



Struggle of the peoples of Central Asia against the Achaemenids Tomaris, Shirak

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ABSTRACT

In this article, the peoples of Central Asia fought hard to be enslaved by foreign invaders. But the Saks and other peoples conquered by the enemy fought heroically against the Persian invaders. This is evidenced by the narration of Shirak.

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The free-spirited tribes and peoples of Central Asia have always resisted the tyranny of the Achaemenid kings. As a result of the struggle for independence, the Khorezmians in the 4th century, they formed their own state independently of the Achaemenids. From that time on, the Saks did not depend on the Achaemenids.

The peoples of Central Asia fought hard against being enslaved by foreign invaders. In 530, King Cyrus II of Persia was unable to completely suppress the fierce resistance shown in his campaign against the Massagets. Herodotus points out that the more Cyrus II moved north, the more difficulties he faced.

Cyrus II, who had conquered almost all of Asia Minor and Babylon, began his armies in Central Asia in order to enslave the nomadic Massagets and seize their wealth. The Massagets, under the leadership of their ruler, Princess Tomaris, vowed to oppose a powerful enemy. Massagets had powerful powers. Their armies were warriors who moved quickly and were able to perform maneuvers skillfully. Their main advantage was that they fought on the soil of their homeland.

In 529, the Persian army crossed the Oxus (Amudarya) and narrowly defeated one of the advanced detachments of the Massagets. Tomaris ordered his army to retreat to enter and destroy the enemy, starting inside their territory. Encouraged by this success, the Persians began to pursue the massagets and fell into a trap previously prepared in a ravine between the mountains. In this valley all the Persian armies were annihilated and Cyrus II himself was killed.

According to Herodotus, this battle was the most intense battle involving barbarians (non-Greek inhabitants). At first both sides began to destroy each other with bow arrows. When the arrows ran out, they continued to fight with the swords on the horses. The fight lasted a long time, no one wanted to give way. In the end, the massagets won.

According to legend, the princess ordered Cyrus' severed head to be thrown into a blood-filled mesh, condemning his cruelty, saying, "You have never been satisfied with blood, so now drink until you are full."

Ma . In 519-518, Darius I marched against the Sak tribes of Central Asia.

In this battle, the Saks were defeated by the Persian army and many warriors were killed and taken prisoner. But the Saks and other peoples conquered by the enemy fought heroically against the Persian invaders. This is evidenced by the narration of Shirak.

One day, the Sak shepherd Shirak came to the camp of the Persians. His ears and nose were cut off, and there were scars on his face. Shirak said that his tribe had put him in that position and that he should take revenge on them . He said he would lead the Persian army behind the Saxon army from a short path known only to him. After a seven- day journey through the desert , the Persians realized that they had been deceived. Despite the threat of death, Shirak said, "I have won, my countrymen, I have saved the Saks from death, I have left the Persians without water and starvation." The Persians executed this brave shepherd, and the armies of Darius I suffered great losses.

Central Asia have always resisted the tyranny of the Achaemenid kings. As a result of the struggle for independence, the Khorezmians In the 4th century, they formed their own state independently of the Achaemenids. From that time on, the Saks did not depend on the Achaemenids .

The struggle of the Sogdians, Saks and Massagets against the Greek Macedonian invaders. Spitamen. After the death of Darius III , Alexander the Great began to persecute Bess, the satrap of Bactria and Sogdiana, the successor of the Achaemenids. The official reason for Alexander's march to Central Asia was to punish Bess. In 329, the Macedonian army invaded Bactria and Sogdia. This army crossed the Oxus (Amudarya) in five days .

The local rulers, knowing the intention of the Macedonian king, captured Bess and delivered it to her. Alexander punished Bess, but did not stop walking.

Alexander's army passed through *Nautaki* (now the Bukhara Region) and captured Marakanda (Samarkand). The Macedonian army then marched on the banks of the Yaksart (Syrdarya) River , on the banks of which was built a strong defensive city of *Chekka Alexandria* , but three years of hard work with cities and tribes fighting for their independence in order to consolidate in Sogdiana. had to fight.

In Sogdiana, Spitamen led a talented commander who relied on alliances with the Sak tribes to fight the Macedonian invaders. The people of Sogdiana, who had attacked the enemy's small detachments and small garrisons, put up a resolute resistance.

Located in the valleys of the Yaksart River, the inhabitants of the seven cities that had risen up against the invaders narrowly crushed the Macedonian garrisons . Alexander again had to besiege these cities. A detachment under Spitamen's command besieged a Macedonian garrison in Morocco. The Saks gathered on the right bank of the Yaksart . The Macedonian army was in a difficult position. After fierce battles on the right bank of the Yaksart, the Saks retreated into their own state. Alexander's heart did not dare to pursue them across the desert .

Ma . 329 Battle of Politimet River. The invaders continued to move into Morocco. Spitamen correctly assessed the situation, did not enter the battle, lifted the siege of Morocco and retreated to unite with the Saks. A small detachment of Macedonians tried to reach him (Figure 21) . _

began to attack the Macedonians from time to time without engaging in a serious battle . This forced the Macedonians to begin retreating. To see less damage from the enemy's arrows, the Macedonian detachment stopped in the bushes along the Politimet (Zarafshan) River , and from there the battle began.

The Macedonians began to cross the river. Spitamen's archers began to destroy the enemy crossing the river with bows from the front. At the same time, Spitamen's cavalry was thrown into the river and attacked the wings of the enemy, who were trying to hide on one of the islands in the middle of the river.

When Alexander began to march to the East, he still believed in the teachings of his mentor Aristotle (Aristotle), "barbarians and slaves are both the same in nature. " However, what Alexander saw in a distant land unknown to him radically changed his notion of 'barbarians'. Here he saw not slavery and freedom, not barbarism and ignorance, but perseverance and high human dignity .

Spitamen did not leave the enemy alone for a day . His cavalry attacked the invaders and inflicted significant losses on him.

Alexander divided his army into five divisions, moved from one end of Sogdia to the other, and killed 120,000 men. In the fall of this year, Spitamen had his last battle with Alexander for Morocco . In this battle,

both sides suffered heavy losses . Spitamen retreated to the desert again . Here the leaders of the nomadic tribes treacherously attacked him, and, as Arrian writes, "they beheaded him and sent him to Alexander, thus averting the danger which threatened them."

, who conquered the Achaemenid world, was unable to quell the popular uprising in Sogdiana . Only the treachery of the local aristocracy and the military superiority of the Greek Macedonian army suppressed the heroic resistance of the Sogdians. It took Alexander almost three years to conquer the lands of Central Asia, but he was still able to conquer a small area: Sogdia, Bactria, and a small part of the mountainous regions . Khorezm and nomadic tribes retained their independence.

order to win over the local aristocracy, Alexander married Roxhanak (Roxana), the daughter of Vakhshuvar (Oxiart), the ruler of one of the mountainous regions of Sogdia.

resistance from Paretakena (a historical region in the northern part of the country of the Parets — Surkhandarya) , where the Bactrian warriors, led by tribal chiefs Austan and Katan, were fighting heroically. This revolt was drenched in blood. For Alexander the Great, victory was costly and equal to defeat . When he reached the Syrdarya, he did not dare to continue the attack with the Saks.

with high fighting ability , forced the Macedonians to expend much effort and time to conquer Bactria and Sogdia. The Macedonian army suffered heavy casualties . Alexander himself was wounded several times .

Ma . In 327, his army began marching on India.

Central Asian states in antiquity and the early Middle Ages. In the IV century Khorezm became an independent state . The Khorezmians were even officially freed from dependence on the Persian state . The ruler of Khorezm was Farasman (Khvarazman) ma . In 329, with 1,500 cavalry, he came to Alexander and offered to form an alliance against the Kolks and the Amazons (the people of the North Caucasus). Alexander , who was busy fighting Spitamen, did not accept the offer

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