

## The Classification of Written Sources Contain Information about the History of Khorezm in the End 12<sup>th</sup> – The Beginning of 13<sup>th</sup> Centuries

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### ABSTRACT

The article examines written sources, which could give information about the history of Khorezm the end 12<sup>th</sup> – the beginning of 13<sup>th</sup> centuries. The article briefly discusses dividing them in sources devoted to the general, regional history, biographies and the collection of documents. Works on general history cover the history of Khorezm within the framework of a whole region, sources on dynasties and specific individuals provide information about aspects of the history of Khorezm related to a specific dynasty and person. Biographical works contain information about the cultural, spiritual and political history of the region through the lives and activities of people who have chosen the path of science. In the written sources, which include a collection of documents, it is possible to obtain information about appointment to positions, names of officials, origin and other similar information, and information about the formation and maintenance of documents.

**KEYWORDS:** Khorezm, khwarizmshahs, written sources, general history, regional history, biographies, collection of documents.

The written sources play an important role in the study of history. The dynasty of Khwarizmshah-anushteginids (1077-1231) ruled in the territory of Uzbekistan in the end of the 12<sup>th</sup> – beginning of the 13<sup>th</sup> century. In the epoch when ruled this dynasty and after were written many historical works enlightened social-political, economic and cultural processes took place in the region. These sources divided into certain groups: 1) sources devoted to general history, 2) sources dedicated to regional history (works dedicated to the activity of certain local dynasty or ruler), 3) biographical works and 4) collections of historical documents.

Works, devoted to the general history, include the work “al-Muntazam fi tawarikh al-muluk wa-l-umam” (“Sequence of the History of Kings and Nations”) of Jamal al-Din Abdurrahman ibn Ali Jawzi (1116 - 1201), the work “At-Tarikh fi-l-kamil” (“The full description of history”) of Izz al-Din Ali ibn Athir (1160-1233), “Tabaqati Nasiri” (“Ranks of Nasiri”) of Minhaj ad-Din Jouzjani (1193-1260) and Ata Malik Juwaini’s (1226-1283) “Tarikhi Jahangousha” (“The history of the opener of World”) and others. These works provide valuable information on the history of Khorezm. The above authors widely used Mahmud ibn Muhammad Khwarizmi’s work entitled “Tarikh Khwarizm” (“The history of Khorezm”), which has not been preserved to this day, as a source for illuminating the history of Khorezm.

Jawzi’s work “Al-Muntazam” (“The Sequence”) describes events before the year 1178. It contains information about historical events and processes related to the dynasties of the

Samanids (819-99), Qarakhanids (840-1212), Ghaznevids (963-1186), Seljuqs (1040-1308), Khwarizmshahs (1077-1231) within the framework of the Islamic general history. The work gives some information about the history of Khorezm. The unique aspect of this work is that it first presents the political events of a certain year, and then describes data related to persons died or was born in that year. In the report of 528, AH (1133-1134 AD), it is mentioned that khwarizmshah was removed from power by the caliph [4: 17/284]. Also, three persons from Khorezm killed Atiz, who was the emir of Sultan Berkyaruq and had iqtas (Islamic practice of tax farming) valued at thousands of dinars [4: 17/50], and in the month of Ramadan, 506 AH (February-March, 1113, AD) Sa'id ibn Mansur ibn Ismail ibn Sa'id, who was a judge (kadi) in Khorezm and was originally from Nishapur died, and in the report of 507, AH (1113-1114, AD) is given information about the scholar Ismail ibn Ahmad ibn Husain ibn Ali ibn Musa, who lived in Khorezm for 20 years [4: 17/134].

The work "Al-kamil fi-t-tarikh" ("The full description of history") of Ibn al-Athir provides more complete information about political processes. It includes details of the Seljuq sultan Sanjar's campaigns to Khorezm and the conclusion of peace with Khwarizmshah Atsiz in the account of 538, AH (1143, AD) [3: 9/329], and the crossing of the Khitas (karakhitays) through Amu darya river, and the war between them and the army of Khwarizmshah II Arslan, in which the Karakhitas gained the upper hand, the return of II Arslan from this battle from illness and his death, the struggle for the throne between Takish and the Sultanshan, the success of Takish in it, the details of the departure of the Sultanshan to Nishapur in the account of the years 567 – 568, AH (1171 – 1173, AD) [3: 10/39- 40], also the death of Takish and the beginning of Ala ad-Din Muhammad's rule. The work give information also the accession of Ala ad-Din Muhammad, in 600, AH (1203-1204, AD), the second siege of Herat by Khwarizmshah Muhammad [3: 10/285], in the account of 617, AH (1220, AD) the capture of Khorezm by the Mongols [3: 10/421] and other events.

In the work of Minhaj ad-Din Jouzjani, a great place is devoted to the history of the Khwarizmshah dynasty. The work describes the processes of the second half of the 12th century – the first half of the 13th century. It covers briefly political activities of rulers and princes of the khwarizshah's dynasty as Yunus Khan ibn Sultan Takish, Malik Khan ibn Sultan Takish (he was the governor of Nishapur), Alishah ibn Takish, Ala ad-Din Muhammad ibn Takish of Khwarizmshah (1200-1220)[ 10: 452-477].

Also the work gives information about Sultan Takish's relations with Iqran, who was the Khan (ruler) of Kipchaks (Turkic tribe), his marriage with khan's daughter, who became a great princess during the time of her son Ala ad-Din Muhammad, she locked her husband in the bathroom due to jealousy, and it enlightens other processes [10: 454]. In this work, the activities of the princes described separately and in a generalized way.

Ata Malik Juwaini's (1226-1283) work "Tarikhi Jahangusho" consists of three parts, the first part of which is devoted to the history of the Mongols, the second part to the history of the Khwarizmshah dynasty, and the third part to the illumination of the Mongols and other historical processes. The second volume of the work contains a number of valuable data on the history of the Khwarizmshahs, including rulers as Atsiz [7: 1-13], II Arslan [7: 15-18], Takish and Sultanshan struggles [7: 18-29], Takish [7: 29- 47], Sultan Muhammad's accession to the throne, reign and battle with the Ghurians [7: 47-60]. The work gives more information about the Mongol invasion and the activities of Jalaluddin Manguberdi [7: 62, 86, 103, 107, 117, 126-128, 130-133].

The regional sources providing information on the history of Khorezm consists of works, dedicated to the life of a certain dynasty or ruler. The work “Akhbar ad-Dawla as-Saljuqiyya” (“Reports of the Seljuq State”) of Sadr ad-din Abul Hasan Ali ibn Abul Fawaris Nasir ibn Ali Huseini, which dedicated to the Seljuqs, the composition “Rahat as-sudur wa ayat al-surur” (“The gladness of hearts and the verse of pleasure”) of Najm ad-din Abu Bakr Muhammad ibn Ali Rawandi (died in 1206), also dedicated to Saljuqs and “Sirat sultan Jalal ad-Din Mangburni” (“Details of the life of Sultan Jalal ad-din Manguberdi”) of Shihab ad-Din Nasawi (died in 1249) include as a regional sources.

Although Sadridin Ali Husaini's “Akhbar ad-Dawla as-Saljuqiyya” devoted to the history of the Seljuqs, it also provides information related to Khorezm. In particular, it gives more detailed information about Atsiz's attack on Marv during the time of Sultan Sanjar [6: 188-192], that the weight of Sanjar's jewels were one thousand and thirty *ratls* (equals 1 pound or 406-453 gr.) [6: 233-234], that Khorezm was among the properties occupied by Sultan Sanjar [6: 316], battles of Il Arslan carried out by Inanj in the territory of Iran, Azerbaijan and Iraq, relatively more complete details about Inanj's battle in Iraq [6: 263-266], as well as the processes on the territory of Iran and the participation of Khwarizmshah and other events.

The composition “Rahat as-sudur wa ayat as-sudur” of Rawendi is also an important source, in which is about 19 conquests (*fath*) of Sultan Sanjar, his possession of Samarkand, the reason, why Ahmad-khan revolted after the death of Berkyaruq, also gives information about that Sanjar besieged for four months Samarkand and captured it in 524, AH (1129-1130, AD) [9: 257]. He returned all regions that were under the control of his father Malikshah, and gave Khorezm to Atsiz ibn Muhammad Nushtagin Gharjah. The work also provides information about the origin of Khwarizmshahs, the name of their founder was written as Bilikbak (بلكباك), and it is said that one of the Seljuq emirs bought him from the emir of Gharchistan. Also, the sources give information about that when the Khurasan army was defeated, the king of Khorezm, Atsiz, rebelled, he looted Marv and Nishapur, captured the treasures and riches, and when the sultan was angry with him and sent a man, he recited the following verse: The meaning of the verse is as follows: “If the king's horse is faster than the enemy, My horse is not lame either. Come here and I will go there, this world is not narrow” [9: 264-265].

The work contains verses from the collection “Kulliyati Anwari” and praises the Seljuqs. In it, sentences were used that if we take revenge, we will destroy sky as we overcame Atsiz and subjugated Khorezm [9: 298].

In addition, the work describes that Inanj who opposed the Seljuq sultan, asked for help and assistance from the khwarizmshah, and he received help from the ruler of Khorezm, came to Iraq and then to Ray to fight with the sultan. When the help to the sultan increased, Inanj retreated. While the army of Khorezm was returning to their lands, they looted on the way and took a lot of booty from Qazvin and Abhar regions; also, they took two thousand camels of the best breed as booty, captured slaves as booty and returned to Khorezm [9: 420-421].

Also, the composition enlightens that khwarizmshah came close to Ray and occupied the Tabrak fortress, Inanj's daughter Inanj Khatun went to Sarjhan castle, and khwarizmshah demanded the sultan's daughter in order to marry his son Yunus-khan, in the spring of 589, AH (1193, AD) Sultan-i Alem (Saljuq sultan Toghrul ibn Arslanshah is meant) arrived in Ray, he besieged and captured the Tabrak fortress, destroyed the roots of the conspiracy in Ray. He killed Tamgaj Khwarizmi, who was the governor there, sent his body to Khorezm,

captured the elder emirs of Khorezm and imprisoned them in the Qazvin fortress, and then he himself went to Hamadan, a group of khorezmians attacked around Jourjan, Bistam, and Damgan. Khoja Mu'in joined the sultan from Ray, they attacked the Khorezmians together, the battle known as the Tahina battle took place in Khuwari Ray (the 4<sup>th</sup> day, Muharram 590, AH – January 5, 1194, AD). Khorezmians consisted of 25 emirs as Mayajiq, Suwtash, Muhammad-khan and others were captured, and a poet from Khorezm wrote a rubai describing the battle and received a reward of 100 dinars for it from sultan [9: 506].

It is said that in the month of Muharram, 590 AH (January 1194, AD), the sultan looked at the peace of his country, he was afraid that the Khorezm army were gathering in Khorezm and Mozandaran, and because of the possibility of their coming to Ray, he quickly sent the army to Ray, and the revolt of the Khorezm people was inherited from Sultan Sanjar. Also, Khwarizmshah chose to disobey and declared himself as sultan, although the sultan had few allies at that time, he did not estimate his strength correctly, Qutlug Inanj cut a head from the sultan's body and sent it to Khwarizmshah and etc. [9: 516].

In addition, the work gives information about historical events like Takish's activity in the territory of Iran, his ambassadorship to Abu Bakr, the son of patriarch Pahlavon on the matter of Hamadan, the fact that Abu Bakr sent his younger brother Uzbek to Hamadan due to Abu Bakr's busyness, and Takish welcomed him with respect, gave him the leadership of Hamadan, Kokcha's rebellion and his support after the departure of Khwarizmshah, and then the victory of the army of khwarizmshah over the caliph's army, his return of Hamadan and the lands nearby to his possession, relations of Takish with the caliph al-Nasir, the details of the war between Takish and Mayajiq, and the anger of Khwarizmshah against his minister for protecting Mayajiq [9: 537-538, 542] , 547, 550-554].

Although the work of Shihab ad-Din Nasawi mainly reflects the life of Jalal ad-Din Manguberdi and the historical processes related to him, it also provides information about A'lauddin Muhammad Khwarizmshah and the persons and events connected with him [8: 49-53, 60-62, 63-65] .

Among the biographical works, Yaqut Hamawi's (1179-1229) "Mu'jam al-udaba" ("Dictionary of Men of Letters") provides information about a number of writers and famous people lived in Khorezm. The work gives information about poets as an author of collection of poems (diwans) in Persian and Arabic Ibrahim ibn Haidar ibn Ali Abu Ishaq Nizam ad-Din Khwarizmi, who was born in Dhu-l-Hijjah of 559, AH [11: 1/132], the scholar Ahmad ibn Ibrahim Adibi Khwarizmi (Yaqut stated that the author of the work "History of Khorezm" Abu Muhammad said good words about him) [11: 1/185], about writer and poet Ahmed ibn Ali Saffari Khwarizmi [11: 1/405], about descendant of viziars of Khorezm Ahmad ibn Muhammad Abul Husain Sahli Khwarizmi [11: 2/504], who died in 418, AH (1027-1028, AD) and lived in Samarra, the connoisseur of the Arabic language Qasim ibn Husain ibn Muhammad Abu Muhammad Khwarizmi, who lived in Khorezm and was born in Sha'ban 555, AH (August, 1160, AD) [11: 5/2191] and others.

Among the works written as a collection of documents, we can mention the works of Muntajab ad-Din Bade' and Baha ad-Din Muhammad ibn Muayyad Baghdadi (no information about him is found after 1192). They give information is given about documents related to the history of Khorezm.

The composition "Kitab al-insha" of Muntajab ad-Din Bade's includes the letter, written by

Rashid ad-Din Watwat (died 1182) and sent to the caliph by Khwarizmshah II Arslan [1: 79]. Probably the letters written by Khwarizmshah belonged to the pen of Rashid ad-Din Watwat [2: 45]. This collection of documents is kept at the Institute of Oriental Studies of the Russian Academy of Sciences and consists of 216 pages.

Baha ad-Din al-Baghdadi's work "at-Tawassul ila at-tarassul" ("A careful look at the correspondence") contains appointments of some individuals as judges in Khorezm, correspondences of the heads of various ministries, also labels, contracts, endowment donations and wills, related to madrasahs or waqfs. Credentials such as "About giving the province of Jand to Nasir ad-Din Malikshah", "About giving the province of Barjinligkent to Taj ad-Din Ali", "About handing over the governorship of Khorezm and donations of endowments, madrasahs and mosques to Saif ad-Din Khalaf Makki" and other similar documents [5: 12, 38, 125, 131 and other pages] provide interesting data on political and socio-economic history.

As a conclusion, it can be said that while works on general history cover the history of Khorezm within the framework of a whole region, sources on dynasties and specific individuals provide information about aspects of the history of Khorezm related to a specific dynasty and person. Through biographical works, we can get information about the cultural, spiritual and political history of the region through the lives and activities of people who have chosen the path of science. In the written sources, which include a collection of documents, it is possible to obtain information about appointment to positions, names of officials, origin and other similar information, and information about the formation and maintenance of documents.

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