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TÍTULO: Insurgencias e invasiones enfrentadas por el Estado de Bahawalpur y su respuesta militar durante el reinado de Bahawal Khan-II (1772-1809).

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RESUMEN: El antiguo Estado de Bahawalpur era un Estado principesco de los Abbasi Daudpotras que gobernaron durante 230 años. “Insurgencias e invasiones enfrentadas por el estado de Bahawalpur y su respuesta militar (1772-1809)” expone la eficiencia de las fuerzas del estado de Bahawalpur contra los enemigos / insurgentes internos. El Estado de Bahawalpur enfrentó desafíos estratégicos como luchas de sucesión, insurrecciones internas, manipulaciones diplomáticas y conflictos fronterizos con otros estados adherentes también durante el período 1772-1809. El presente estudio destaca las circunstancias en que el Estado representa una amenaza por parte de sus enemigos internos y rebeldes, y asegura su existencia de gobierno independiente en esta parte turbulenta del subcontinente.

PALABRAS CLAVES: Estado de Bahawalpur, Insurgencias, Respuesta militar, Daudpotras, Kalhora.

TITLE: Insurgencies and Invasions faced by the Bahawalpur State and its Military Response during the Reign of Bahawal Khan-II (1772-1809).

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ABSTRACT: The former Bahawalpur State was a princely State ascertained by the Abbasi Daudpotras who ruled over for 230 years. “Insurgencies and Invasions Faced by the Bahawalpur State and its Military Response (1772-1809)” exposes the efficiency of the Bahawalpur State forces against the internal enemies / insurgents. The Bahawalpur State faced strategic challenges such as succession struggles, internal insurrections, diplomatic manipulations, and boundary conflicts with other adherent states as well during the period 1772-1809. The present study highlights the circumstances in which the State poses a threat by its internal foes and rebels and ensured its existence of independent rule in this turbulent part of the subcontinent.

KEY WORDS: Bahawalpur State, Insurgencies, Military Response, Daudpotras, Kalhora.

INTRODUCTION.

Halaku Khan destructed Baghdad badly in 1258 AD and Abbasi Khilafat dissolved. Only a few Abbasi princes escaped and reached at Egypt. With the cooperation of the king of Egypt, they were able to safe Abbasi Khilafat, but the internal affairs of Egypt were also not supported (Malik, 2011, p. 26). In the fourth race of Abbasi Caliph, Sultan Ahmad-II, son of Shah Muzammil migrated through the way of Kaich Makran (Baluchistan) in the era of Caliph of Egypt Abul Fateh Al-Mustansar Billah 1366-1370 AD (Shah, 1959, p. 29).

He had to fight with a big force against Raja Roy Dhorang Sehta. Arab tribes of Sindh also supported him. Raja Roy decided to hand over 1/3 of his State but also arranged a marriage of his daughter with Sultan Ahmad. In the family of Sultan Ahmad-II, Ameer Ghani, known as Channi Khan, awarded the title of “*Panj Hazari*”¹ in Multan by Prince Murad who was the son of Akbar, the great (Din, 2001, p. 47).

Ameer Channi Khan had two sons, Daud Khan and Mehdi Khan. After the death of Channi Khan, his elder son Mehdi Khan took the charge of kingship. His family / race called “*Kalhora*” whereas second one, Ameer Daud Khan taken the Khilafat responsibilities and called Daudpotras (Malik, 2011). The Daudpotras also claimed that they were putatively descended from Hazrat Abbas, the Uncle of Hazrat Abbas, so they called Abbasi (Barnett R. B., December, 1988, pp. 5-15). There aroused a tussle between these two families for a whole century until the British intervened to close down hostilities (Javaid, July 2004).

The family of Daudpotras was succeeded to be founded of Bahawalpur State. The thirteenth family / race of Ameer Daud, Sadiq Muhammad Khan-I (1727-1746) who was able to establish the Bahawalpur State due to the favor and support of Shaikh Abdul Qadir-V, “*Gaddi Nasheen*”/ accessioned of Gillani family of Uch. Due to this favor, Nawab of Multan granted the part of land, called “*Chaudri*.” (In 1951, it is renamed with Liaquat Pur and presently Tehsil of Rahim Yar Khan district). This area was consisted forty four villages of district Multan, thirty six villages of district Dera Ghazi Khan and nineteen villages of district Muzaffar Garh (Perjani, 1810, p. 181). Abbasi Daudpotra family occupied gradually the areas belonging to adherent States and founded the new State, named Bahawalpur. Sadiq Muhammad Khan-I met Nadir Shah Durrani (1736-1739 AD) at Dera Ghazi Khan in 1739 AD and got the title of “*Nawab*” from him and also granted the areas of

¹ “*Panj Hazaari*” means that this single man is equal to five thousand soldiers and can fight with them in war”.

Shikar Pur, Pergna Laarkana, Sewstaan, Chaudri, Uch, and Derawar by Nadir Shah (Perjani, 1810, p. 182).

From Goth Jhora to Shehr Fareed, about two hundred miles tract was conquered and dominated by Nawab Sadiq Khan-I and expanded the territory of Daudpotras. In 1733 AD, the State forces occupied Derawar fort which was under the jurisdiction of Jaisalmer State and snatched the area from Farid Khan Lakhwaira (Azam, 1838, p. 61). The Khawaneen Daudpotra selected as the heir of Amir Bahawal Khan after the death of Sadiq Muhammad Khan in 1746. Bahawal Khan-I was considered the real founder of the Bahawalpur State because he not only assembled all Daudpotra tribes who were settled near the bank of river but also confirmed the boundaries of the State and its capital at Jhok Sodha which was named as Bahawalpur (Tahir, 2010, p. 108) which was planned for army strategic point of view because it was possessed on the bank of Sutlej river (Gillani, 2014).

Ameer Muhammad Mubarik Khan-II Abbasi, the unanimous ascendancy of Daudpotras, was the first Abbasi ruler who used forts as a defense strategy and constructed many forts during this reign. He occupied Muzaffar Garh, Dera Ghazi Khan, Mailsi, Sahiwal, Kehrorpakka, Dunya Pur, and Pakpattan (Durbar, 1933, p. 9). He also conquered Marot Fort and occupied, Derawar fort, Anopgarh fort, Walhar fort (Sardar Garh) which was the part of Bikaner State. He also repaired Phoolra fort. Some forts were repaired to improve the security policy of the State. He took intense and keen interest in his military forces. Many of these forts were positioned on the borders of the State during his period.

DEVELOPMENT.

Nawab Muhammad Mubarik Khan has no child. So, his nephew Jaffar Khan took the charge and got the title of Nawab Bahawal Khan-II. The period of Ameer Bahawal Khan-II was revolutionary era not only for the Bahawalpur State but also for Hindustan. In Hindustan Marhattas premeditated

killing was carried out. *Sikha Shahi* of the Sikhs was expanded the combated disorder in Punjab. For the small territories and States as well Bahawalpur, it had become compulsory to affiliate with the powerful and influential States because all the big commands were also busy in warfare with each other. Although the State had about 2000 regular troops with trained Artillery to second the efforts of insurgents in the field and the forces collected from the feudatories were exceeded 20000 soldiers (Barnett R. B., 2012, p. 225).

During the reign of Ahmad Shah, the king of Dehli his named ruler of Afghanistan Ahmad Shah Durrani also started invasions at Hindustan. Though Ahmad Shah Durrani returned back to leave Dehli but he included province Punjab, Sindh, Multan and Dera Ghazi Khan. The Bahawalpur State has no interference by Ahmad Shah Durrani but he claimed that the territory of Bahawalpur State was granted to Sadiq Muhammad Khan-I by Nadir Shah. That's why the enemies imprudent Ahmad Shah and his son Timoor Shah to obliterate the Bahawalpur State very often.

With the departure of Ahmad Shah from Hindustan, the Sikh started to elevate in different groups to rob before him in central Punjab. Although their power was not perpetual, but they had turned into a big power due to the valor and courage. Punjab had the status of Province under Dehli throne, but the writ of government was not proper. Practically, it was under the occupation from Durrani. Despite of the fertile land, the King of Dehli disclaimed from Punjab.

Till 1767 AD, the Sikhs occupied from Karnal to Jhelum. Ahmad Shah again returned back by crossing Sindh and reached towards by the bank of Sutlej River but didn't rub the attack of Sikhs. When Ahmad Shah observed the power of Sikhs, he applied a strategically tact and appointed many Sikhs as his vice and relieved Punjab. After that the Sikhs got energized and intended towards the south Punjab. A force of Bhangi Singh under the command of Hari Singh moved forward towards Multan but Hari Singh moved towards Dera Ghazi Khan due to the agreement and meeting with Nawab Mubarik Khan (Daudpotra, 1941, p. 323).

In 1771 AD, Sardar Jhanda Singh sent his army to attack on Multan but Haji Shareef, the Afghan Subedar of Multan, resisted with the help of Bahawalpur State forces. But in 1772 AD, the Sikhs got benefit from their mutual hypocrisy of Subedar of Multan and the Nawab of Bahawalpur State and occupied Multan. The State military was consisted of one Battery of Artillery, a troop of Cavalry and four companies of Infantry at that time (Luther, 1877, p. 15).

In 1781, Bahawal Khan established a military cantonment named Bahawal Garh near the frontier of Multan due to the attacks of Sikhs and considered obligatory to employ the army of the State. Later on, a fort was also constructed. Due to fort and cantonment, the relation of Multan and Bahawalpur were not remained good (Wasti, 1993). During the period of Timoor Shah, Multan was again occupied by the Durrani again in 1779 AD and remained long enough period under his territory.

The Sikhs didn't try to attack this area because they estimated the supremacy and dominance of the Daudpotra Khawaneen. Timoor Shah assigned the charge of Multan to Muzaffar Khan, son of Shujaa Khan as Subedar of Multan and compensated two lac rupees for the repairing and rehabilitation of fort and city. When Nawab Bahawal Khan-II hear the news about Timor Shah to come at Multan he settled at Derawar Fort with his hymns / *Harmsara* and other family members due to the threat of Timor Shah because the Nawab thought that Bahawalpur city is near the Multan frontier. Nawab and his family remained safe till the arrival of Timoor Shah from Multan (Gorgani, 1899, pp. 172-74).

The above said situation shows the strategies of Nawab of Bahawalpur State that how the safety and security was ensured. Firstly, Nawab assisted Multan against the attack of Sikhs in 1771 then after a year when the relations of Nawab and Subedar were not good, Multan was assaulted by the Sikh in 1772 AD, and the Bahawalpur State did not bother for that. Timoor Shah had also written a letter to Nawab of Bahawalpur to invade Multan (Saddozai, 1835, p. 220). The Nawab of Bahawalpur moved forward with the army of three thousand soldiers to capture Multan with the joint forces of

Muzaffar Khan, captured Multan in February 1775. Both, the armies blockade the fort for eighteen days. On the arrival of Ganda Singh from Lahore, the army of Bahawal Khan ran away and the Sikhs persued them but one hundred horsemen soldiers of Muzaffar Khan fought with valor. The army of Bahawalpur put to flight (Durrani, 1981, p. 81).

In 1779 AD, when Timor Shah assailed and occupied Multan with the 12000 soldiers of Nawab of Bahawalpur and a small contingent of Muzaffar Khan (Durrani, 1981, p. 84). In 1780 AD, the Sikhs were receiving reinforcement from Lahore and the Ameer Bahawal Khan-II was unable to keep hold of Multan. In 1780 AD, Shah Alam-II, king of Dehli sent Syed Kazim Ali Khan Bhara to the Ameer with a *ferman* authorizing him to control Kachi and granted a robe/ "*Khilaat*" and conferring on him the title of "*Rukan-ud-Daula, Nusrat-e-Jang and Hafiz-ul-Mulk* (Shah, 1959, p. 47).

Invasions and relations with the Ameers of Kalhora.

After the death of Mian Noor Muhammad Kalhora, many heirs were raised and the Kalhora power affected badly. Ameers of Kalhora showed aggression and wanted to stop the power of Daudpotras. Mian Sarfraz Khan Kalhora continued this infidelity and sent Gulraj Wakeel towards the court of Nawab Bahawal Khan-II in 1779 AD, that he observed the security measures and flaws of the Bahawalpur State so that he can beat up the military of Nawab. Gulraj informed about the flaws and weakness of the State and moved himself towards Hamid Ganj Bakhsh Raj at Uch by passing to go to Dera Ghazi Khan and secretly intended to triumph the Bahawalpur State.

Makhdoom Ganj Bakhsh got agreed and paid two lac rupees in advance for the expanses of mission. Nawab Bahawal Khan-II was also informed by its intelligence sources for the matter and became anxious and fearful for that. He sent his credible representatives towards Mian Sarfraz Khan Kalhora and also tried his best to meet with him, but no situation was appeared. Makhdoom Ganj Bakhsh started to assemble Ikhtiar Khan, Mandho Khan, Qaim Khan Kohrani, Noor

Muhammad Khan Maarofani and other Daudpotras. Mian Sarfraz Khan also started to cope with Bahawalpur State and issued directions for Dera Ghazi Khan and Seetpur to assist and paid the warfare indemnity. Nawab Bahawal Khan-II did not feel inconvenience and not bother for the preparations of the opponents. In spite of all these power, the enemies of Nawab could not courage to attack on Bahawalpur State (Gorgani, 1899, p. 175).

This shows that the Bahawalpur State had the power and ability to cope with these types of enemies / insurgents. Therefore, the Kalhoras did not courage to attack on Bahawalpur State on despite of many tribes and Daudpotras who were assembled to assault on the Bahawalpur State. When all above opponents were come together, Nawab did not feel intimidation and not showed fear for the adversaries of the State.

Due to the mutual and internal clashes, after the murder of Mian Sarfraz Khan, Mian Ghulam Nabi Khan, Mian Abdul Nabi Khan led the Kalhoras. With the help of Timoor Shah, Mian Abdul Nabi Kalhora reached at Bahawalpur on the way of Dera Ismail Khan. To hear the news of the arrival of Mian Abdul Nabi, Nawab Bahawal Khan-II wished to stay away from the tussle, migrated to Derawar fort and settled here. Sardar Madad Ali Khan invited Nawab Bahawal Khan to meet but he pays no attention to this and avoided to meet. Meer Abdullah Khan, the son of Meer Bahr Khan felt the weakness of his power so; he also went at Derawar and stayed under the umbrella of Bahawal Khan-II.

At last, Sardar Madad Ali Khan called Meer Abdullah and agreed him to stay with Mian Abdul Nabi's State and he will be as his minister. After this decision, Sardar Madad Ali Khan returned back to Kabul in 1781 AD and Nawab Bahawal Khan-II settled from Derawar to Mojgarh Fort and then Bahawalpur (Gorgani, 1899, p. 176).

In 1782 AD, the Bahawalpur State forces occupied Ahmad Pur East (Din, 2001, p. 57). This also proves that whenever the Nawabs felt threat or danger from the enemies, they had fled to Derawar for the safety and security of himself, but the masses will have to face the destruction in return of those invasions.

Mian Abdul Nabi Kalhora thought that the Bahawalpur State is the State where his enemies take protection from time to time is determined to assail and destruct her. With this intention, he sent Shaikh Qamar-ud-Din towards Timoor Shah with the message that the Nawab Bahawal Khan-II is the major cause to create disorder and interruption in the State of Sindh. Shaikh Qamar-ud-Din agreed the armies of Sardars by paying a huge amount to attack on Bahawalpur State.

In 1787 AD, Mian Abdul Nabi Kalhora with Sardar Ahmad Khan Noorzai departure from Sindh to Bahawalpur by the order of Timoor Shah. Nawab Bahawal Khan-II again fled at once towards the fort of Derawar with his family members and settled there, but sent Mirza Muhammad Baig and Munshi Jewan Ram towards Sardar Ahmad Khan Noorzai (Gorgani, 1899, p. 177). Noorzai plundered and destructed the palaces of Bahawalpur and other strong buildings of Khairpur and Qaimpur. He also burnt these cities (Qureshi, 1931, p. 70). This also shows the strategic policy, behavior and attitude of the Nawabs to ensure the safety of the Nawab dynasty. At this occasion, Noor Muhammad Khan Maarofani and Abdullah Khan also appeared before Sardar Ahmad Khan and complained against Bahawal Khan-II. They instigated in this way about the Nawab that he got entered at Bahawalpur, plundered and destructed *Sheesh Mehal*, *Deewan Khana* and other magnitude buildings of the city.

Mian Abdul Nabi played a trick and delivered a message to Nawab, if he wanted to solve the matter, he would hand over Sahibzada Mubarik Khan to Sardar Ahmad Khan. Nawab Bahawal accepted the offer / condition and sent Mubarik Khan with Lala Izzat Roy on way to Bahawalpur. Sahibzada Mubarik Khan presented six thousand rupees as a gift to Sardar Ahmad Noorzai. When

Sardar Ahmad Khan intended to assault at Derawar, Nawab Bahawal Khan-II attended the meeting of Sardar Ahmad Khan with his father Nawab Fateh Khan and postponed this great threat with understanding and discussions (Gorgani, 1899, pp. 177-78). This demonstrates that the Nawabs of Bahawalpur State not only solve the affairs of the State with fight but with discussion and negotiation where they regarded as necessary.

Nawab Bahawal Khan-II arrived at Bahawalpur when Sardar Ahmad Khan returned back. Noor Muhammad Khan Maarofani and Umer Khan Maarofani again started complained to Timor Shah about the so-called objections against the Bahawal Khan. Shah Muhammad Badozai and other courtiers started to misguide Timoor Shah that he decided to assault over Bahawalpur State in the last of December 1788 AD. Nawab Bahawal Khan-II took protection at Derawar first, then moved at Sardar Garh fort with his family members, then settled at Winjhrot fort. Timor Shah embezzled and plundered Bahawalpur, with Sardar Madad Khan, he occupied Derawar fort (Gorgani, 1899, p. 178).

In January 1789 AD, when Bahawal Khan moved towards Bikaner after defeating, Timoor Shah appointed his Afghan soldiers at Derawar and also took the control of areas of the river on other side. Beside this he continued to plunder Bahawalpur and Ahmadpur East (Gupta, 1976, p. 250). Due to the compulsion, the Nawab had to hand over his son Mubarik Khan as hostage to Timoor Shah with the penalty of ten lac rupees.

Nawab Bahawal Khan sent Lala Izzat Ram to Shahi court with the reference of Amin ul Mulk Noor Muhammad Khan, to tackle the matter with kindness. The said Sardar discussed the matter with Timor Shah and describe the original situation of the matter. It was the tough time for the Nawab. During this hard period, the rulers of Jaisalmeer, Bikaner and Jaypur sent his representatives with the request to stay in each of the State. At the same occasion, Mir Sohrab and Mir Fateh Ali Khan also wrote letters of sympathy but the Nawab response them very audaciously. The words of

original letters are printed in *Sadiq-ul-Tawareekh*. When Amin-ul-Mulk Noor Muhammad Khan and Sardar Madad Ali Khan showed the sympathy with Nawab Bahawal Khan, Timor Shah also conjectured that no one is eligible to take the charge of throne from Noor Muhammad Khan, Umer Khan and Khawaneen of Daudpotras, he kept it the charge with Nawab Bahawal Khan-II with the condition if his son Mubarik Khan was relieved with him. Nawab Bahawal Khan accepted the offer and Timor Shah got Mubarik Khan as hostage and as a precaution so that Bahawal Khan might not be takes revolt.

After the arrival of Timor Shah, Nawab Bahawal Khan-II called all the Daudpotras to assemble with him. Noor Muhammad Khan and Umer Khan were felt embarrassment and indignity to present before the Nawab but with the reference of Makhdoom Ganj Bakhsh, they pardoned and the Nawab exonerated them (Gorgani, 1899, p. 180).

Timoor Shah had taken Mubarik Khan Abbasi with him as hostage on returning to Kabul. When Timor Shah returned to Kabul, Bahawal Khan did not bother his hostage son but he wished to get back those areas which Timor Shah was occupied. So, Bahawal Khan-II not only captured Derawar fort but also got back the areas on the left bank of Indus River by adopting a trick. He also got his possessions back with power (Aziz, 1988, p. 89). Beside this, Shahamet Ali wrote that Bahawal Khan-II also released his Daudpotras companions, seized at Dera Ghazi Khan by Timor Shah. Bahawal Khan also occupied those cannons which Timor Shah got from Bahawalpur during his attack (Ali, 2012, pp. 191-92).

On hearing about the fall of Derawar fort, he was not only refrained from injuring him but conferred on him the title of Sarbuland Khan loaded him with favors, granting him the Bahawalpur State by a *firman*. Timoor Shah hoped to put the prince against his father as the Ameer of Bahawalpur State (Abbasi, 2011, p. 82). The Ameer took precautions by making the prince as prisoner on his return. At the same time, the State forces assaulted on Dera Ghazi Khan and seized a big part of the terrain

under the Subedar of Multan. He also garrisoned Dera Ghazi Khan Fort and salvaged the Daudpotras whom Timoor Shah imprisoned (Shah, 1959, pp. 47-48).

These steps of Bahawal Khan comprised of rebellion by Timoor Shah. As a reaction, Timoor Shah liberated his son Mubarik Khan and granted the *Sanad* for government but the Nawab of Bahawalpur didn't bother this Shahi order which was recognized as constitutional and legally and housed arrested his son (Ali, 2012, p. 190). After the three years, the Nawab achieved stability in the State internally and accurred the affairs of the State. The security and solidarity were also ensured against the enemies / rebels of the State. The role of the courtiers is not being ignored to create agility / dexterity between Bahawal Khan and his son Mubarik Khan (Azam, 1838, p. 138).

In 1790, the Indus River changed its course to the west and started to flow in its present bed which had met the Chenab at Uch at that time. By the changing of its course, the southern part of Muzaffargarh district became defenseless / vulnerable and the Ameer conquered Shehr Sultan, Alipur, Seetpur and Khairpur from the *Makhdoom* of Seetpur (Din, 2001, p. 57).

The said situation and circumstances show the different security imperatives and strategies adopted by the Nawab of Bahawalpur State. Despite of the entire rebel, *Khawaneen* of Daudpotras who stimulated Timor Shah to attack over Bahawalpur, he forgave and forgot so that he might not be threat from the internal enemies and the State may be remain safe from the eternal insurrections. Many times the Nawab and his family had to migrate from Bahawalpur to Derawar for the safety and protection. Whenever he saw that the enemy is more powerful than the armies of Bahawalpur, he adopted diplomacy and tackles the matter with negotiation and compromised over the security and safety of the State.

**Insurrections of Makhdoom Ganj Bakhsh and Khuda Bakhsh Khan Maarofani,
Khawaneen of Daudpotras and the Military Responses of Bahawalpur State.**

Khuda Bakhsh Khan and Makhdoom Ganj Bakhsh were felt jealousy from Bahawal Khan-II even they had to feel humiliation before Nawab, but they again started to insurgency against the Bahawal Khan and keep the foundation of civil war² within the State.

In 1789 AD, when Mubarik Khan was released by Timor Shah, granted a huge amount for the State to Mubarik Khan. Mubarik Khan consulted his Associate Mirza Muhammad Baig who misguided Mubarik Khan and said that he would not give that amount to Nawab Bahawal Khan but at same time he wrote a letter to Bahawal Khan about this quantity. Sahibzada Mubarik Khan met with Makhdoom Ganj Bakhsh-IV at Uch and discussed that matter of amount with him, he also gratified about that.

Sahibzada Mubarik Khan reached at Derawar where no man was welcomed by the Nawab. When he reached at Bahawalpur before Bahawal Khan for stepping up but the Nawab went for dancing so that he would not have to embrace with him. Soon, Mirza Muhammad Baig also arrived at Bahawalpur who misguided the Nawab and doubted him that Sahibzada wanted to kill him for taking the ascendancy of throne. Nawab Bahawal Khan arrested and seized him at Derawar. The antagonists were more courageous to see the clashes on both of them. Makhdoom Ganj Bakhsh started to spread rumors against them and send a messenger to Timor Shah and Mian Abdul Nabi with the request of assistance against the Nawab. Among the Khawaneen of Daudpotras, Khuda Bakhsh Maarofani also brought together and started to create disturbances.

Nawab Bahawal Khan-II was so much apprehended to see the group of adversaries / Daudpotras and thought their power would be eliminated with strategy and diplomacy. First, he thought that among the Khawaneen Maarofani, marriage relationship will be established so that with his

² Civil war is a war between the citizens of the same State or country.

cooperation to cope with Khuda Bakhsh Maarofani. Jam Khan, *Rais* of Mailsi was adopted and send his representative and later meet with him and his sons for the *Nikah* with daughter of Jam Khan Maarofani.

Makhdoom Hamid Ganj Bakhsh just a little bit talked about and searching for the little issues for upheaval against Bahawal Khan-II. By chance, his valuable sword was misplaced and spread anecdote that one the servants of Bahawal Khan robbed for the Nawab. Bahawal Khan-II would not solemn this cheap effort and send his son Sahibzada Abdullah Khan with an elegant sword which was decorated with diamond, but in the way, the soldiers of Makhdoom attached over Abdullah Khan and his companions. Sahibzada had no permission to assault over them so he came back without giving sword and departure for Ahmad Pur East.

The contentions of Makhdoom were expedited that a letter was also received by the females of Nawab family that Makhdooms' immorality is increased, so help them for the same. Nawab was so much hurt by the attitude of Makhdoom and ordered Alam Khan Gorgej to handle the matter with negotiation and discussion. Makhdoom reacted opposite and attacked with a sword on Alam Khan Gorgej who escaped very scarcely. Alam Khan described the same matter before Nawab.

In 1797 AD, Syed Baqar Shah Gillani and Mehr Shah Gillani, the close relatives of Makhdoom Ganj Bakhsh, gave an opinion about Makhdoom Ganj to take into custody of the Nawab; otherwise, it will not be appropriate for the peace and prosperity of the State and the Nawab. Hear this news, Makhdoom Ganj Bakhsh run away towards Garhi Ikhtiar Khan and took asylum under Haji Khan and Islam Khan Gohrani. Many of the people were present here who can cooperate with him so, he departed his representatives towards Nawab Muzaffar Khan (Subedar Multan), Sultan Zaman Shah (son of Timor Shah, Kabul) and Raja Soorat Singh (ruler of Jaisalmer State) with the message of assistance and support. Soon all were irritated by his bad habits of alcohol consumption, vulgar language and rude behavior.

In the last of 1799 AD, Nawab Bahawal Khan sent few praiseworthy spokespersons with Ikhtiar Khan and Makhdoom was house arrested at him. With the reference and recommendation of Nawab Muzaffar Khan of Multan, Bahawal Khan-II settled the matter of Makhdoom, and he was released. It was the challenge for the Nawab to tackle with Makhdoom because he did not bother for the soft behavior of Nawab. Nawab released him just for the peace in the State and wanted not to involve in internal disturbances. He handled this issue in a very diplomatic way.

After discharging from prison, Makhdoom Ganj Bakhsh settled at Uch and started to rob in Ahmad Pur East very explicitly and the other way Khuda Bakhsh Maarofani was became ready to attack on Bahawalpur State with the motivation and encouragement of Raja Soorat Singh, the Ruler of Bikaner. Khuda Bakhsh Khan took oath and pledged from the Khawaneen Kohrani, Jamani, Tabani, Husnani and Maarofani, and informed to Raja of Bikaner. Khuda Bakhsh reached with the Battalion of tribe soldiers. Nawab Bahawal Khan sent his representative to Karam Khan Arbani with the message to avoid for the joining of Khuda Bakhsh but he didn't notice and adhered to him, but his son Jamal Khan supported Nawab Bahawal Khan-II. Nawab sent his son Abdullah Khan with Azmat Khan, Jamal Khan Gohmrani and Noor Ahmad Khan to demolish the rebellion of the Khuda Bakhsh. There was a big armed force with them sent by the Nawab Bahawal Khan.

Bahawal Khan-II also sent Sahibzada Faizyab and Munshi Bankay Roy towards Nawab Muzaffar Khan, Subedar of Multan and requested for assistance and counsel. So, Sahibzada Faizyab was succeeded to bring a huge army corps. Beside this, for the first time the Bahawalpur State recruited some Pathans as soldiers (Gorgani, 1899, pp. 181-183). It shows the strategy and policy of Nawab Bahawal Khan that whenever he saw that the State might be needed extra soldier other than the Daudpotras, he recruited the Pathans who were very famous race for the warfare in the world.

Two months were passed and both the armies were stayed ready to brawl but no one courage first. This also shows that Nawab was trying to avoid the tussle and was in favor of peace and the prosperity of the State.

After two months, Khuda Bakhsh played a trick and sent one of his squad and ordered to destroy the crops of agriculture by the side of riverbank and the other squad would be attacked on the forces of Nawab whenever the army of Nawab tried to secure agriculture, but Sahibzada Abdullah Khan was informed by this trick and ordered his army to attack on the other side first. Khuda Bakhsh Khan attacked on both the sides. Many of the soldiers were killed from both side but Sahibzada remained victorious. Sahibzada Abdullah Khan motivated Khuda Bakhsh Khan to present before Bahawal Khan. When they reached at Derawar, Nawab welcomed them adequately but Khuda Bakhsh Khan kept envy in heart. He recruited an army consisted of Pathan, Sikh and Hindustani in 1798 AD. The fort of Marot which was under the jurisdiction of Khairpur Kardari and was occupied him, handed over this fort to the Raja of Bikaner, Soorat Singh. Raja Soorat Singh employed his forces here and for the assistance, a squad of an army was sent with Khuda Bakhsh Khan to invade **over Bahawalpur. Khuda Bakhsh got in touch with Qaimpur, situated in Khairpur Kardari with the** corps. Nawab Bahawal Khan-II also directed Azmat Khan Maarofani and Jamal Khan Gohmrani with the armed forces and ordered to impede the enemies on the way before entering at Bahawalpur. Khuda Bakhsh Khan hit upon an idea to amplify the power of his army. He sent Dilawar Khan Rotani and Bakhoo Khan Baloch towards Derawar with fifty soldiers and advised to wander with loaded woods on camels near Derawar but did not sale the woods, and in the evening, with the reliable person sent towards Sahibzada Mubarik Khan with the massage that Khuda Bakhsh Khan is waiting and all persons are here to take him with Khuda Bakhsh. They did the same way and Sahibzada Mubarik Khan met with Khuda Bakhsh at Din Garh fort, situated in Khairpur Kardari where Khuda Bakhsh was stayed. In 1799 AD, Khuda Bakhsh declared him as

his legitimate heir, also held crown wearing ceremony. Then, moved for the Mojgarh fort. Now he misinterpreted to Sahibzada Mubarik that the Khawaneen Eastern would be assemble. As a result, Akram Khan Arbani welcomed and confessed for the favor against Bahawal Khan-II. After that met with Haji Khan Mondhani and took confess that he will create disturbances in Western part. All the rebels joined hands and planned to take charge of throne for Sahibzada Mubarik Khan. Garhi Ikhtiar Khan was declared as headquarter.

Haji Khan Mondhani recruited new army for this mission and also wrote Makhdoom Ganj Bakhsh to adhere. Bahawal Khan-II also became ready to devastate all the rebels and by adopting a warfare trick, he spread secret agents with the announcement that they will have to inform the hustle and bustle of the antagonists. After some days, Khuda Bakhsh Khan Maarofani, Sahibzada Mubarik Khan, soldiers of Khawaneen and forces of Raja Soorat Singh of Bikaner evacuated from Ikhtiar Khan and stayed at *Bagheecha Maseeta 'an*, situated one mile away from the Bahawalpur.

Nawab Bahawal Khan-II propelled Sahibzada Abdullah Khan to contest against the big powers of mutineers and a representative is also sent in Multan to recruit new soldiers. Having received letter of Khuda Bakhsh, Makhdoom Ganj Bakhsh mover from Uch to Bahawalpur with Haji Khan Mondhani, but in the way, they have to fight with Taj Muhammad Perjani, Sultan Laikhy and Mirza Muhammad Baig.

Taj Muhammad was killed in this brawl and other two had to flee for escape. Makhdoom was very happy on this victory and started to create disturbance and rob. Abul Khair Gohmrani, supporter of Bahawal Khan, informed the Nawab about the situation created by Makhdoom Ganj Bakhsh. Sahibzada Abdullah Khan spread his forces all around and contested with courage and bravely. Makhdoom had to flee and much more booty came in hands of the soldiers of Sahibzada Abdullah Khan (Gorgani, 1899, pp. 184-185).

Sahibzada informed to his father Bahawal Khan-II about this success and Khuda Bakhsh moved with Sahibzada Mubarik Khan towards Bikaner State where Raja Soorat Singh welcomed them warmly. Makhdoom Ganj Bakhsh tried his best to request from the ruler of Jodhpur and Bikaner State for the assistance against Bahawal Khan-II but both the rulers repudiated this request. So, he migrated from Uch fort to Ram Kali fort and settled here. In 1800 AD, the employees of Makhdoom handed over the keys of Uch fort to Nawab Bahawal Khan and the Uch fort was occupied by the Nawab with any endeavor (Shahab, 1977, p. 21).

After that Nawab, sieged the fortifications of Ram Kali fort and the Makhdoom was so much agitated for that and requested for the refuge with the promise to migrate here. So, he migrated with his family towards Qadirpur. Bahawal Khan-II destructed fort of Uch, made of burnt bricks and appointed his Sardars at Uch and Ram Kali. Raja Soorat Singh of Bikaner respected Mubarik Khan but he was evaded for his misbehavior and torments. To see this changed behavior of Soorat Singh, Sahibzada Mubarik Khan shifted to Rawal Molraj, Raja of Jaisalmeer but soon he departed from here towards his father-in-law Fazil Khan.

Fazil Khan had excellent relations with Bahawal Khan, so he sent Mubarik Khan towards Bahawal Khan who seized him at Ram Kali Fort. Bahawal Khan-II now took attention towards other insurgents and sent his representative to Soorat Singh with the request to agree Khuda Bakhsh Khan Maarofani and other rebels on synchronization and bring together. So, Raja sent all the insurgents to Bahawalpur where Nawab welcomed them and forgave them. But Khuda Bakhsh Khan fled towards Bikaner again despite the good behavior of Nawab and misguided the Soorat Singh about the behavior of Nawab. With investigate the matter; Soorat Singh started to prepare for the attack on Bahawalpur State. Khuda Bakhsh took the attention of Soorat Singh towards the importance of the forts of Phoolrah, Walhar known as Sardar Garh, Meer Garh, Jam Garh, Marot and Mojgarh which were not far from the frontier of Jaisalmeer State and were easy to occupy over

these. Khuda Bakhsh Khan gave an opinion to Soorat Singh that if we attack on these forts, the rebels and enemies of Nawab Bahawal Khan-II also assault over the State and when the others will fought and discouraged, we will attack occupied these frontier forts.

In 1801 AD, they assailed and occupied Walhar after the ten days siege and blockade of this fort, the captives' request of asylum. Then, Phoolra fort was occupied after the seven days of barricade. After that Meer Garh, Marot and Mojgarh fort were occupied by Raja Soorat Singh (Din, 2001, p. 60). They entered at Khairpur boundary with the increasing hopes to earn more victories. Nawab was not frightened to see these triumphs of enemies. To cope with them, the Nawab sent Sahibzada Abdullah Khan with Naseer Khan Gorgej with the huge troops of soldiers and also directed to step forward at a snail's pace till Lal Sohanra and not to exceed this limit, but Naseer Khan went beyond Lal Sohanra, and Nawab sent a letter to him for that. This letter shows the abilities, perception of matter, kindness and strategies of Bahawal Khan-II.

With the advice of Nawab, Sahibzada Abdullah Khan sent message to Khuda Bakhsh that you had tried to loss but keep nothing in hand. So, if you want to take some area or territory then I promised with you to allocate from the Nawab. Khuda Bakhsh swore after getting the message and paid the costs of warfare to Raja Soorat Singh who returned back after the receiving of an indemnity of war expenses. After that Khuda Bakhsh had not to strive for the insurgence against the Bahawal Khan-II. after these sever actions and casualties, terms of peace were concluded and peace was restored (Shah, 1959, p. 49).

The same insurgency was also described by Syed Nazir Ali Shah in Sadiqnamah. In 1797 AD, Makhdoom Ganjj Bakhsh Gillani of Uch joining hands with Nawab Muzaffar Khan, Subedar of Multan, Soorat Singh of Bikaner and Zaman Shah, the king of Kabul who were planning to make insurgency. Finally, the Ameer Bahawal Khan-II placed the Makhdoom under house arrest. According to the noble tradition of the Arabs, the Ameer had consulted the other Makhdooms.

Because however reasonable, taking such a step amounted to place a Lord Bishop under house arrest. In spite of all these precautions, Makhdoom Ganjj Bakhsh consequence his escape and was up in arms against Bahawal Khan-II. The Ameer also intrigued with Kohrani, Arbani and Jamani Daudpotras and prevailed upon Surat Singh of Bikaner to invade the Bahawalpur State (Shah, 1959, p. 48).

In 1801 AD, the rebels arrived with an enormous power and took the fort of Walhar. Soon Phoolra, Mojgarh, Mirgarh and Marot also fell in succession to the Raja of Bikaner. (Shah, 1959, p. 49)

Raja and Daudpotra rebels then advanced to Khairpur. The Ameer sent to Prince Abdullah Khan to devastate the enemies. After severing encounters and casualties, term of peace were fulfilled and peace was restored. With the conquest of the fort of Garrhi Ikhtiar Khan, the State forces occupied Bheemgarh fort which was renamed as Islamgarh fort later.

In 1802 AD, Shah Muhammad of Kabul sent a valuable Khila'at and granted the title of Mukhlis-ud-Daula. A mint was also started to work in the same year. After taking the permission of Shah-e-Kabul, first time in Bahawalpur, Currency of the State was introduced gold, silver and bronze coins (Hafeez, 1924, p. 15).

In 1802 AD, Haji Khan Mondhani also started to insurgent and Bahawal Khan ordered Naseer Khan to occupy the territory of Haji Khan Mondhani and his soldiers. Naseer Khan advanced to Fort Sahnoolwala by crossing Sindh River and the blockade the fort. The captives handed over the keys of fort to Naseer Khan. After that, Naseer Khan occupied Noshehra fort. Haji Khan fled from his territory to Garrhi Ikhtiar Khan when heard the news about the occupation of Sahnoolwala and Noshehra fort and then settled at Khanpur. Nawab Bahawal Khan sent more army for the assistance of Naseer Khan with the order to siege Haji Khan at Khanpur also. So, Haji Khan had to flee from Khanpur and there was no option for him that he requested the Nawab to ignore his disobedience

and pardon him with the returning of his locality. But decided to remain the occupied area for the State and the remaining area will be return to Haji Khan.

In 1804 AD, Shah Shuja-ul-Mulk, the 5th son of Timor Shah, ascended the throne of Kabul, advanced towards the administration of Derajat at Sindh. Makhdoom Ganj Bakhsh, Islam Khan Gohrani and Haji Khan Mondhani met with him and requested that the Nawab of Bahawalpur occupied their areas by force. Shah Shuja appointed Noor Ahmad Khan Noorzai with the direction to get back the area from Bahawalpur State. Consequently, the area of Dhaka was granted to Haji Khan. Soon, Noorzai returned back to Kabul and Haji Khan had to face the power and supremacy of Bahawal Khan-II.

It shows the strategy and diplomacy of Bahawal Khan-II. When he saw that he would not be able to contest with Shah Shuja, he handed over the area of Dhaka to Haji Khan Mondhani. As soon as Shah Shuja returned to Kabul, Nawab Bahawal Khan ordered Naseer Khan and Laal Khan Afghan to attack on Dhaka. Nawab dispatched them with the huge armed forces with the direction to return Dhaka and encircled Garhi Ikhtiar Khan. As a result, the employees of the locality of Dhaka took compliance before the armies of Bahawalpur State but the encirclement of Garhi Ikhtiar Khan was remained till some days. At last, Haji Khan accepted the supremacy of Bahawal Khan on the eastern locality of Naala Wah and the western area remained by himself.

When this agreement was declared, Naseer Khan and Laal Khan moved back. After some time, Haji Khan and Fazal Khan Halani joined hands against Bahawal Khan-II to absorb the locality of Bahawal Khan but both were not succeeded in plan. Fazal Shah Kalani couraged by Makhdoom Ganj Bakhsh. In 1806 AD, Fazal Khan Halani, Qadir Bakhsh Kehrani and Haji Khan Mondhani intended to attack on Sardar Garh fort at the same time. They reached near this fort with the intention of physical attack on fourteenth of Moharram. At the same time, Qazi Nazar Muhammad

was moving outside the fort in connection to the cleanliness of Naala Sardarwaah. They blockade the fort of Sardar Garh and arrested Qazi Nazar Muhammad.

The inhabitants of fort were handed over the fort to them in return of Qazi Nazar Muhammad. Qazi at once moved towards Bahawal Khan after releasing and described the situation. Naseer Khan and Fateh Muhammad Ghauri were dispatched by the Nawab to blockade of Garhi Ikhtiar Khan. They were observed the situation and circumstances of the territory for three days and attacked on 21st of Moharram.

The soldiers of Haji Khan and Fazal Khan were fought bravely but the forces of Nawab compelled them to run away in the fort. After two days, their army stepped forward in two corps. One of the corps attacked on Naseer Khan and the other one assault on Fateh Muhammad Khan. The army of Fateh Khan succeeded to defend but the army of Naseer Khan could not do so. Soon, a contingent was also joined, and the battle of mourning was continued since a week. They attacked with great zeal and zest on 1st of Safar in 1806 but remained unsuccessful. At last Haji Khan Mondhani arrived at Multan, Sindh, Bikaner and Jaisalmeer but no one assisted (Gorgani, 1899, pp. 188-189).

When the blockade of Garhi Ikhtiar Khan was expanded for a long time, Naseer Khan sent a suggestion to Bahawal Khan that one more fort will be constructed in front of the fort of Garhi Ikhtiar Khan. With this it will be impossible to triumph this fort. Nawab liked this suggestion and approved the construction of fort with Khila'at for him. Naseer Khan was so anxious about the victory of Garhi Ikhtiar Khan that he completed new fort within two months, named as Fateh Garh. Naseer Khan started shelling on the fort from Fateh Garh fort and caused a huge destruction all the night. Haji Khan and Fazal Khan escaped under lowest places. In morning, Naseer Khan blockades the fort and the means of transmission were sealed.

The inhabitants compelled Haji Khan to settle the matter and Gull Muhammad Khan s/o Samaba Khan Perjani was appointed controlling authority. Fateh Muhammad Ghauri was appointed by the Naseer Khan. Both submitted the application and the Nawab permitted with these conditions. First, Haji Khan will be attended to pay gratitude to Nawab at the court of Nawab with his sons and brothers. Second, one fortification of the fort will be demolished. Third, two lac rupees will be paid as warfare indemnity by Haji Khan. Fourth, a son was sent in the court of Bahawal Khan as a prisoner. Fifth, a Kardar will be appointed at Garhi Ikhtiar Khan by the Nawab who will be responsible to submit half of the income in the State office and half will be granted to Haji Khan. Haji Khan refused to accept these conditions. Naseer Khan arrested him and kept in Fateh Garh fort. Naseer Khan destructed the fort of Garhi Ikhtiar Khan and moved for Ahmadpur East as victorious fellow. After this incident, Haji Khan was died in 1808 AD. (Gorgani, 1899, p. 190) Naseer Khan took the fort of Sahnoowala and Noshehra and tendered his submissions to the Nawab who annexed his dependencies leaving in possession of unconquered part of his territory (Din, 2001, p. 60).

Establishment of relations with the British.

In 1808 AD, a British Ambassador Sir Elphinstone who was going to Kabul, passed through Bahawalpur, there was arranged a meeting between British Ambassador and exchanged gifts both the sides. Sir Elphinstone departed from Bikaner State and reached at Derawar where Bahawal Khan welcomed him cordially then moved for Bahawalpur.

Bahawal Khan convened at the residence of Elphinstone. This visit was consisted on a week. It was the time to start relations with the British. The first treaty was signed between the British government and the Bahawalpur State. Ameer Bahawal Khan-II died in 1809 AD at the age of fifty-seven.

Nawab Muhammad Bahawal Khan-II may be considered the iron man of his era due to its strategic policies. During his period, the State had to face many strategic challenges but due to its positive responses of military, the State ensured its safety and protection.

Due to the wish of becoming large and extensive, he conquered Ahmadpur Lammah, Muhammadpur, Kot Sabzal and Bhong Bhara by adopting his expansion policies. But soon Bhong Bhara was occupied by the Khairpur State (Ali, 2012, p. 133). The Bahawalpur State became the tension for the neighboring States and powers after establishing the relation with the British. Later on, a treaty between East India Company and Bahawalpur State proved that small powers and States could not courage to attack on the State after treaty in future (Aziz, 1988, p. 92).

Arrival of Raja Ranjeet Singh and Bahawalpur State.

During the last days of the reign of Nawab Bahawal Khan-II, Maharaja Ranjeet Singh were trying to expand the boundaries of his territory and the East, Northern and central area of Punjab was under his control. In 1807 AD, Ranjeet Singh intended to assault on Multan after conquest of Qusoor but the occupiers of the fort defended valiantly. Subedar of Multan presented him a huge amount and Ranjeet Singh moved back by receiving this amount as booty. Ranjeet Singh excused that due to Bahawal Khan's relation with Subedar of Multan, he didn't boost up his armies against Subedar of Multan. In 1809, Ranjeet Singh snatched the area of Dera Ghazi Khan and granted to Nawab against the payment of 2 lac 50 thousand per annum. (Feroz, 1989, p. 50)

Construction and Conquest of Forts as Security Imperatives.

Nawab Bahawal Khan-II ascended the charge of throne for over thirty-seven years, but he had to face many complications. During his period, many more insurrections and insurgents were raised, sometimes Mian Abdul Nabi gave him tough time and sometimes had to face Timor Shah, Makhdoom Ganj Bakhsh. But all the rebels had to take obedience or had to flee.

During his whole period, he adopted different security imperatives. Sometimes, he tackled the enemies with negotiations and dialogue and sometime constructed forts. Even he captured the forts in blockade as war strategy. He used forts as security imperatives, discussing below.

In 1783 AD, Nawab Bahawal Khan-II constructed a fort named Khan Garh, situated twenty-four miles away from Derawar and ordered to pass through this fort to which convoy wanted to go to India. Nawab had received complaints that the employees of Maarooof Khan robbed the merchants who are passing through near the fort of Rukanpur.

In 1783 AD, Bahawal Khan ordered Khuda Bakhsh Khan Maarofani to capture this fort. He plundered this fort and attended before the Nawab with the keys of fort. Makhdoom Ganj Bakhsh disturbed the Nawab for whole period. The fort of Paloli and Thathdarn were in possession of Makhdoom Ganj Bakhsh. In 1799, Bahawal Khan captured these forts by Naseer Khan Gorgej who plundered and destructed the forts badly. When Makhdoom Ganj Bakhsh run away from the fort of Uch due to the threat of the forces of Bahawal Khan and took refuge at Ram Kali fort. The occupiers of Uch fort handed over the keys of fort to Nawab Bahawal Khan-II and this fort was conquered and occupied with any attack or assassination. Bahawal Khan ordered to destruct this strong fort so that it might not be entail in disturbances.

In 1802 AD, Naseer Khan Gorgej captured the fort of Sahnoolala with the order of Nawab Bahawal Khan-II which was under the control of Haji Khan Mondhani. After capturing the fort of Sahnoolala, Naseer Khan advanced towards Noshehra fort and absorbed in the territory of Nawab Bahawal Khan-II. After the stern contest, Naseer Khan conquest the fort of Garhi Ikhtiar Khan in 1706 AD and also fell down its fortification. To conquest this fort Naseer Khan granted the approval of construction of another fort from Bahawal Khan near Garhi Ikhtiar Khan which also shows the war strategy of Bahawal Khan.

Bahawal Khan not only approved the construction of the fort named Fateh Garh but also departure a huge military to occupy the fort of Garhi Ikhtiar Khan. Beside of these forts some town also occupied by the Nawab, Kot Sabzal is most important one of them (Gorgani, 1899, p. 193). Similarly crucial to survival of Bahawalpur State was its careful investment in arms technology in the relative absence of European adventurers (Barnett R. B., 2012, p. 226). Seetpur, Shehr Sultan, Khairpur, Bhong Bhara, Phoolra, Mirgarh, Mojgarh, Marot, Pakpattan, Shujaabad, Mailsi and some northern areas of River Sutlej were possessed during the reign of Bahawal Khan-II (Fatima, 2015).

CONCLUSIONS.

Nawab Bahawal Khan-II was a daring and courageous person because the State forces had attained those areas which Timor Shah plundered, and the Government of Bahawalpur State took stability after many more attacks and rebellions.

Bahawal Khan settled internal affairs of the State with diplomacy as well as with power and made his State sturdy against enemies. He defeated all Daudpotra Sardars and got possession that areas and the Sardars of Daudpotras were not be able to insurgent against Bahawalpur for the next time. Some of them considered supremacy of the Nawab and agreed to receive a few amount as scholarship and later they breathe in an anonymous life and died.

Makhdoom Ganj Bakhash, the worst and most terrible enemy of Bahawal Khan-II was also defeated in 1800 AD and the Nawab took its annexation of the areas of Uch with Bahawalpur State because Makhdoom had established a united front with all the rebels of Daudpotras, Soorat Singh Raja of Bikaner and Sarfraz Khan Kalhora of Sindh and Makhdoom also tried to plunder the State. He not only tried to create interruption in the areas of Bahawal Khan but also tried to descend the throne. He also tried that Mubarik Khan took the charge of throne with the help of Makhdoom and

other insurgents. Bahawal Khan-II tackled all these insurgencies and also occupied Garhi Ikhtiar Khan, areas of Hasilpur and Qaimpur and the peace was restored.

Nawab Bahawal Khan-II expanded the frontiers of Bahawalpur State and also took concentration on administrative affairs to establish the State on solid basis. During his period, the State had got legal and constitutional status because the Nawab got the title of Rukan-ud-Daula, Nusrat Jang and Hifiz-ul-Mulk from Mughel emperor Shah Alam-II in 1780 AD.

Shah Mehmood, ruler of Kabul granted the title of Mukhlisu-ud-Daula and also granted the authority to introduce currency of Bahawalpur which shows the constitutional superiority of power. Thus, Nawab Bahawal Khan-II was the first ruler to whom in his reign, East India Company wished to establish relations with Bahawalpur State. As a result, Sir Mount Stuart Elphinstone passed through from Bahawalpur State to take the charge of the ambassador of Kabul in 1808 AD. This visit proved the initial point of relations between Bahawalpur State and the British. Being the allies of the British government in India, feeble and fragile opponents could not courage to assault over Bahawalpur State.

The Nawabs of Bahawalpur sometime availed the selective reliance on Makhdooms of Uch or Sufi shrines and changed roster of their enemies. The military of the Bahawalpur State, a force that was not only small, but also organized, dispersed and tremendously feudal in structure, regional regime not exploited its geography and environment to survive nonetheless of all these perceived limitations. This article also assessed the role of its military in both management and strategic tactics in the state's survival. The Bahawalpur State established relations with East India Company and its enemies, not stay enemies for long time but became its friends and allies.

The military of Bahawalpur was autonomous and had the unique defensive and territorial features that played an important role in its martial and political survival. Sometimes these foes included Daudpotras, the Kalhoras of Sind, the Sikhs Lahore, Rajpoot powers in Bikaner and Jaisalmer and

sometimes except all these the state armies have to cope with internal insurrections. It is pertinent to mention that all above factors empowered Bahawalpur State to persist as distinctive entity on different times until after independence.

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