan's time, many revolts organized against Khanin in Khiva. One of the large revolts in the history of the Khiva Khanate took place during the reign of Asfandiyar Khan. It is called "Khiva Uprising".

At the last stage of the uprising, Junaid Khan and Khan Eshan agreed to Ko'shko'pir and sent a request to Khiva Khan asking for the release of the prisoners. However, the leaders of the insurgents (8 people) imprisoned by Kolosovsky were killed in Khojayli. On February 8, the rebels captured the city of New Urganch and demanded 50,000 soums in compensation from the townspeople. Two days later, the rebels besieged Khiva. On the night of February 13, Junaid Khan's army entered Khiva and occupied the Khan's palace. However, Asfandiyar Khan did not killed and Khan gave 18,000 soums as compensation.

From April 24 to May 4, the punishment squad led by Galkin from Russia was in Ko'khna Urganch, Kho'jayli, Porsu, Ilonli (Ilalli), Toshkhovuz, Gurlan, and

New Urganch, and after punishing the rebels, it returned to Khiva. The colonists received a large amount of compensation from the population of the Khanate. The punishment squad brutally punished not only the rebels, but also their family members and relatives, many civilians were killed.<sup>2</sup> During the period of Isfandiyar Khan, new mosques and madrasas were built in Khiva. In 1912, Isfandiyor Khan reception hall was built. It was a separate building in the "Nurullaboy" complex, which housed several rooms of various sizes, including a throne room decorated in the spirit of Russian modern architecture. Isfandiyar Khan ordered many elements for this palace from a factory in Petersburg. The photographer and the first Uzbek film director Khudoybergan Devonov shot the first Uzbek documentary about Isfandiyor Khan and his son on a boat in 1910.

Although during the period of Isfandiyor Khan (1910-1918), the tyranny became too much, the people revolted several times, and even though the khan surrendered to Junaid Khan in the rebellion of 1916, no one killed him. Although Isfandiyar, who had exceeded the limit in his life, was very afraid of the evildoers, when people close to Junaid Khan suggested to kill Isfandiyar Khan, He said: "Killing the khan is a sin, the country is stable only with the king. God has given him the rulership." Matvafa, Ashur mahram, Shaykhnazarboy tricked Isfandiyar Khan and found various ways to please the ruler, and even brought the most beautiful girls of the khanate to the harem as gifts. In this way, they took advantage of Isfandiyar Khan's greediness and accumulated immense wealth.

When Isfandiyar Khan traveled to Petersburg and the Caucasus in 1911, and to Moscow and other Russian cities in 1914, Matvafa and Ashur Mahram negotiated with Russian officials, and they also found

<sup>1</sup> [www.Arboblar.uz](http://www.Arboblar.uz)

<sup>2</sup> [www.Xorazmiy.uz](http://www.Xorazmiy.uz)



Russian and Farang women for the khan to entertain.<sup>3</sup> After Isfandiyor Khan`s trip to Petersburg, a rumor spread among the people that "the khan is sick". In addition, in January 1916, Ashur mahram's female servants Khotira and Ogil mahram tried to bring young, beautiful girls from the khanate to the harem. At that time, the forced bringing of girls from Khojayli and Gurlan to the harem, who were going to get married soon, called the people to revolt. Fortunately, a garrison headed by General Galkin came from Tashkent and saved Isfandiyar Khan.

In his memoirs, Polyozkhoji Yusupov wrote about Isfandiyarkhan's cruelty, even when and with whom he had a party in the beautiful places of the Caucasus, and gave them diamonds, earrings, and money. One chapter of his memoirs is called "Isfandiyarkhan's policy against the progressive and liberating forces."<sup>4</sup> There were many forces not only among the representatives of the people, but also among the Yovmut tribe, dissatisfied with Asfandiyar Khan. As a result, actions were started to eliminate Isfandiyar Khan, and finally, in October 1918, Isfandiyar Khan was killed by a Yovmut person named Vakil Oga.

In conclusion, it is possible to think about the personality of Isfandiyar Khan based on several sources. However, it is difficult to come to a general conclusion. In particular, the work of Polyozkhoji Yusupov, who know about the khan, is recognized as a particularly important source. However, based on the fact that Polyozkhoji Yusupov was on the side of the forces against the khan, we cannot say that the opinions expressed about the khan in his memoirs are completely clear and correct.

#### **LIST OF USED LITERATURE AND SOURCES:**

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<sup>3</sup> Polvonniyozhoji Yusupov. "Young Khiva" movement: joys, sorrows, tragedies. Kh-davron.uz T:2015.

<sup>4</sup> Bekmuhammad U. "Bo`g` izlangan xon", 2017.