

1

Revista Dilemas Contemporáneos: Educación, Política y Valores.<a href="http://www.dilemascontemporaneoseducacionpoliticayvalores.com/">http://www.dilemascontemporaneoseducacionpoliticayvalores.com/</a>Año: XNúmero: 2.Artículo no.:62Período: 1ro de enero al 30 de abril del 2023.

**TÍTULO:** Procesos militares y políticos en la ciudad de Nakhchivan (finales del siglo XVIII - principios del siglo XIX).

# AUTOR:

1. Dr. Arzu Kamal Oglu Abdullayev.

**RESUMEN:** La ciudad de Nakhchivan era la capital del kanato semi-independiente de Nakhchivan dependiente del estado de Gajar, y era uno de los puntos estratégicos importantes para capturar por la Rusia Romanov. El análisis de los procesos militares y políticos que tuvieron lugar a finales del siglo XVIII y principios del XIX nos permite concluir que durante este período del kanato de Nakhchivan estuvo activo no solo con Rusia y el estado de Gajar, sino también con los zares de Kartli-Kakheti, el Imperio Otomano Avar, Karabakh, Iravan y los kanatos Khoi. Tenía conexiones militares y políticas. La ciudad de Nakhchivan, que es el centro del kanato, ha sido testigo tanto de campañas militares como de luchas y negociaciones políticas y diplomáticas de acuerdo con su importancia estratégica.

PALABRAS CLAVES: Zarismo, proceso político-militar, lucha política, diplomacia, kanato.

**TITLE:** Military and political processes in the city of Nakhchivan (late 18<sup>th</sup> century - early 19<sup>th</sup> century).

### **AUTHOR:**

1. PhD. Arzu Kamal Oglu Abdullayev.

**ABSTRACT:** The city of Nakhchivan was the capital of the semi-independent Nakhchivan Khanate dependent on the Gajar state, and it was one of the important strategic points to capture for Romanov Russia. The analysis of the military and political processes that took place at the end of the 18th century and the beginning of the 19th century allows us to conclude that during this period the Nakhchivan khanate was active not only with Russia and the Gajar state, but also with the tsars of Kartli-Kakheti, the Avar Ottoman Empire, Karabakh, Iravan, and Khoi khanates. had military and political connections. The city of Nakhchivan, which is the center of the khanate, has witnessed both military campaigns and diplomatic political struggles and negotiations in accordance with its strategic importance.

**KEY WORDS:** Tsardom, military-political process, political struggle, diplomacy, khanate.

## **INTRODUCTION.**

At the end of the 18th century and the beginning of the 19th century, the city of Nakhchivan was the capital of the semi-independent Nakhchivan khanate dependent on the Gajar state, and it was one of the important strategic points to capture for the Romanov Russia, which had its own plans for the possession of the South Caucasus. As it is known, after the death of Nadir Shah Afshar, feudalism began to prevail in the entire territory of Azerbaijan.

Since the Safavid era, the struggle for power in the empire, whose main territory was ruled by the Azerbaijani Turks, consisted of the provinces of Azerbaijan and Persia, intensified. There were a number of reasons for the weakening of the central authority and the emergence of feudal fragmentation in the empire ruled by the Safavids, one of the two largest empires of the Turks, followed by the Afshars.

First of all, it should be noted, that during the period when the Ottoman state and the Safavids, and later the Nadir Shah empire, fought against each other, the European states were able to gain significant strength both economically and militarily. The emergence of a new production culture in Europe, and the slowdown of this process in the Eastern countries due to a number of objective and subjective reasons, also revealed differences in terms of economic development. Also, by transforming the trade routes of the world from land to sea, the European states were able to put the great Eastern states such as the Ottomans and the Safavids out of the game.

As a result of the change of trade routes, it was no longer possible to take advantage of intercontinental trade, which created conditions for the strengthening of feudalism within the country. Also, in the last days of the Safavid dynasty, as well as during the reign of Nadir Shah, the marginalization of the ruling elite to a great extent, alienation from the Turkish management traditions and the fact that they began to refer more to the traditions of the Persian-Iranian kingship strengthened the decentralization tendencies in the cities and regions where the positions of the Turkish tribes were strong.

Analyzing the historical processes, we come to the conclusion that with the death of Nadir Shah, the stage of great imperialism in the history of the statehood of Northern Azerbaijan ended. Independent khanates appeared, which were later captured one by one by the foreign and colonial Russian empire. The same opinion cannot be expressed for the territory of South Azerbaijan. Soon, the Qajars, a new force trying to restore the traditions of imperial rule from the Safavid and Afshar periods, regained considerable influence in these areas. It is true that although the empire founded and ruled by the Qajar Turkish dynasty was Iran-centric, this state was ruled by Turkish rulers.

The founder and first ruler of the Azerbaijani Qajar empire, Agamahammed shah Muhammadhasan Khan oglu Qajar (1742-1797), made the Turkic tribes: Afshars, Khalajs, Bayats, Karagozlu and other tribes the support of his military and political power throughout his rule (1, p. 113), but the course of history showed, that this Turkish dynasty also repeated the mistakes of the last rulers of the Safavid

dynasty. They also began to look at Azerbaijan, which is the "heart" of the empire, not as a center, but as a periphery. This, over time, turned the Gajars into an empire whose spirit and outlook were foreign, even though their spirit was national.

When the Gajars waged wars with their biggest rivals, Russia, for the Azerbaijani khanates, they began to appear not in the role of a national empire, but in the character of an invader. This resulted in a large part of the Azerbaijani khanates led by the representatives of the tribes that once joined hands to establish the Safavid empire, moving into a position of struggle against them.

#### **DEVELOPMENT.**

Nakhchivan khanate ruled by Kangarli tribes, Karabakh khanate ruled by Saricali-Javanshirler dynasty (12, p.28-29), Talish khanate ruled by khans belonging to a branch of the Safavid dynasty (7, p.13-15), Gajars own blood The harsh struggle of the Guba Khanate (15, p. 122) against the Qajar state in many cases can be explained by this. In addition, the Ottoman state, which held the institution of caliphate of all Muslims, had its own claims regarding the region as well as the city. However, at this stage, the heavy blows of European states and Russia, and the Ottoman Empire, which was involved in solving internal problems, could not present these claims openly as before.

The diplomatic correspondence between the Ottoman state and various khans of Azerbaijan also proves that these claims did not disappear either (22; 14, p.66; p.81; p.82; p.87; p.93; p.95; p.97; p.100; p.111). On the other hand, it should not be forgotten that in the 20s of the 17th century, Nakhchivan came under the Ottoman administration, even for a short time, and the Ottoman state later left these territories under certain conditions (20, p. 66; 9, p. 131-142; 8, p.9; 13, p.11).

The approach of the Gajars to the region of Nakhchivan and its main city, Nakhchivan, was more related to the historical past, as we clarified above. It is for this reason, that in the period when the Gajars were strengthened - in 1797, the Nakhchivan khanate became a dependent khanate, and the khans of Nakhchivan were appointed directly by the decree of the Qajar shahs. However, we cannot

agree with the opinion of some authors that the Nakhchivan Khanate, which was an independent khanate in 1747-1797, from that time until it was invaded by Russia in 1828, actually became one of the remote provinces of the Iranian state (3, p. 25). This can be justified by the following:

- First of all, Qajar shahs or the crown prince who is the ruler of the Azerbaijan province belonging to the khanate had to appoint the khan of the khanate not from any tribe, but only from the Kangar people who were the ancient rulers of the khanate.

- In many cases, the Qajar rulers accepted the position of the khans who gained influence in the khanate and were forced to appoint a person who was more influential among the people, not what they wanted.

- The khans of Nakhchivan tried to maintain foreign political relations, often succeeded in this, and made political-diplomatic maneuvers.

At the beginning of the 19th century, Fatali Shah Qajar, who was able to sufficiently strengthen his power in Iran and South Azerbaijan, was able to make a number of khanates dependent on him. One of such khanates was the Nakhchivan khanate. Kalbali Khan, who was one of the powerful rulers of this khanate, was captured and blinded by Agha Muhammad Shah Qajar, and later Fatali Shah Qajar allowed him to live in Iravan Khanate instead of Nakhchivan Khanate (17, p. 50).

The Nakhchivan Khanate was ruled by Abbasgulu Khan from the city of Nakhchivan (6, p. 78). Kalbali Khan, who came to the Iravan Khanate after his release from prison, soon won the favor of the Iravan Khan and served as the commander of the Iravan Khanate's troops. After the defeat of the troops of the Iravan Khanate led by Kalbali Khan in the territory of the Kars Pasha in March-April 1802 by the combined forces of the Russian army and the Kars Pasha (4, p. 126-127), the Russian troops in Tiflis led by K.F. Knorring began to become a serious threat to the region.

At such a moment, the Gajar state could not come to terms with the strengthening of Russia in the region and the loss of control of the khanates dependent on it as vassals. For this reason, after the combined troops of Nakhchivan and Iravan returned, Pirgulu Khan, one of the commanders of the Qajar army, came to Nakhchivan with a military force of 4000 people. P.G. Butkov writes about this in his work entitled "Materials on the new history of the Caucasus (from 1722 to 1803)": "After the events that took place in June, July, August, Baba Khan (Fatali Shah Qajar's real name was Baba Khan - A.A.) threatened them in order to strengthen his power over the Azerbaijani khans. Its commander, Pirgulu Khan, was in Azerbaijan by order of the Shah" (16, p. 527).

It is clear from Butkov's notes that he had to demand from the Iravan khan the return of those who moved to Iravan from the Nakhchivan Khanate, or the Iravan khan had to pay one hundred thousand rubles instead (16, p. 527), but Pirgulu Khan's demand for "the return of those who emigrated from Nakhchivan Khanate" was related to which emigrants? Our research shows that these settlers were mostly supporters and subjects of Kalbali Khan, who was blinded by Agha Muhammad Shah Qajar and allowed to live only in Yerevan by Fatali Shah Qajar. In his work published in the year 1811, Prince Yegor Khubov gave information about the migration of his subjects to Yerevan after the settlement of Kalbali Khan (Y. Khubov recorded the name of the Khan as Kelbalay Khan - A.A.) (21, pp. 48-52). P. Butkov also touched on this fact in the second volume of his work entitled "Materials on the new history of the Caucasus" (16, p. 514).

Azerbaijani historians Fuad and Mirabdulla Aliyev in their works "Nakhchivan Khanate (1747-1828)" (5, p. 67), E. Garayev in his monograph "Iravan Khanate (1747-1828)" (11, p. 92) wrote about Kalbali Khan's settlement in Yerevan. They mentioned that most of their supporters moved from Nakhchivan to Yerevan. Those who moved from Nakhchivan to Yerevan were mainly families belonging to Kangarli tribes.

M. Ivanov noted that the emigrants from Kangar consisted of 200 families (19, p. 162). Abbasgulu Khan, the administrator appointed by the Qajar dynasty in Nakhchivan Khanate, was soon removed from power because he could not prevent such a flow. In such a situation, Abbasgulu Khan, who was deprived of the protection of the central Qajar authority, he also went to Yerevan to visit Kalbali Khan. This further strengthened the Khan's position; however, it should be pointed out that in the period after K.F. Knorring's retreat, the activity of the Khajars did not frighten the Russians so much, and Russia did not retreat before the threat of the Khajars; on the contrary, it began to increase its activity.

In 1802, after K.F. Knorring, the commander-in-chief of the Russian army in the South Caucasus, was replaced by P.D. Sisianov, Fatali Shah recalled Pirgulu Khan. In order to gain the sympathy of the local population, Fatali Shah recognized Kalbali Khan, who lived in the Iravan Khanate until then, as the judge of Nakhchivan. However, after Kalbali Khan returned to Nakhchivan, he refused to pay tribute and to recognize the authority of Fatali Shah Qajar.

Platon Pavlovich Zubov writes in the first volume of his book "Invasions of the Russian military in the Caucasian countries in 1800-1834" published in 1835-1836: "*Nakhchivan Khan not only refused to pay tribute. He also did not recognize Fatali Shah as the ruler of Iran*" (18, p. 72). E. Khubov also reported on the similar attitude of Kalbali Khan to Fatali Shah Qajar (Baba Khan) in his work published in 1811 (21, p. 14). He writes: "*He (Kalbali Khan - A.A.) refused to recognize Baba Khan and pay him taxes. Although the shah sent a military detachment to capture and subjugate him, Kalbali Khan went to Iravan Khan*" (21, pp. 13-14). Although Fatali Shah tried to capture him, Kalbali Khan had to take refuge with his brother-in-law Muhammad Khan of Iravan for a while (18, p.72).

During this period, the Karabakh khanate led by Ibrahimkhalil khan pursued an active foreign policy and tried to subjugate the neighboring khanates. Ibrahimkhalil Khan, together with his father-in-law Avar Umma Khan, tried to capture the territories of the Nakhchivan Khanate, including the capital of the Khanate. It should be noted that at the end of the 18th century, the Iravan, Nakhchivan and Khoi khans fought together against the seizure of the city of Nakhchivan by the Karabakh khan and the Avar judge. However, it should be noted that during this period, the Karabakh khans, who had close ties with the Ottoman state in the region, sent troops to Nakhchivan. In some cases, they served to protect the territory of Nakhchivan, including the city of Nakhchivan, from the attacks of Georgians and Russians.

Document No. 765 stored in the Khatti-Humayun Tasnifi fund in the Ottoman Archives of the Republic of Turkey's Prime Minister's Office mentions one such event that took place at the end of the 18th century (22). The document is dated 9 Muharram 1202 according to the Hijri calendar. When we convert this date into the Gregorian calendar, it becomes clear that the document was drawn up on October 22, 1787.

The information prepared based on the letter of Karabakh Khan Ibrahimkhalil Khan, the commander of the Ottoman troops in the region states: "Mesfur Irakli Khan sent a group of infidels from Georgia and Russia to the district of Irvan, and the people of Irvan agreed to accept the infidels from Georgia, and as a result, eight thousand people went to Georgia. and when people from Russia and Irvan attacked the town of Nakhchivan and committed murder and plunder to Islam, they appointed the hand of the mumma-ileyh to play the drums and fought the battle. "It happened in the city of Bihamdihî te'âlâ asâkir-i Islam Mansûr and the kosun-i mel'un of the infidel, and he became the conqueror of the infidel and the destroyer of the foundation of the kafere, and you happened to this kaziyya in this year's evâ'il-i tab-istân". (The aforementioned Irakli Khan sent an army of soldiers gathered from infidel Georgia and Russia in the direction of Iravan. The people of Iravan obeyed him

in order to submit to infidel Georgia, in short, an 8,000-strong Georgian, Russian and Iravan army attacked the city of Nakhchivan, killing and looting Muslims. When they wanted, the mentioned khan (Ibraghimkhalil Khan, Karabagh Khan is meant - A.A.) gathered troops and went in front of them for the purpose of fighting, and praise be to God that Islam was victorious and the army of infidels was defeated" (22).

The 1791 campaign of the Karabakh Khan was not aimed at defending Nakhchivan from some foreign forces, but only at strengthening his own power. Thus, at the beginning of December 1791, Karabakh Khan Ibrahimkhalil Khan entered into an alliance with his relative Avar Khan Umma Khan in order to subdue the Nakhchivan Khanate and marched to the Nakhchivan fortress with 11,000 troops (11, p.82).

Faced with danger, Kalbali Khan asked for help from Iravan Khan Muhammad Khan and Khoi Khan, as a result, the combined troops defeated the troops of Ibrahimkhalil Khan and Umma Khan, who besieged the Nakhchivan fortress, and forced them to retreat from the Khanate (5, p.63). Mirza Yusif Karabagi writes about this: "*At that time, there was enmity between the judge of Nakhchivan Kalbali Khan and Ibrahim Khan. Therefore, Dagestan asked for help from the Lezgins, and the judge of Dagestan came to the aid of Umma Khan. Ibrahim Khan moved together with the horsemen and volunteers of Karabakh. Kalbali khan decided to punish and stopped at Karababa where he was. He ordered the army to destroy the villages and farmlands... Iravan Khan, who sent the famous Zeylans and Garapapags at his request, came to the aid of Kalbali Khan was forced to retreat to Karabakh" (10, p. 2, p. 82).* 

CONCLUSIONS.

As we mentioned above, at the beginning of the 19th century, the reactivation of the foreign policy of the Karabakh Khanate began to be observed. In 1803, Ibrahimkhalil Khan sent Avar Amma Khan with his troops to Nakhchivan and the city of Nakhchivan was captured. Despite this, A. Bakikhanov reported that the combined forces of the Karabakh and Avar judges were quickly defeated by the Khan of Nakhchivan and sent back (2, p. 139-140).

Thus, the analysis of the military and political processes that took place at the end of the 18th century and the beginning of the 19th century allows us to conclude that in this period the Nakhchivan Khanate was not only with Russia and the Gajar state, but also with the tsars of Kartli-Kakheti, the Avar Ottoman Empire, the Karabakh, Iravan, and Khoi khanates. had active military and political relations with The city of Nakhchivan, which is the center of the khanate, has witnessed both military campaigns and diplomatic political struggles and negotiations in accordance with its strategic importance.

## **BIBLIOGRAPHIC REFERENCES.**

- Abdullayev, A.K. Tarix yaradan şəxsiyyətlər salnaməsi / A.K.Abdullayev.- Bakı: Elm və təhsil,
   2013. 244 s.
- 2. Bakıxanov, A.A. Gülüstani-İrəm / A.A.Bakıxanov. Bakı: Möminin, 2001. 225 s.
- Budaqova, S.İ. Naxçıvan diyarının tarixi coğrafiyası (XVIII əsrin ikinci yarısı XIX əsrin birinci qərinəsi) / S.İ.Budaqova. – Bakı: Elm, – 1995. – 96 s.
- 4. Əliyev, F.M. İrəvan xanlığı / F.M.Əliyev, U.D.Həsənov Bakı: Şərq Qərb, 2007. 144 s.
- Əliyev, F.M. Naxçıvan xanlığı (1747-1828) / F.M.Əliyev, M.Əliyev Bakı: Azərnəşr, 1996.
   106 s.
- 6. Əliyev, F.M. Naxçıvan xanlığı / F.M.Əliyev, M.Əliyev Bakı: Şərq-Qərb, 2007. 120 s.
- 7. Əsədov, F.N. Mirmustafa xan / F.N.Əsədov. Bakı: İqtisad Universiteti, 2007. 96 s.

- İrəvan əyalətinin icmal dəftəri / Araş. tərc. qeyd və əlavə. Z.M.Bünyadov, H.B.Məmmədov Bakı: Elm, – 1996. – 148 s.
- Kəlbizadə, E.H. Naxçıvanın tarixi coğrafiyası (XII-XVIII əsrin I yarısı) / E.H.Kəlbizadə. Naxçıvan: Əcəmi, – 2016. – 200 s.
- 10. Qarabağnamələr: (3 kitab) / tərt. ed. N.F.Axundov. Bakı: Şərq-Qərb, k. 2. –2006. s. 288.
- 11. Qarayev, E.T. İrəvan xanlığı (1747-1828) / E.T.Qarayev. Bakı: Avropa, 2010. 342 s.
- 12. Mustafazadə, T.T. Qarabağ xanlığı / T.T.Mustafazadə. Bakı: Sabah, 2010. 333 s.
- 13. Naxçıvan sancağının müfəssəl dəftəri (9 məhərrəm 114) / Tərc. ed. Z.M.Bünyadov,
  H.B.Qaramanlı Bakı: Elm, 2001. 376 s.
- 14. Osmanlı devleti ile Azerbaycan türk hanlıkları arasındakı münasebetlere dair arsiv belgeleri.
  Karabag-Şuşa, Nahçıvan, Bakü, Gence, Şirvan, Şeki, Revan, Kuba, Hoy (1575-1918). c. 2.
  Ankara: Osmanlı Arsivi Daire Baskanlığı Yayın No: 9, 1993. 483 s.
- 15. Бакиханов, А.А. Гюлистани-и Ирам / А.А.Бакиханов. Баку: Элм, 1991. 304 с.
- Бутков, П.Г. Материалы для новой истории Кавказа с 1722 по 1802 гг / П.Г.Бутков. Санкт-Петербург, – 1869. – 3 т., Ч. 2. 602 с.
- Григорьев, В.Н. Статистическое описание Нахичеванской провинции. Санкт-Петербург: тип. Деп. внеш. торг. – 1833. – 264 с.
- Зубов, П. П. Подвиги русских воинов в странах кавказских с 1800 по 1834 год. Т. 1. Ч. 1. Санкт-Петербург: –1835. – 222 с.
- Иванов, М.С. Очерки истории Ирана / М.С.Иванов. Москва: Госполитиздат, 1952. –
   468 с.
- Левиатов, В.Н. Очерки из истории Азербайджана в XVIII веке / В.Н.Левиатов. Баку: Изд. АН Азерб. ССР, – 1948. – 190 с.

- Хубов, Е.Т. Описание достопамятныхъ проишествий в Армении / Е.Т.Хубов. Санктпетербургь: Типография Иоаннесова, – 1811. – 130 с.
- 22. Nahçıvan hanı Kelp Ali Hanın Karabağ köylərini yağmalaması // Başbakanlık Osmanlı Arşivi (BOA), Hatt-1 Hümâyûn Tasnifi, № 765, yaprak 1.

## DATA OF THE AUTHOR.

**1. Arzu Kamal Oglu Abdullayev.** Doctor of Philosophy in History. Professor in the Nakhchivan State University, Azerbaijan Republic. E-mail: <u>a.ordubadi@yahoo.com</u>

**RECİBİDO:** 11 de octubre del 2022.

APROBADO: 29 de noviembre del 2022.