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# The Formation, Development and Role of the High Seljuk Empire Founded by the Turkic Peoples in the Islamic World

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**Abstract:** This article talks about the events related to the establishment, development and state administration of the High Seljuk Empire, one of the great states of the Islamic world, founded by the Turkic peoples.

**Key words:** Upper Seljuks, Khurasan, Bukhara, Samarkand, Baghdad, Nizamulmulk, Sultan Alparslan, Malikshah, "Rawzat us-Safo", Byzantium, Malazgirt (Aleppo), Onadoli (Asia Minor), Thomas Asbridge, Islamic culture, Policy.

The High Seljuks are a Turkic dynasty that ruled Central Asia, Iran and Asia Minor during the 11th and 12th centuries. They are the founders of the Seljuk state and played an important role in the Islamic world.

**Founders:** The Seljuk dynasty was founded in Khorasan in the 10th century, and later expanded into Central Asia and Iran.

High Seljuk period: reigned from 1037 to 1194. During this period, the territory of the state expanded, and important cities such as Bukhara, Samarkand, and Baghdad developed under the influence of the High Seljuks.

Culture and Science: Science and Culture: Great contribution was made to the development of science and culture during the era of the High Seljuks. During this period, many scientific centers, for example, the Nizomiya madrasa, were established on the initiative of the wise minister of the state, Nizamulmulk. Buyul rose to the rank of minister in the court of Nizamulmulk Sultan Alparslan (1063-1072 years) and became famous with the name "Nizamulmulk", which means the order of property. During the ministerial period, he managed almost all the affairs of the state himself. Despite his great prestige in the palace and the state, Nizamulmulk lived in danger of the incitement of envious, selfish people and officials. Even Alparslan himself accused his minister of Rafizism and regretted that he was not of the Shafi'i sect. Nizamulmulk regretfully remembers this attitude of the Shah in his work.

After Alparslan was killed, Nizamulmulk 1072, his son, who ascended the throne at the age of 17, served as a minister in the palace of Malikshah (1072-1092 years), gave great support to the state of this king, and managed his property. Malik Shah called him his patron father. During his ministry, he sponsored and provided material support to many scientists and famous people. It is well known that the great scientist and poet Umar Khayyam also enjoyed the favor of Nizamulmulk. During these rulers, Nizamulmulk ruled a huge country from Arabia to Turkestan. During this period, even Baghdad, the capital of the caliphate, was in the hands of Malik Shah and was directly managed by his vizier Nizamulmulk. Historian Mirkhond in his work "Ravzat us-Safa" (Volume 4, page 107) cited an incident. One day, Malikshah was upset with Nizamulmulk's son. It is said that he insulted the Sultan. He sent his men to the minister and told him that he was upset: "If you are my partner in the management of the country, then fine, but if you are subordinate to me, why don't you control your son's actions, he has gone too far. If I want, they will take the invitation from you (that is, I will remove you from the ministry)." Nizamulmulk answered him that your state and crown depend on my request, if you take the ministry from me, they will take your crown from you because of Nizamulmulk's wise and fair government, the name of Malik Shah remained in history. He was a great

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architect of justice and fairness. During his ministry, madrasas named "Nizomiya" were built in Baghdad, Basra and Isfahan. Malikshah and his minister Nizamulmulk, 30 years old Umar Khayyam (1040-1123) was a famous astronomer during the economic conditions in the state improved.

**Architecture:** Mosques, mausoleums and other architectural monuments built during the Seljuk period are considered high examples of Islamic art.

**Political Structure:** The High Seljuks created their own strong centralized state. They subjugated many local rulers.

Military Campaigns: The Seljuks also led many military campaigns, including one against the Byzantine Empire, which resulted in a victory at the Battle of Manzikert (1071). Battle between the Byzantine Empire and the Seljuk Empire on August 26, 1071 near Malazgirt (Aleppo). The importance of this battle in history was considered very high, and by the defeat of the Byzantine troops and the capture of the emperor, the power of Byzantium in Anatolia (Asia Minor) and Armenia was undermined, and Anatolia (Asia Minor) gradually began to be Turkified in the following years. Many Turks who migrated to the West in the 11th century saw the Battle of Malazgirt as the key to entering Asia Minor.

All the hardships of the battle were borne by the professional soldiers of the Byzantine army from the eastern and western tagmata, as a large number of mercenaries and recruits from Onadoli escaped early and with their lives. The defeat in the Battle of Malazgirt brought disastrous consequences for the Byzantine Empire. The defeat resulted in civil war and economic decline in the empire. As a result, the empire could not adequately protect its borders, and the Turks began to attack and migrate to Anatolia. In 1080, the Seljuk Turks, who migrated to Asia Minor, occupied the territory of 78,000 km2 of Anatolia. Internal conflicts in Byzantium continued for thirty years until Alexios I (1081-1118) stabilized the situation in the empire.

Historian Thomas Asbridge wrote: "In 1071, the Seljuks defeated the imperial army at the Battle of Malazgirt, and although historians do not consider this a completely disastrous turn for the Greeks, the defeat was a huge setback." In this battle, the first and only Byzantine emperor in Arykh was captured by a Muslim commander.

Relationships: Shia and Sunni: The High Saljuqs were predominantly Sunni, but relations between Shia and Sunni became complicated. They fought Shia movements, but in some areas Shia influence also became strong.

The era of the High Seljuks, around the 11th-12th centuries, is an important period for the history and culture of Islam. They achieved many achievements as defenders of Islam.

Islamic culture and sciences developed during the era of the High Seljuks, under their rule. During this period, many scientific and cultural events were held in large scientific centers, for example, Bukhara, Samarkand and Baghdad. The High Seljuqs also played an important role in supporting Sunni Islam and managing relations with the Shia.

They also used their military power to establish the Seljuk state and expand its territory. As a result, a powerful state emerged in the Islamic world. The Seljuks are also famous for their cultural heritage, such as in the fields of architecture and literature.

As one of the most important achievements of the era of the High Seljuks, it can be said that their achievements in the field of culture and science made a great contribution to the development of the Islamic world.

#### **Summary**

Through this article, dedicated to the establishment, development and state administration of the High Seljuk Empire, one of the great states of the Islamic world, founded by the Turkic peoples, the Seljuk sultans ruled the country with justice, and gave wings to the oppressed who had been oppressed by the Byzantine Christians for years. We hope that it will be an example for today's youth.

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