

The Effect of Valies on People of West of Iran During Qajar Government

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Abstract

Iran is an Asian country that majority of historians believed that it is one of the oldest areas. The western part of this area is mountains of Zagros that have appropriate soil and weather and are strategic places. After entering Aries and forming government, the Ilam area was always an important area. During entering of Islam to Iran, this area had not independent government till 6th century and after that the Ilam area was a part of government of Atabakan Lorand during Safavieh regimen, king Abbas removed Atabakan and remodified political divisions of country and appointed Hossein Khan seleh varzi as satrap of Lorestan. So the present research studies the political conditions of satraps of Poshtkooh. The research method in the present study is descriptive and data were collected by librarian method and in some validate references such as Internet, books, conferences and so on. The results of the study indicated that Social customs in traditional society of Poshtkooh were based on familiarity that was among satraps and their families. In this system, identity, right and responsibilities and also social rank of people were determined.

Keywords: Straps, Poshtkooh, Pishkooh, Ilam, Lorestan .Hassan Khan Vali was one of the servants to Shahverdi Khan, the last ruler of Atabakan of Lorestan. He died at age 90 in 1255 AH during Fath Ali Shah era. He was buried in Keshik Khaneh, in Najaf Ashraf. Qajar historiographers and foreign reporters, including travelers and adventurers who had traveled to Poshtkooh during Nasser al-Din Shah Era and later, had explicitly written about Hussein Gholi Khan's bravery, heroism, and authority. He earned the title of Aboo Ghaddareh for his harsh suppression of rebellious and unruly Seqvand tribes, who had looted Dezfool, and his continued conflict with Bani Lam Arabs, who were Ottoman citizens and crossed borders in aggression.

After death of Hussein Gholi Khan, his son Gholam Reza Khan became Vali. He had received Fath al-Sultan title after his father's suppression of rebellious tribes. He later took the title of Sarem al-Sultan. Gholam Reza took his money and jewelry, moved to Iraq, and settled in Bagdad during Reza Shah Pahlavi era.

Gholam Reza moiled over returning to Iran in 1308. He was even granted respite. However, Gholam Reza Khan changed his mind about returning after Anvar Lorestan chiefs were hanged in Khorram Abad by Major General Agha Khan Khazaiee upon their return to Iran in spite of respite granted by Iranian authorities with a pledge not to be harmed.

Keywords: Poshtkooh Valian, Valigari, Hassan Khan, Heidar Khan, Hussein Khan, Aboo Ghadareh, Gholam Reza Khan

Introduction

The word Vali means Governor. This term was first used in Safavid Era. It was the highest ranking position for tribes who lived in the border areas in that time. There were at most 4 Valis in the country. They were old khans who had inherited the governorship. These Khans ruled under Safavid Government, yet, they kept a degree of independence. The taxes collected by Valis were not reflected in the central government's budget. Nevertheless, they passed a part of their collections to the central government in the form of gifts and presents to King. In fact, they helped King with their payments (Alirezaiee, 1380, p. 28).

George Curzan had this to write about Vali governorship: "Governorship or Vali is a position which is sold in Iran similar to any other state job or position. The position is given to anyone who offers to pay the highest. The measurement ordinary used for valuation is based on the generating potential or causes of earning depletion of the area (Curzan, 1365, p. 250).

According to many studies conducted by researchers and scholars on the subject, Lorestan Valian (Poshtkooh and Pishkooh) were descendants of Rabieh Arabs who lived near Baghdad. They moved toward Iranian border as the result of tribal conflicts and infightings. One of them by the name of Zahir emigrated from Iraq into Lorestan. His bravery and abilities earned him fame and Mohammadi, Ataback of Lorestan, took a special liking of him.

After Zahir's death, his son by the name of Mansour became close to Governor and married Shahverdi Khan's aunt. A son was born from this marriage named Hussein Khan. He was recognized because of his ingenuity and cleverness. Hussein Khan took over governorship after Shahverdi Khan's murder. He later founded Valian of Lorestan (Saki, no date, pp. 288-289).

Vali responsibilities during Qajar

Valian family possessed a pedigree which is subject of debate because of its content and author. The name of

Mohammad Jafar ibn Mohammad Ali Nasabeh appears At the bottom of pedigree. He was a genealogist of Qajar Era. The preparation date of this pedigree was written on the bottom as 1245 AH. It was during Hassan Khan reign who was Vali at the time till 1255 AH. Hussein Khan had ruled Poshtkooch for 30 years when pedigree was prepared. Mohammad Jafar Nasabeh noted on the pedigree that the original one was in the verge of destruction when he wrote the new one (Chaman Ara, 1383, p. 32).

Mohammad Jafar Nasabeh traced Hassan Khan's ancestors to Hazrat Abolfazl al Abass, son of Hazrat Ali ibn Abitaleb, after going back 23 generations. He further traced back the pedigree from Om al Banin, Hazrat Abolfazl's mother, to Ghasi ibn Kallab. Lorestan satraps had many challenges and wars with Zand regimen and during war of Aqamohammadkhan and And regimen, they support Aqa Mohammadkhan. After killing Aqa Mohammad Khan, his son, Fathalishah was king and he tried to dominance in all of Iran and to reach to this goal, he selected satraps of all of Iran among Qajar families and during war of Fathalishah and Hasan Khan that was satrap of Poshtkooch he had to go to Poshtkooch instead of Lorestan. Although this leads to limitation in area of Satrap but he had less attention to central regimen. (3). During war of Iran and Osmania, Hasan Khan supported central regimen, during death of Hasan Khan in 1875, there was a serious war between his sons, Ahmad Khan, Ali Khan and Heydar Khan to his deputy. Finally they divided the area and after death of two brothers, Heydar Khan was single satrap of the area. After death of Heydar Khan, King Naseredin, appointed his son, Hasan Gholi Khan as satrap of Poshtkooch. After a short time he had dominance in all areas of Poshtkooch and could provide a secure path for tradesmen of Iran, Iraq and Hejaz. The government of satraps of Poshtkooch, had not any attention to poor people and in other words, common people must provide military forces of satraps and protecting him from enemies and in other words they were confronted with poverty. One of the main characters of satraps was killing people that sometimes were because of determining their power without any cause. They also take heavy taxes to people that people couldn't pay them and they used force against people.(3). In 1877, Naseredin Shah removed Mirza Heshmat from satrap of Lorestan and gives the control of this rea to Zellosoltan and he must war against some persons such as Hossein Gholi Khan. Hossein Gholi Khan was feared and without war accepted the Zelosoltan. Zelosoltan asked him to supporting war against riot men and he accepted. Zelosoltan used Hosseinghlikhan to war against riot men. During 1900, and because of riot of Baharvand, Naseredinshah asked Hossein gholi Khan to war against them. He accepted this and was successful in this deed and after that, king called him dominant commander. After death of Naseredinshah, Hossein Gholi Khan was confirmed by Mozafaredinshah and till his death in 1908; he was strong satrap of Poshtkooch. The last satrap in Poshtkooch was Gholamrezakhan the son of Hossein Gholi Khan and he was contemporary to Mozafaredinshah and King Mohammad ali that its center of government was Hosseinabad (Ilam).

Introducing Valies of Qajar

Indeed during government of Fathalishah, Hasan Khan couldn't control the area of Poshtkooch and was independent from central government, so central regimen was going to make him weak. Hossein Ghloi Khan was the next satrap of Ilam that was son of Heydar Khan and grandson of Hasan Khan. All families of Poshtkooch are related to Hosseinkhan that was one of the relations of Shah Verdikhan the last satrap of Atabaks of Lor. After death of Ali Khan, Hossein Gholi Khan the son of Heydar Khan was appointed as satrap of Poshtkooch. All historical references confirmed the bravery of Hossein Gholi Khan. After death of Hossein gholi Khan his son, Gholamreza Khan was appointed as satrap. Gholamrezakhan such as his father was a strong satrap. During 1908 he want go back to Iran and after coming to Iran he was killed. Ms. Stark was came to Iran two times and he had dominance to Persian and Arabic. Her second journey was because of finding a treasure in Kabirkooch, she writes, during my journey, satrap was doweled in a new house that was made in Greece form. The satrap was a tall and young man abd had green eyes and black eyebrows. During 1908, the son of Gholamreza Khan, Yadollah Khan was confirmed by king. During first regimen of Pahlavi (1907), Aligholi Khan the son of Gholam reza Khan that was satrap of Postkooch, after escaping of his father went to Baghdad and made a riot against Reza Shah that was removed by Razmara. None of these riots was not done by southern Kurd people of Kermanshah, Ilam, Lorestan and so on and they didn't wants to independency but their aims was control of all of Iran.

1- Heidar Khan Vali (1255 AH to 1273 AH)

After Hassan Khan's death, his sons, Ali Khan, Heidar Khan, and Ahmad Khan divided Poshtkooch between themselves (Afshar Sistani, 1372, p. 156). Qajar government recognized Heidar Khan as Vali of Poshtkooch. In Takht Khan engraving, Heidar Khan and his brothers are not honored. Their names did not even appear in the pedigree discussed earlier (Karimi, 1372, p. 70).

After Heidar Khan passed away in 1273 AH, his son Hussein Gholi Khan was appointed as Poshtkooch governor by Nasser al Din Shah. He was an outstanding Vali. According to the records of traveling journalists, Hussein Gholi Khan was cruel, blood thirsty, fastidious, and persnickety. He suppressed rebellious Arab tribes living in Khoozestan together with Lorestan unruly tribes. He stopped border intrusions by Ottoman. Central government raised his position to Amir Tooman or General. He also earned titles such as Sarem al-Saltaneh, Sardar Ashraf, and Aboo Ghaddareh. The latter title remained in Vali family. It is still a family name of some

of their successors (Afshar Sistani, 1372, p. 157).



Figure 1: an image of Vali

2- Hussein Gholi Khan (1273 AH to 1318 AH)

Hussein Gholi Khan Aboo Ghaddareh was son of Heidar Khan and grandson of Hassan Khan. He carried titles such as Sarem al-Saltaneh and Sardar Ashraf as Poshtkooch Vali. Poshtkooch valians were successors of Hussein Khan, the first Lorestan Vali. Hussein Khan was a servant of Shahverdi Khan, the last member of Atabakan of Lorestan. Shahverdi Khan rebelled against Great Shah Abbas. He escaped to Jangaleh, which was the winter settlement of Poshtkooch Vali. Shah Abbas army followed him to Jangaleh. Shahverdi Khan was killed in Jangaleh after a tough and bloody battle (Bamdad, 1378, p. 83).

"Hussein Gholi Khan and Nasser al Din Shah"

Zel al-Sultan used Hussein Gholi Khan several times to restore order in his territory. Hussein Gholi Khan earned the attention and favor of the powerful Qajar Prince because of his bravery and heroism. Zel al-Sultan invited Hussein Gholi Khan to wedding ceremony of his son, Jalal al-Doleh. Hussein Gholi Khan met Nasser al Din Shah in this trip and received recognition for his contributions. Nasser al Din Shah also granted Sarem al-Saltaneh and Fath al-Sultan to Gholam Reza Khan, Hussein Gholi Khan's elder son.

Hussein Gholi Khan's seat of government was in Deh Bala. He changed its name to Hussein Abad later. He ordered several tribes and nomads to permanently settle in Hussein Abad in order to help the place flourish. He built new mosques, shops, and dwellings, plus a castle for himself there.

Mozaffareddin Shah, who took over after Nasser al Din Shah passed away, confirmed the governorship of Hussein Gholi Khan Aboo Ghaddareh. He strongly reigned over Poshtkooch till his death in 1318 AH.

Gholam Reza Khan was the last Vali of Poshtkooch. He was son of Hussein Gholi Khan Aboo Ghaddareh and lived during Mozaffareddin Shah and Mohammad Ali Shah periods. His governor capital was in Hussein Abad (presently Ilam). He was the Commander of armed forces and Deputy Governor during his father's reign (Sayyah, 1359, p. 226).

3-The reason for Aboo Ghaddareh title

The late Mohammad Mohit Tabatabaee did not attribute the proverb to Hussein Gholi Khan Aboo Ghadareh. He wrote that his relationship with the central government hardly ever crossed Poshtkooch borders of Lorestan to reach Tehran, Mashhad, and Kerman. However, it is possible to attribute the proverb to Hussein Gholi Khan if we consider the extended infighting in different areas of Poshtkooch during Hussein Gholi Khan Era, his success in suppressing domestic rebellion such as the ones by Sigvand tribes and his cousins, deportation of many relatives to other areas of Poshtkooch and Iran, plus his engagements in many conflicts against Arabs and Ottoman.

DeMorgan wrote about Hussein Gholi Khan, the powerful Vali Poshtkooch: "Poshtkooch has maintained its freedom and independence thanks to its independent ruler, Vali Hussein Gholi Khan. He has complete control of many passageways and canyons in the area to block possible intrusions by Ottoman, Iranians, and any suspicious traveler. Poshtkooch is a part of Shah's territorial empire but he acts freely and never pays any taxes or duties". This does not mean that Hussein Gholi Khan did not follow Tehran. On the contrary, he maintained courteous relations with Tehran governments. He was careful from afar that no government agent could enter his territory. Messengers who brought orders or letters for Vali might risk their lives when entering Poshtkooch. However, messengers were treated well once entered.



Figure 2: the form of clothes of Vali

4-Gholam Reza Khan Vali (1318 AH to 1340 AH)

Next Poshtkooh Vali, Gholam Reza Khan, had earned titles such as Fath al-Sultan, Sarem al-Saltaneh and Sardar Ashraf. He was the elder son of Hussein Gholi Khan Aboo Ghaddareh and a decedent of Hussein Kahn Salvizi who was appointed as Lorestan Vali by Shah Abbas Safavi after Shahverdi Khan was murdered.

Dikevand Tribes rebelled in 1281 AH and started attacking their neighboring areas. Hussein Gholi Khan Aboo Ghadareh, Gholam Reza Khan's father, who also carried Sarem al-Saltaneh and Sardar Ashraf, undertook to suppress them with his armed forces and cavalry, called Amaleh, on the order of the central government. Gholam Reza Khan earned Fath al-Sultan title when his father conquered the rebellious tribes. When Hussein Gholi Khan Aboo Ghadareh passed away in 1317 AH, Gholam Reza Khan Fath al-Sultan took over and earned Sarem al-Saltaneh title. He later earned Sardar Ashraf and his son, Amanollah Khan, took Sarem al-Salteneh title (Khani, 1373, p. 69).



Figure 3: image of Vali

5-Gholam Reza Khan Vali and Reza Khan

Reza Shah decided in 1300 to strengthen his grip on power by suppression and forced settlement of tribes. He was especially keen about annihilation and disarming the Lorestan tribes. A conflict of interest between Poshtkooh Vali and Reza Khan was inevitable. Reza Khan was looking for a pretext to secure his power on Poshtkooh as a strategic location. He aimed at bringing down Gholam Reza Khan from power and ending his reign as Vali.

6-Conclusion

Valian Lorestan strengthened their hold on Lorestan (and Ilam) during the early parts of Qajar Dynasty. Fath Ali Shah decided to install Qajar rulers all over country to reinforce his power and avoid possible rebellion. He dispatched Qajar princesses to different parts of country. The western region of Iran was given to Fath Ali Shah's brave son, Mohammad Ali Dolatshah.

Hassan Khan, Vali Lorestan (1215 to 1255 AH), was forced to retreat from Khoram Abad to Poshtkooh (presently Ilam) under pressure from the central government. Filly Valian of Poshtkooh heeded less to the central government more than before.

Haidar Khan Vali (1255-1273 AH), one of Poshtkooh Valian, shared ruling the area with his brothers Ali Khan and Ahmad Khan. But, Haider Khan was the only one approved by the central government.

The most well-known Filly Valian of Poshtkooh were Hussein Gholi Khan Aboo Ghadareh (1273-1318 AH) and his son Gholam Reza (1318-1307) who was appointed by Mozafar al Din Shah as Poshtkooh Vali. Gholam

Reza Khan was forced to flee Iran in 1307 after Reza Khan (1304 to 1320) came to power and attempted to centralize the government power.

Gholam Reza Khan, the last Filly Vali of Poshtkooh, ordered the installation of a stone engraving in a place called Takht Khan, located 34 kilometers south of Ilam on the road from Ilam to Tehran. His intended purpose was to save his name and his family by leaving a record of the family history and the accomplishments his family had made.

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