



ILBĀRS KHAN

ILBĀRS KHAN, name of two rulers of K̅vārazm in the 16th and 18th centuries.

(1) Ilbārs Khan b. Burākā (or Būrgā), from the 'Arab-šāhi (q.v.) branch of the Jochids, was the founder of the dynasty which ruled K̅vārazm from 1511 to the end of the 17th century. This branch of the Jochids had hostile relations with another branch, the Abulhairids, to which belonged Šībāni Khan, the conqueror of Transoxania in the early 16th century; the Uzbek tribes which supported the 'Arabšāhis did not participate in Šībāni Khan's conquests and remained in the steppes to the north of the Aral Sea. When K̅vārazm was briefly occupied by the Safavid Shah Esmā'īl I in 916/1510 (after Šībāni Khan's defeat in the battle at Marv), the inhabitants of the town of Vazir (in the northwest of K̅vārazm) urged Ilbārs Khan to drive out the Qezelbāš. Ilbārs Khan, together with his brother Bālbārs, answered this call and conquered K̅vārazm in 917/1511 (Abu'l-Gāzi, I, p. 197; Munes, text, pp. 105-7; tr., pp. 27-29, and pp. 550-51, nn. 125-31). After that the Uzbeks under Ilbārs and Bālbārs also subjugated the Turkmen tribes on the Mangīšlaq peninsula and in the Qaraqum desert. K̅vārazmian sources do not mention the date of death of Ilbārs Khan, but Safavid sources give it as 923/1518 (see the *Tāriḵ-e jahān-ārā*, p. 209; Dickson, appendices, pp. V-VI).

(2) Ilbārs Khan (II), who ruled in K̅iva in 1140-52/1728-40. According to 'Abd al-Karim Boḳāri (I, p. 44, II, p. 95), he was from among the Kazakh Chingisids and was invited to K̅iva by Uzbek tribal chieftains; however, according to Munes, he was a son of Shah Niāz Khan (a khan of Uzbek origin), who ruled in K̅iva in 1110-13/1698-1701 (Munes, text, p. 162; tr., p. 62 and n. 285, pp. 567-68). In



1147/1734-35 Ilbārs Khan sent a large party of Turkmens in a raid against Khorasan, where they plundered Čamešgezek Kurds in the regions of the Ālā Dāg mountain (q.v.) and Samalqān, but then were defeated by the Qezelbāš troops (Mahdi Khan, 1989, pp. 322-23; Munis, text, p. 163; tr., p. 63 and p. 575, nn. 346-49; Munis ascribes victory to Khivan troops). In 1150/1737, when Režāqoli Mirzā, son of Nāder Shah, marched against Bukhara after having subdued the rulers of Balk and Andkuy (qq.v.), Abu'l-Fayz Khan, the ruler of Bukhara, appealed for help to Ilbārs Khan, who set out to Transoxania with his army but turned back halfway, apparently in fear of confrontation with Režāqoli (Mahdi Khan, p. 296; Moḥammad Kāzem, facs., II, pp. 243-44, ed. Riāḥi, II, pp. 596-97, 629; Munes, text, p. 164; tr., pp. 63-64, 575, n. 353). In 1151/1738, Ilbārs Khan set out to invade Khorasan but withdrew after raiding a few localities south of Abivard (Munes, text, pp. 164-65; tr., p. 64, 576-77, note 355; Moḥammad Kāzem, facs., II, pp. 283-95, ed. Riāḥi, II, pp. 626-34; Moḥammad Kāzem gives many colorful details of this campaign, apparently mostly anecdotal). In 1153/1740, Nāder Shah, after his conquest of Bukhara, turned against K̄vārazm and sent an embassy to Ilbārs demanding submission; the ambassadors, two of whom were Juybāri shaikhs, were executed by Ilbārs Khan. Nāder Shah routed the army of K̄iva in a battle near Petnak at the southern limits of K̄vārazm. Ilbārs Khan, besieged in the city of K̄anqāh, surrendered to Nāder Shah and was executed together with twenty or more of his amirs (according to some accounts, they were buried alive). According to Mahdi Khan and 'Abd al-Karim Boḳāri, the execution was ordered by Nāder Shah in revenge for the murder of the Juybāri shaikhs, upon the request of their heirs (Munes, text, pp. 165-66; tr., pp. 64-65, 577, nos. 356-60; Mahdi Khan, pp. 453-60; Moḥammad Kāzem, facs., II, pp. 547-67; ed. Riāḥi, II, pp. 802-14; 'Abd al-Karim Boḳāri, text, pp. 46-49; tr., pp. 101-6).

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