

# Classification of Historical Documents on the Administrative System of the Ashtarkhanies Dynasty

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**Аннотация:** This article deals with the analysis of manshur, nishon, yorliq, hukmnoma, inoyatnoma, vasiqa, vaqfnoma and letters which are in Turkish and Persian languages, written in Khiva, Kashgar, India, Iran, Turkey, Russia, geographically under the rule of the Ashtarkhanies, in the years 1600-1747. Their significance in the study of the cabinet system, positions and titles, changes in the country's administrative-territorial structure during the Ashtarkhanies dynasty is shown.

**Ключевые слова:** Ashtarkhanid dynasty, Khiva, Kashgar, India, Iran, Turkey, Russia, manshur, nishon, yorliq, hukmnoma, inoyatnoma, vasiqa, vaqfnoma, letter, shayxulislom, muftiy, a'lam, naqib, Samarkand, Bukhara, Kesh, Fergana.

## Introduction

To this day, important documents related to the Ashtarkhanies dynasty have been preserved. They can be usefully used to illuminate the political, economic, social and cultural life of the dynasty. These existing documents have been researched by R.G Muqminova<sup>2</sup>, O.D. Chexovich<sup>3</sup>, A.Juvonmardiyev<sup>4</sup>, I. Nizomiddinov<sup>5</sup>, E.A. Davidovich<sup>6</sup>, B.A. Kazakov<sup>7</sup>, R.D. Mak Chesney<sup>8</sup> until now. It is noteworthy that in their work, these researchers mainly focus on documents in terms of endowment issues, land ownership, foreign relations, coin circulation and translation. Unlike them, in this work, a number of documents related to the Ashtarkhanid dynasty were considered from the point of view of state management and involved in the research work.

## Main part

The existing documents used span the period from 1600 to 1747, and geographically they cover Khiva, Kashgar, India, Iran, Turkey, and Russia under the rule of the Ashtarkhanies. Among them, the most significant are the documents written in the territory under the rule of the Ashtarkhanies, which include manshur, nishon, yorliq, hukmnoma, inoyatnoma, vasiqa, vaqfnoma, letters written mainly in Turkish and Persian languages. Among the documents, the most important type and the most important in clarifying the state administration are the manshurs<sup>9</sup>. The reviewed manuscripts are kept at the Institute of Oriental Studies. Among them, the collection of documents stored under the name "Maktubot, munshoat va manshurot" under serial number 289 is the largest, and it contains manshurs written in

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<sup>2</sup> Mukminova R.G. Positions of peasants on waqf lands (Central Asia XVI – XVII centuries) // XXVI Congress of the CPSU and problems of agrarian history of the USSR (socio-political development of the village). Ufa. 1984. pp. 484 – 488

<sup>3</sup> Chekhovich O.D. Collection of eastern acts of the Academy of Sciences of Uzbekistan // Historical notes. Moscow. 1948. No. 26. P. 306 – 311; New collection of documents on the history of Uzbekistan // Historical Notes. Moscow. 1951. No. 36. P. 263 – 268; Documents on the history of agrarian relations in the Bukhara Khanate. Vol. I. Acts of feudal land ownership in the 17th – 19th centuries. Tashkent. 1954.

<sup>4</sup> A.Juvonmardiev . About land and water issues in Fergana in the XVI-XIX centuries. Tashkent. 1965

<sup>5</sup> Nizomiddinov I.G. Relations between Central Asia and India in the 16th - 18th centuries. Tashkent. 1966

<sup>6</sup> Davidovich E.A. History of coinage in Central Asia in the 17th – 18th centuries (Gold and silver coins of the Dzhaniids). Dushanbe. 1964

<sup>7</sup> Kazakov B.A. Documentary monuments of Central Asia. Tashkent. 1987

<sup>8</sup> McChesney R.D. Wakf in Balkh and Bukhara in the 2nd half of the 11th/17th century: political, social and economic aspect // Hamdard islamicus. 1989. № 12. P. 39 – 56; R.D. McChesney. Waqf in Central Asia: Four Hundred Years in the History of a Muslim Shrine, 1480 – 1889. Princeton University Press. 1991.

<sup>9</sup> Manshur is an appointment document.



Persian, written in Persian, and issued to officials and servants in the central and regional administration, belonging to the era of Imambkulikhan, Ubaydullahkhan and mainly Abulfaizkhan. Also, the manshurs issued by Subkhonkulikhan have been preserved in their original form<sup>10</sup>.

In these manuscripts, it can be seen that there are duties and powers of a number of positions and titles that are not mentioned in the works. For example, Mirza Badi Divan also mentions the role of the alam mansab: "The narration accepted by the mufties on any issue becomes a decision (fatva) after it is sealed by the alam and has the right to be executed<sup>11</sup>. In the manshur written about the appointment of Khoja Shah Mufties to the position of alam of Bukhara region, information can be found that the post of alam was also given to the governorship of Somjin district of Bukhara region<sup>12</sup>. Or, Mirzo Badi devan and other researchers of the later period who relied on his information limit themselves to emphasizing that the task of the tugbegi was to lead the flag bearers<sup>13</sup>. In the manshur related to this position, it is noted that he was also given the governorship of the Komot district of Bukhara<sup>14</sup>. If Mirzo Badi writes<sup>15</sup> that the duty of the chief mehtar (mehtari kalon) was to collect 1/4 of the ushur (dahyak) from the Muslims, half of the ushur from the non-Muslims, and the ushur of the military in cash, grain and other found things, he was assigned to this post. In the appointment letter, it is noted that the holder of this position also performed the sarkor (supervision) of "darulzarbi money exchange"<sup>16</sup>. The position of shaykhulislam in the central and regional administration controlled<sup>17</sup> the determination of the prices of regional stone scales, daily food crops (in particular, grain, etc.) necessary for the population, judges, scholars, and scientists in the region. , teachers and other people should refer to him in all issues of the Sharia, and it is noted that Shaykhulislam supervised<sup>18</sup> the activities of judges, heads of market control, imams, and muezzins.

Also, the notebooks, which must be kept by the officials who worked in the office, and the issues that must be recorded in them, are clearly indicated. For example, katta devon (devoni kalon) "oliy daftarxona (daftarxonayi oliy – دفترخانه عالی)"<sup>19</sup>, *mushrif* "in'om daftari (daftari in'om – دفتر)"<sup>20</sup>, *devoni daftari tanobona* "tonobona daftari (daftari tonobona – دفترطنابانه)"<sup>21</sup>, *avorij devoni* "kirim daftari (daftari ovarij – دفتر اوارج)"<sup>22</sup> va *tavjih devoni* "chiqim daftari (daftari tavjih – دفتر توجیه)"<sup>22</sup>, *poygirnavis*

<sup>10</sup> Manshur on the appointment of Nizamiddin Khoja Yusuf as shakhulislam of Samarkand region and as sheikh and mutavalli of Khoja Ahror's tomb by Subkhonkulikhan (1636). SH AQF. 76th collection of documents, document 528; Manshur on the appointment of Farkhod Chuhraaqa as governor of Kufin region by Subkhonkulikhan (1688). SH AQF. Documents. 64th assembly. Document 180.

<sup>11</sup> Mirakshah Munshi, Mulla Zahid Munshi. Letter, munshoat and manshurot. A manshur written about the appointment of Khoja Shah mufti to the post of Bukhara region scholar. SH AQF. Manuscript number 289. Pages 110a 110b

<sup>12</sup> Letter, munshoat and manshurot. A manshur written about the appointment of Khoja Shah mufti to the post of Bukhara region scholar. Pages 110a – 110b.

<sup>13</sup> History of Balkh. C. 175

<sup>14</sup> Letter, munshoat and manshurot. A manshur written about the appointment to the position of Tugbegi. Page 159a

<sup>15</sup> Letter, munshoat and manshurot. Manshur written about the appointment of Ubaidullah to the post of mehtari kalon. Pages 174a – 175a; A manshur written about the appointment of Mehtari Kalon. Pages 175a – 176a; Machma'-ul-arqam. Bargai. 156.

<sup>16</sup> Letter, munshoat and manshurot. A manshur written about the appointment of Mulla Ibadullah to the position of mehtari kalon. Pages 175a – 176a.

<sup>17</sup> Letter, munshoat and manshurot. A manshur written about the appointment of Mir Mohammad Sadiq Khoja to the sheikhulism of Kesh region. Pages 122a – 122b.

<sup>18</sup> Manshur on the appointment of Nizamiddin Khoja Yusuf as shakhulislam of Samarkand province and as sheikh and mutavalli of Khoja Ahror's grave by Subhonquli Khan (1636). AQF. Documents. 76th assembly. Document 528.

<sup>19</sup> Letter, munshoat and manshurot. A manshur written about the appointment of Haji Talib to the position of head of the Bukhara region. Pages 164b – 165b.

<sup>20</sup> Letter, munshoat and manshurot. A manshur written about the appointment of Mulla Shadi Divan to the office of the governor of Bukhara region. Pages 165b – 166a; Letter, munshoat and manshurot. Manshur was written about the appointment of Mirzo Ghani to the post of governor of Bukhara region. Pages 166b – 167a; Machma'-ul-arqam. Bargai. 154..

<sup>21</sup> Letter, munshoat and manshurot. Manshur written about the appointment of the governor of Bukhara region to the position of Tonobona. Page 170b.

<sup>22</sup> Letter, munshoat and manshurot. Mirzo Haidar is a manshur written about the appointment of the bookkeeper to the office of tavjih and avorij. Pages 173b – 174a..



esa "oliy barotlar daftari (daftari baravoti oliy –بروات دفتر عالی)" daftarini<sup>23</sup> controls can be clarified. In the manshur written by Subkhonkulikhan about his appointment to the governorship of the region, judges, muftis, pilgrims, sayyids, dignitaries, kakhudos he should recognize and obey the orders of the judges of that region, and he should fight for the prosperity of the region and the welfare of the people, he should secretly hand over taxes and grain to the central government in cash, and he should obey any summons issued by the central government. It is emphasized that the answer should be "I'm all ears" and it allows to further clarify the duties and powers of the governor.<sup>24</sup>

Nishans<sup>25</sup> also have an incomparable role in illuminating one or another aspect of the management issue. A large part of the considered nishans of the dynasty period are stored in the Institute of Oriental Studies<sup>26</sup>. Among them, there are a number of signs in the collections of documents stored under the names "Maktubot, munshoat va manshurot" and "Majmuayi maktubot va manshur", which stand out. In particular, in the collection "Maktubot, munshoat va manshurot" belonging to the period of Abulfaizkhan, written in Persian, the chief judge, military judge (soldier judge), a'lam, sudur, ulug' khoja (khoja kalon (Khoja of Joybor)), If there are badges related to positions in the central administration, such as ataliq, big devanbegi, head qushbegi, head mirokhur (mirohuri kalon), jilov mirokhuri (mirokhuri jilov), in the collection kept under the name "Majmuayi maktubot va manshur" Imamqulikhan there is a token presented by the Khoja of Dzhojbor to give the Tashkent region.<sup>27</sup>

These nishans provide valuable information about the tasks and powers of positions and titles in the central and regional administration, as well as the administrative-territorial structure of the country. In particular, the appointment of Shahkhoja Husayni as the chairman of Shahrisabz given by Abdulaziz Khan, the position of chairman became a hereditary property in some regions, and all the judges, sayyids, nobles, dignitaries and kakhudos of the region were subordinate to this position, and the main task was to control the participation of the population in Friday prayers. It is possible to realize that the correctness of the scales in the markets, checking the quality of products, and price control are included.<sup>28</sup> From the information on the nishon given to Farhadbi, who served in the position of father during the time of Abulfayzkhan, it can be seen that the person in this position was given the title of "Ilgorbashii askar, or sardori sipoh" as the commander of the army.<sup>29</sup> It is understood that the Tashkent region was divided into Piskat, Furkat and Shahrukhiya districts by another sign given by Imam Qulikhan, and these districts include Samarak, Zavkat and Boka districts.<sup>30</sup>

In the endowment documents written in Turan<sup>31</sup> during the dynasty, you can find a number of information about state administration. In particular, some of the documents of this foundation are

<sup>23</sup>Letter, munshoat and manshurot. A manshur written about the appointment of Mirzo Arif to the highest post of the poygirnnavisi baravati daftar. Pages 171a – 171b.

<sup>24</sup> Manshur on the appointment of Farhad Chuhraoga as governor of Kufin region by Subhonquli Khan (1688). AQF. Documents. 64th assembly. Document 180.

<sup>25</sup> Nishan is an order, instruction. Look through – B.A. Kazakov. Documentary monuments of Central Asia. Tashkent. 1987. P. 17.

<sup>26</sup> Nishan on the appointment of Shahkhoja Hasani to the chairmanship of Shahrisabz (1661-1662). SH AQF. Collection of documents 50/I, document 51; Mirakshah Munshi, Mulla Zahid Munshi. Letter, munshoat and manshurot. A manshur written about the appointment of Haji Talib to the position of head of the Bukhara region. SH AQF. Manuscript number 880/I; Letter, munshoat and manshurot. Manshur written about the appointment of Mirzo Arif to the highest office of the poygirnnavisi baravati daftar; B.A. Kazakov. Dokumental'nye pamyatniki Sredney Azii. Tashkent. 1987. C. 20, 21.

<sup>27</sup> Letter, munshoat and manshurot. A manshur written about the appointment of Haji Talib to the position of head of the Bukhara region. Pages 180a – 180b.

<sup>28</sup> Nishon on the appointment of Shahkhoja Hasani to the chairmanship of Shahrisabz (1661-1662). SH AQF. Documents. 50/I was collected. Document 51.

<sup>29</sup> Letter, munshoat and manshurot. A badge inscribed on the appointment of Farhadbi Bahadir as the commander of the Turanian army. Pages 130a – 131a.

<sup>30</sup> Letter, munshoat and manshurot. A manshur written about the appointment of Haji Talib to the position of head of the Bukhara region. Pages 180a – 180b.

<sup>31</sup> A vaqf document is a property document allocated by the state or certain individuals for religious purposes or charity



stored in the reserve of the National Archives of Uzbekistan<sup>32</sup>, Samarkand State United Historical-Architectural<sup>33</sup> and Art Museum.

These foundation documents not only show the socio-economic situation of their time, but also contain information that helps to reveal several aspects of state management under the recorded events. For example, if the foundation documents of the era of Vali Muhammad Khan and Subhonquli Khan mention the Samarkand region, Shavdar, Yorkat (Yorkant) district and the villages of Arakhshid, Bogi Mazar<sup>34</sup>, which belong to it, then information about the administrative-territorial division of the country is given. In the case of mentioning the positions of amlokdar, qazi, mutavalli, it adds some clarifications to the positions and their duties in the regional administration.<sup>35</sup>

There is a lot of information about state administration in vasiqas<sup>36</sup>. In particular, they are kept today in the Institute of Oriental Studies<sup>37</sup> National Archives of Uzbekistan<sup>38</sup>, Bukhara<sup>39</sup>, Samarkand State United Historical-Architectural and Art Museum Reserve<sup>40</sup>. They contain valuable information about the administrative-territorial units of the country. In particular, in the will of 1630, all of Movarounnahr, Balkh, Badakhshan, Hisori Shodmon, Akhsi, Andijan, Tashkent and Turkestan<sup>41</sup>, subordinate to Imam Qulikhan, were mentioned, while in the will of 1657, Bukhara, Samarkand, Tashkent, Turkestan, Nasaf, Kesh, Hisori Shodmon were mentioned. It is noted that Kolob and Balkh are under the control of Abdulaziz Khan.<sup>42</sup> In another charter from 1670-1671, the administrative-territorial units are shown more clearly: Samarkand, Bukhara, Tashkent, Turkestan, Sayram, Akhsi, Andijan, Oratepa, Zomin, Khojand, Jizzakh, Balkh Badakhshan. It is emphasized that areas such as Chorjoi, Andhud, Chichektu, Maimana, Shiburgan, Nasaf and Hisori Shodmon were subject to Abdulaziz Khan<sup>43</sup>. Most visas allow for further clarification of the administrative-territorial structure. In the wills of the dynasty period, Kesh region<sup>44</sup>, Komot<sup>45</sup>, Poyirud<sup>46</sup>, Faroviz<sup>47</sup>, Samijan<sup>48</sup> districts of Bukhara region<sup>49</sup>, Ofarikent, Shavdor<sup>50</sup>, Urgut<sup>51</sup> districts of Samarkand region are mentioned.

<sup>32</sup> OZMA. I. Fund 323. List 2. Document 1195/5; OZMA. I. Fund 323. List 2. document 7; Davidovich – 87; OZMA. I. Fund 323. List 2. Document 1295/21; OZMA. I. Fund 323. List 2. Document 1295/36; OZMA. I. Fund 323. List 2. Document 115/160; OZMA. I. Fund 323. List 2. Document 1197/2.

<sup>33</sup> Thomas Welsford and Nouryaghdi Tashev. A catalogue of Arabic-script documents from the Samarqand museum. Samarqand. 2012. (404, 405, 406, 407, 408, 409 documents). P. 266, 266 – 267, 267, 268, 269.

<sup>34</sup> O'zMA. I. 323-jamg'arma. 2-ro'yxat. 1197/2-hujjat; O.D. Chekhovych. Documents on the history of agrarian relations in the Bukhara Khanate of the XVII-XIX centuries. Tashkent. 1954. S. 65-68; Thomas Welsford and Nouryaghdi Tashev. A catalog of Arabic-script documents from the Samarqand museum. Samarqand. 2012. P. 266, 266–267, 267, 268, 269.

<sup>35</sup> OZMA. I. Fund 323. List 2. Document 1197/2; Thomas Welsford and Nouryaghdi Tashev. A catalogue of Arabic-script documents from the Samarqand museum. Samarqand. 2012. P. 266, 266 – 267, 268, 269,

<sup>36</sup> A vasiqa is a formal contract for the purchase and sale of land.

<sup>37</sup> SH AQF. Collection of documents 36, document 2; AQF. Collection of documents 36, document 1; AQF. Collection of documents 27, document 25; AQF. Collection of documents 4, document 2; AQF. Collection of documents 4, document 3; AQF. Collection of documents 4, document 4; AQF. Collection of documents 4, document 6; O.D. Chekhovych. Dokumenty k istorii agrarnykh otnasheniy v Bukharskom khanstve XVII - XIX centuries. Tashkent. 1954. S. 14-23, 41-46, 47-55, 56-64; 78 – 83, 87 – 89, 90 – 93, 94 – 97, 100 – 105, 106 – 109, 110 – 112, 113 – 115, 125 – 129, 136 – 139, 143 – 145, 147 – 150, 151 – 154, 155 – 158, 159 – 162, 163 – 167, 168 – 171, 172 – 178.

<sup>38</sup> OZMA. I. Fund 323. List 2. Document 1197/1; OZMA. I. Fund 323. List 2. Document 1197/3; OZMA. I. Fund 323. List 2. Document 1197/4; OZMA. I. Fund 323. List 2. Document 1073/2.

<sup>39</sup> Thomas Welsford and Nouryaghdi Tashev. A catalogue of Arabic-script documents from the Samarqand museum. Samarqand. 2012. P. 34 – 35, 35 – 36.

<sup>40</sup> A catalogue of Arabic-script documents from the Samarqand museum. (412) P. 273, 274.

<sup>41</sup> Documents on the history of agrarian relations in the Bukhara Khanate of the 17th – 19th centuries. pp. 14 – 23.

<sup>42</sup> That work. Pages 47-55.

<sup>43</sup> That work. Pages 56 – 64.

<sup>44</sup> SH. Documents collection 4, documents 2, 3.

<sup>45</sup> SH. Documents collection 4, document 2.

<sup>46</sup> Documents on the history of agrarian relations in the Bukhara Khanate of the 17th – 19th centuries. pp. 41 – 46.

<sup>47</sup> SH. Document collection 4, document 3.

<sup>48</sup> SH. Collection of documents 27, document 25.

<sup>49</sup> OZMA. I. Fund 323. List 2. Document 1197/7

<sup>50</sup> Documents on the history of agrarian relations in the Bukhara Khanate of the 17th – 19th centuries. pp. 78 – 83.

<sup>51</sup> OZMA. I. Fund 323. List 2. Document 1073/2.



The information about such administrative-territorial units in the document is valuable in confirming some explanatory issues in the works. In particular, there is information in the works that Termiz was controlled through the Balkh region. In the charter dated 1670-1671, Choshtepa and Khorasan belonging to Shavdar district of Samarkand region are mentioned, and it is said that these areas were adjacent to the lands of Balkh region from the north<sup>52</sup>. This fully confirms that Termiz, which is located between Samarkand and Balkh, was controlled through the Balkh region. Information about state administration can also be obtained from documents of the hukmnoma<sup>53</sup> judgment type. In particular, the considered rulings were mainly written in Persian, and today they are stored in the Institute of Oriental Studies<sup>54</sup>, National Archives of Uzbekistan<sup>55</sup>.

From the information in them, it is possible to get information about administrative-territorial units, their management positions and their tasks and powers. For example, from the decree of 1621, it is understood that the Samarkand region includes Anhor district<sup>56</sup>, from the decree of 1611, it is stated that the governor of the region has the authority to own and dispose of land in his province<sup>57</sup>. It allows to put forward the opinion that the population has fulfilled the tasks of attracting and supervising various duties (hashar, begor, laborer)<sup>58</sup>.

Among the documents of the dynastic period, inoyatnomas<sup>59</sup> are important, and they are of great importance in clarifying the state administration. Among the reviewed grace letters, the collection of documents stored at the Institute of Oriental Studies under the names "Maktubot, Munshoat va Manshurot" and "Majmuayi Maktubot va Manshur" is the most important, they mainly contain grace letters written in Persian and Turkish languages, belonging to the era of Imam Quli Khan and Abu Faiz Khan<sup>60</sup>. For example, in the letter of grace given by Imam Qulikhan to a person named Khoja Hasan, the central administration is mentioned as dargah<sup>61</sup>, the office of sudur<sup>62</sup> is mentioned, and in the letter of grace sent to the Kazakh sultans, the district of Karakamish of Tashkent region is mentioned<sup>63</sup>.

A lot of information about the state administration of the dynasty can be obtained from the labels<sup>64</sup>. For example, the considered labels are mainly written in Persian and Arabic, and today they are kept in the Institute of Oriental Studies<sup>65</sup>, Samarkand<sup>66</sup>.

Among them, the collection of documents stored in the Institute of Oriental Studies under the name "Collection of Labels" is the most important, which mainly contains labels given to the sayyids of Koroskon. They provide information about regional administration, positions in it, their tasks and powers. For example, in the label issued in 1602, the president and mufti of the Ahsikent region<sup>67</sup> are mentioned, while in the other labels, positions such as parvonachi<sup>68</sup>, dodkhoh<sup>69</sup>, qozi<sup>70</sup> are mentioned. It is noteworthy that one of the documents of 1650 given to the sayyids of Koroskon states that the

<sup>52</sup> Documents on the history of agrarian relations in the Bukhara Khanate of the 17th – 19th centuries. pp. 56 – 64.

<sup>53</sup> Hukmnoma is a document containing a judgment.

<sup>54</sup> Subhanquli Khan's verdict on the case of Mutavalliya of Mir Mulla Abdul Wahid and his son Mir Sayyid Hasan (1684). SH AQF. Collection of documents 63, document 171.

<sup>55</sup> OZMA. I. Fund 323. List 2. Document 1197/1; OZMA. I. Fund 323. List 2. Document 1197/5.

<sup>56</sup> OZMA. I. Fund 323. List 2. Document 1197/1.

<sup>57</sup> OZMA. I. Fund 323. List 2. Document 1197/5.

<sup>58</sup> Documents on the history of agrarian relations in the Bukhara Khanate of the 17th – 19th centuries. pp. 98 – 99.

<sup>59</sup> Inayatnama is a letter from the king, khan, as well as other high-ranking people, in which a certain favor is expressed.

<sup>60</sup> A collection of letters and manuscripts. SH AQF. Manuscript number 880/I. Pages 219a – 219b, 179b – 180a.

<sup>61</sup> That collection 219a- 219b pages

<sup>62</sup> That page

<sup>63</sup> A label is a written order of the khan

<sup>64</sup> That set. Pages 179b – 180a.

<sup>65</sup> A set of labels. SH AQF. Manuscript number 1644. Documents 73, 77, 108, 78, 62, 62, 116, 64, 120, 97, 79, 110, 112., 41, 75, 63, 67, 94.

<sup>66</sup> A catalogue of Arabic-script documents from the Samarqand museum. P. 33.

<sup>67</sup> A set of labels. Document 78.

<sup>68</sup> That set. Document 116.

<sup>69</sup> That set. Document 120.

<sup>70</sup> That set. Document 94.



governorship and judgeship of the place where they lived were inherited<sup>71</sup>. Based on the information in the sources, it is confirmed once again that the positions of some regional administrations were given to the Sayyids of that place by inheritance. Also, from the information on these labels, it can be understood that devans operated in the territorial administration and their tasks were control of land and property documents and taxes<sup>72</sup>.

A lot of information about state administration during the dynasty can also be obtained from the letters. For example, the examined letters are stored in Uzbekistan<sup>73</sup>, Turkey<sup>74</sup>, and Iran<sup>75</sup> today. Also, in almost all works related to the dynasty period, extracts and content of letters are recorded<sup>76</sup>.

The letters in the collections of documents stored in the Institute of Oriental Studies under order numbers 289, 880/I, 299/I are the most important, and the correspondence of representatives of the dynasty with Indian, Iranian, Turkish, and Kazakh sultans is included. These letters not only provide information about the relations of the representatives of the Ashtarkhanid dynasty with foreign countries, but also provide a lot of information about the administration. For example, in the letter of Eshim Khan son of Nadir Devonbegi to Jahangir Sultan, it is stated that Imam Quli Khan gave the governorship of Sayram to Jahangir Sultan<sup>77</sup>. Or, from the information recorded in Nadr Muhammad Khan's letter to the Russian Tsar Mikhail Fedorovich, it is possible to get information about the administrative and territorial structure of the country during the reign of Nadr Muhammad Khan (1642-1645), which is rarely mentioned in the works. In such a letter, Nadr Muhammad Khan Bukhara, Nasaf (Karshi) and Kesh (Shakhrisabz), Hisar, Choganiyan, Mionkol, Samarkand, Oratepa, Akhsikat, Andijan, Tashkent, Turkestan, Balkh and related Andhud, Shibirgan, Maimana, Saripul, states that regions such as Kunduz, Taliqon, and Badakhshan are under his rule<sup>78</sup>.

As a conclusion, manshur, nishon, yorliq, hukmnoma, inoyatnoma, vasiqa, vaqfnoma, letters important documents of the dynasty period have been preserved to this day in original, copies and collections. The information in them is to be found in some places in the works, the duties and powers of positions and titles in the central and regional administration, the administrative-territorial structure of the country, the changes that have occurred in them, and to fill them with information that is not found in them.

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<sup>71</sup> That set. Document 73

<sup>72</sup> Yorliqlar. 108, 64, 41, 77, 79-hujjatlar; A catalogue of Arabic-script documents from the Samarqand museum. P. 33.

<sup>73</sup> Letter, munshoat and manshurot. SH AQF. Manuscript number 289; A collection of letters and manuscripts. SH AQF. Manuscript number 880/I; Mirza Sadiq Jondori. Munshoat and Manshur. SH AQF. Manuscript number 299/I.

<sup>74</sup> Archive documents on relations between the Ottoman state and the Khanates of the Caucasus, Turkestan and Crimea (between 1687 and 1908). Ankara. 1992; Uzbekistan-Turkey relations in documents. Istanbul. 2022.

<sup>75</sup> اسناد و نامه‌های تاریخی دوره صفویه. تهران. ۱۳۴۳.

<sup>76</sup> Imam Quli Khanna; Mukim-Khanskaya history; Program ul-muluk; Muhit al-Tawarikh; Ubaidullana; History Abulfayzkhan; Tarikh-i Qypshaqi; Matlab ut-talibin; Tazkirat ash-shuaro; Muzakkir al-ashhab; Muntakhab al-Tawarikh; Zafarnomai Shahjakhani; Tuzuki Jahangiri; Iqbalnomai Jahangiri; King's name; Its influence is universal; Silsilate as-salotin; History of Abbasin who decorated the world (Tarikhe-alamaraye-Abbasi); . jalal; Brief at-Tawarikh.

<sup>77</sup> A collection of letters and manuscripts. Letter of Nadir Devonbegi to Eshim Khan's son Jahangir Sultan. Pages 184a - 184b.

<sup>78</sup> B.A. Kazakov. Documentary monuments of Central Asia. Tashkent. 1987. pp. 45 – 46.

