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# Amir Temur's Martial Arts

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**Abstract:** Amir Temur enters the political arena in a difficult situation, in the 60s of the XIV century, when Movarounnahr was completely in disarray. During this period, the struggle for the throne, state and wealth between the Mongol rulers and the local aristocracy was in full swing. The ongoing conflicts and wars had plunged the country into a state of crisis, and the plight of the common people had worsened.

**Keywords:** Amir Temur, Hussein Waz Kashifi, "Temur's rules", Nizamiddin Shami, Eugene Tarlen, nature ul jaysh, Ibn Taghriberdi "An-Nujum az-Zahira fi mulki Misr wa-l-Cairo".

Amir Temur, first of all, introduces a system of sources (taxes) of the state apparatus, the material support of the army, and from them the determination of salaries, in general, the calculation of income and expenditure in the treasury with great accuracy. For example, it develops special regulations on the distribution of tanxoh<sup>1</sup> and ulufa<sup>2</sup> to the army. According to this rule, piyoda, qalaqchi, yasavuls, and chapovuls were ordered to take their annual salaries from the lonely treasury. The captains and centurions will be paid in cash from the city treasury (taxes collected from the city population) and the income of the royal property. For emirs and amir ul-umaro, one of the provinces on the border is designated as a tiyul. While the salaries of government officials are fixed, Amir Temur forbids them to take excessive taxes from the common people. For example, by a special decree of Amir Temur, the emirs who collected jihad<sup>3</sup> were not allowed to demand extra rides from hiroj<sup>4</sup>, landing qo'nalg'a<sup>5</sup> and shilon<sup>6</sup> from the citizens when they collected jihad from the people [1].

Hussein Voiz Kashifi writes: "is like a gardener. The gardener is aware of the weeds in the garden. The king should always be aware of their condition. Like a gardener he should remove any plant that does not work and takes care of any vegetable that is useful. There are those in the army who cannot do anything. They should be paid nothing. The king should order them to be removed from the payroll and train other hard-working young men" [2]. An ordinary soldier who showed great courage in battles was awarded the title of "Bahodir" by Amir Temur. According to Timur's Statutes, "I ordered that if any emir conquered a country or defeated an enemy army, he should be given three privileges: an

<sup>2</sup> Wages paid to warriors

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> a special gift given to the officials, military men and juniors in public service, by the khan

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> taxes paid in cash or goods

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> gifts or prizes required when kings and khans passed through their provinces

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> to pay couriers and ambassadors for accommodation

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> taxes collected for the food of kings and princes

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honorary address, a flag and a drum, and he should be called a hero" [1]. As evidence of this, in the army of Amir Temur were soldiers who achieved the title of hero such as Shah Malik Barlos, Bahlul Barlos, Darvish Buga, Ismail Barlos, Hussein Malik Qavchin, Hamza, Ramazan Khoja, Sherzod, Sher-Ali Barlos [3].

According to Nizamiddin Shami, giving salaries and gifts to the staff and the army was done to pave the way for good deeds. It is necessary to deviate from the state of extravagance and excess to the norm and moderation, so that the course of affairs does not deviate from the law of correctness, and the obstacles are not intertwined, don't cause heartache and don't have to regret it. Only then will hthe man be free from oppression and greed, and from excessive spending and extravagance. Allah says: "do not tie your hands around your necks with envy. Don't even spread your hands out completely by wasting it [4]. The author of "Zafarnoma" Nizomiddin Shami writes: "Tokhtamishkhan took a break from friendship severel times and built a truce but Amir Sahibqiran did not compliment him on his word because he did not keep it. Countless armies, vengeful soldiers, famous emirs, wise princes turned to that country ..."[4].

There are many incredibly courageous pages in Sahibkiran's military activity. For example, the famous historian of that time Sharafiddin Ali Yazdi wrote in his book "Zafarnoma" that in 1366 in Karshi 30-year-old Temurbek with only 243 soldiers fought against an enemy of 5,000 people and won due to the movement of the army, the potential of command and unparalleled courage. In 1943 Academician Eugene Tarle published his book "Napoleon" which consisted of 17-chapter. On page 333 he stated following information: Bonaparte turned to his cavalry marshal, Myurat, and said, "Whoever says that Amir Temur fought on his own is making a big mistake. Amir Temur developed the first regular army in the history of the world, convenient tactics and strategy. Ibn Tagriberdi describes the battle with Sultan Hussein as the first victory of Amir Temur, on the other hand, bypassed the main road and ordered his troops to dismount from the pasture where Sultan Hussein's troops were stationed and pretend to be resting. This trick works, and Sultan Hussein's soldiers pass in front of them as if they were passing in front of their own army. After that the army of Amir Temur attacked from behind the troops of Sultan Hussein and defeated them [5].

O' Alimov's article notes that Amir Temur's military prowess can be seen in the strategy (savkuljaysh), operative art and tactics (nature ul jaysh) he used before and during the battle. The researcher believes that the construction of the Samarkand Arch, Kuksaroy and Bostonsaray, as well as gardens and palaces around Samarkand, built by the decree of Amir Temur, also had defensive purposes [6]. Amir Temur opposes the imposition of two different punishments for one crime and supports the equality of crimes and punishments [7]. Timur's teachings about the army have not lost their value even today. Therefore, it is important to study and know it in the management of the modern army. It would be expedient to study it in military schools, academies, and to apply it in the daily work of heads of state and ministers [8].

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