Title of the article: financial conditions in Haji Mirza Aqasi ministry era

Abdol Aziz Movahed*, Mostafa Kamyab Far

Department of History, Shooshtar Branch, Islamic Azad University, Shooshtar, Iran

Abstract: Haji Mirza Aghasi is from those people who haven't a clear story in the history. He had an extraordinary influence on Mohammad Shah and by this was really powerful as a chef minister he had many serious challenges with economic and politic - martial problems. Haji Mirza Aghasi had a great effort to prevailing upon crisis and cancelling inside and outside plots. One of the most important problems he was faced with that was money orders of generals and guards. This tax has made people unsatisfied and some people was refused to pay tax. This research will define that part of history based on library sources.

Key words: Haji Mirza Aqasi; Ministry; Tax; Mohammad Shah

1. Introduction

Kingdom period of Mohammad Shah -Abbas Mirza son- should divide into 2 different parts. First, short time ministry of Qaem Maqam Farahani in this time the country managed with good order and as good as possible. But some people were disagreeing with him and after murdering qammaqamand when Haji Mirza Aghasi became minister the country was in bad situation. Mullah Abbas- Haj Mirza Abbas Makooi with the pen- name of fax rained well-known with Haj Mirza Aghasi- Haj Mirza Moslem Eiravani son- was from Bayati tribe. His father was immigrated from eirvan with all of his family and stayed at Makoo city as a farmer. Haj Mirza Aghasi was born on that city in 1198 A.H. When he was 14 he went to the holy shrines in Najaf and Karbala and he studied at the presence of Mullah Abdol Samad Hamedani and liked his teacher very much. After death of his teacher, Haji went to Hamadan; Azar Bayjanand because of his religious knowledge Mirza Elsa Qaem Maqam invited him to teach his son-Mirza Musa Khan. Being around Shah lead to visit Mirza Nayeb Saltaneh. Then he teaches Abbas Mirza children and had influence in Mohammad Mirza more than the others. During the second period of Iran – Russia wars, Haj Mirza Aghasi as the teacher of Bahram Mirza and Jahangir Mirza was at there. in this time that was coincident with banishment of Qaem Maqam Haj Mirza Aghasi couldn't came near Fathali shah and he made Mirza Nasrollah Ardebili – princes teacher – as a bad teacher. From when Haji became Mohammad shah teacher, trained him according to life of dervish so Mohammad shah known Haji a person full of generosity in this research we'll consider some of his performance and financial measures of him about the country.

2. Financial conditions in the Haji Mirza Aqasi ministry era

Haji Mirza Aghasi trained shah with dervish way as both of them was known dervish. Mirza Aghasi in his life time and even after his death was infamous. Being like a dervish and indecent acts faced Iran with a bad financial situation (Lesanolmolk Sepehr, 1987). One of the worse actions Haji Mirza Aghasi that had many critics was financial problems. "Haji Mirza Aqasi in his ministry era just spends the money of the country for worth less matters and in each year expenditure of Iran was more than its income. Not the shah called him account and not the proud minister was in thought of that."(Lesanolmolk Sepehr, 1987) He was always in agree with increasing salaries and wanted one of the province emirs to pay the bills. And from this generosity he wanted to attract their attention and support. The Emirs of the provinces become familiar with Haji policy they didn't pay the tax on time by this way, which had ilk was satisfied with Haji’s policy and he didn’t like Emirs. One of the most important problems that Mirza Taghi Khan Amir Kabir at the first days of his ministry faced with that was larg amounts of debts and bills. The new minister had no choice just paying all the debts and making the treasury emptier or shrinking this responsibility and so making the government invalid. Thus, he choose the second way and with his mental perception he solved financial problems. In Haji’s era many people took salary without doing any work and while most of them were princess and Mullah, not paying their salary wasn’t suitable for the country." (Watson, 1950) As Mirza Ali Khan Amino dole said it has taken exactly two years that he could do something about the bad situation of Mohamad Shah and Haji (Aminoldole, 1951). Mohamad Hasan Khan Qajar Iravani was one of the officers that he always wanted
money from government. "He became close friend with Mohamad Shah and married with his sister and became general". Then he became emir of some parts of Iraq. Then in each year he wrote all the guard’s name in a notebook and wanted their salary from government but he didn’t take their Salary to them and he spends all of that for himself and by this way the government was in debt under a large amount of salaries." (Sepehr, 1987) Haji Mirza Aqasi was the minister of Iran for 13 years but he didn’t know anything about the politic-army situation and because of his pride and selfishness he didn’t accept advice of the others and so he was a jealous person he didn’t choose any body as his colleague and also he was so full-mouthed that nobody liked him and treasury of the country became empty because of his debts and when Mohammad Shah died the salaries of the guard wasn’t paid for 3 to 5 years ago. (Sayex, 1973) Amir Kabir from the beginning of his ministry adapted financial situation. He asked those who had financial claims to give a discount and then paid their money. Mirza Abdollah Khan Mostofi said these words from his grandfather Mirza Esmail that was the agent of treasury document: My son Mirza Nasrollahand I went to seeing Amir Mirza. He asked me do you want money from us I said yes I do and I have its document. I have 6 sons with family. I made some discount and then he paid my money. (mostofi, 1386) What Seyed Hasan Taqi Zadeh know about that conditions are in here: Belgian in despite of treachery and have tendency to Russia has many reforms. Post office worked truly passport office that was the most disorder one was managed and earned high salary. In this time tax issue became reformed but the greatest problem was tax reforms. Most of the salary of the country was spender for some people as pension because of this not appropriate pensions since 60 years ago from that time leaded to change several ministers and perhaps one of the most important performance of Amir Kabir was this. (Saadat Noori, 1966) Mirza Mohammad Ebrahim Badayenegar is the only person among all the writers of Qajar era that always he reproached whole works of Haji Mirza Aghasi and even he didn’t accept his good acts. Some words of whatthis writer wrote in one of his books is about depend ing value of the money of Iran are in here: he was against with Hoseynali Khan Son of dost Ali Khan that was in this position from before. These family are benchmen of this government but hademolanajab he means Haji Mirza Aqasi). Was in contrast with the ex-ministers and he just spend the money of the country for himself. He was always in debt and unpaid bills. (Hedayat, 1983)

As Sepehr have told before, Haji was so wealthy that somebodies felt jealous of him. And they have told shah that Haji had many lands. And for this Haji gave many lands to shah to make him silent. (Lesanol Molk Sepehr, 1987) In this time rulers of provinces didn’t pay tax and this situation emphasized confusion. After Fathali shah death, Zellol sultan robbed private treasury of shah and gave them to people around himself. So when Mohamad shah became king there was economic situation. But Mirza Abolqasem Qaem Maqam in his short period of his premiership managed the country good. After murdering Qaem Maqmiran faced with financial crisis because Haji Mirza Aghasi just for his greed to buy lands and generousity of shah and himself made the treasury empty. (Bina, 1953) Furthermore by that this order situation ruling of Fathali shah Abas Mirza sons most of the tax around the country didn’t receive. Or rulers of the cities took some money for themselves and then spend a less amount of money to central government and Haji Mirza Aghasi spend those for less important things like poets and courtiers salary or made unprofitable gun and so on. (Makki, 1360) Haji at the ends of Mohamad shah kingdom wrote a letter to him and said: your people and guards want money, we are really in need of money and help but we have nothing. Rulers of cities send no money and tax for us. Not Isfahan, not Kerman, just Fars send a little money, what should we do? (Eghbal ashtyani, 1973) All the financial problems caused by incompetent personality of Haji. The country was in bad situation. although he was dervish and he knew all the rules of controlling the country but his entourage were ambitious people that forced Haji to participate in business that had no clear future and by this the country was always in chaotic situation and people couldn’t do anything. (Hedayat, 1949) Long wars between Iran and Russia and paying large amount of money to Russia for the Treaty of Turkmanchai (1243 according to 1828 A.D) made economic situation of Iran worse than before. While the treasury had no cash. (Eghbal ashtyani, 1973, pp 177) As a matter of fact financial problems in kingdom period of Mohammad shah wasn’t just because of Haji. Fathali shah had many wives and after his death each of them took some jewelry. Just Miss Tavoos Tajooldole took one part of so expensive jewelry. (saadat noori, 1966) Some of those women like Malek Sultan, Mohammad Naser Khan Zahirolodeled sister, wanted to give her jewelry to Mohammad shah but he didn’t accept because he was in need of their support. (Qajar, 1965)

3. Conclusion

Ministers of Iran were the second powerful persons in country because of political-social issues. Of course we mean the time that other countries liked to take Iran under their domination and Haji Mirza Aghasi that during 13 years was a minister with full powers and what he was said shah would done. While Haji was minister Iran had two large failure from wars with Russia people of Iran really liked and independent country. Iran was in need of a resourceful person but Aghasi didn’t pay attention to the bad situation of the country and was unaware of political and economic matters. The country was in force with financial matters and tax because of bills and money orders that gave to emirs. Haji illegally seized others property. He gave salary to all the applicants to make them satisfied. He bought many uncultivated lands and collected much
amount of iron and tin and lead for probably wars. He liked gun and he spend the entire treasury for that but he always became defeated. He just made the situation worse than before. Regardless of the problems he made, he did some good efforts. He reinforced military of Iran. He liked building and dig wells and although he didn’t find any water but it was a work chance for people. In his ministry era basic commodities was abundant and cheap.

References


