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ROLE OF AGENT TO GOVERNOR GENERAL IN KHANATE OF KALAT AFFAIRS

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ABSTRACT

Eighteenth century was the era of devastating entrance of the great powers in South Asia and central Asia .This region having great marks of powers are still existing .Especially Balochistan due to its vast coastline has always remained a trade rout e.g ancient Hindu Moriya,s and Alexender the great left theirs marks.The Arab conquest not remained for a long times.However the imperialist expansion policy in the nineteenth century Balochistan not only experienced the war zone but these all tactical dilemma for superiority effected this region socially ,economically, and as well as brought here great demographic changes .Almost three centuries Khanate of Balochistan lost its precious position with the occupation of British East India company Army of Indus .In this all process, The role of East India Company's representatives played adventurers role for British imperial interests treaties with Khan Of Kalat and the division of Balochistan showed the diplomatic capability of extraordinary performance of the British officials .With the establishment of Baluchistan agency in 1877, and the appointment of Assistant to Governor General and establishment of Residence in Baluchistan ,meantime shifting of political and administrative powers from Kalat to Quetta as controlling base for power politics for worldwide imperial superiority as the part of great game at frontiers .Purpose of this research paper to analytically explain the role of British Indian officials relations with the tribesman and also the style of AGG governance under Robert Sandman in Khanate.

Keywords: Baluchistan, East India Company, Agent to Governor General, British, Indian officials.

Introduction:

Before the first Anglo-Afghan war the internal situation of Khanate of Kalat had exposed for the British East India Company. This was a clear idea paved way in the second half of the nineteenth century as the accomplishment of the treaties in according to their authority over Khanate affairs were fully justified for interference in Khanate .In this all scene the role of British Army officers cannot be disregard as they accomplished much passionate in the early process of diplomacy they lost Mr, Loveday British representative at Khan,s Palace as who was known as lohabdan Sab to Brauhis. The initial point as the result of the first Anglo-Afghan raised by the British policy makers. The results of the war was not in their favor so the British policy makers, determined to occupy the Khante of Kalat and finally they productively won over chief of Kalat through the army of Indus command by Gen Willshire. ((Redaelli, 2012, p. 62)

Since 1854, there was general estimation over the policy of frontiers representative in Calcutta that the weak economic position and respectively policy making as finically strong neighbor ally was their right belief as their anxiety for the frontiers security. From 1854 to 1872 British changed their policy regarding Kalat Affairs as to give Kalat a status of equality and ,this was how British became the judge among the conflicts of the Kahan and his counterpart Sardars .In this period British East India Company officials made their jurisdiction in the Khanate of Kalat affairs .The internally domestic affairs of Khan and Sardars conflict gave space to the British representatives in the Kalat a great-amount of jurisdiction in the tribble affairs of Khanate , Later their interference became stronger with the passage of time. (Baloch, 2012, pp. 31-32)

The occupation of Sind in 1843 and Punjab in 1849 implemented advancement of their near frontier and much close to the borders of Khanate of Kalat, This was general perception to arrange an effective policy for Kalat in future as they were already involved in Kalat affairs. (Swidler, 2014, p. 51) While framing the imperial advancement in 1847, Khan garh (Jacobabad) as their headquarter, before this Shikarpur was functioning as the core headquarter but realizing that, Shikarpur had no more central value administratively and military, this was massive agenda for further advancement and to get space to deal the Afghanistan and Tehran from Balochistan. (Marri, 2015, p. 93)

The era of diplomacy

Balochistan got important place as the region for the Brtish Indian frontier territory. The Landon based decision in Calcutta were very thoughtful to recognize Balochistan as defense line. Consequently, the authorities decided to make strong defense line. Though at that time there were no mines and minerals or another natural resources which would be attractive for Britishers this was initially the Russain threat which they afraid of the Indian conquests .(Aziz Bugti:p, 69). The treaty 1854, had already restrained the Khan in internal and external matters to consult with Brtish resident as Henery Green was appointed in court of Khanate of Kalat. In this treaty Khan also alluded the Brtish troops to stay in Kalat. Khan has also compelled to stop expecting conspires and insurrection which would be against the British Indaian troops in Khanate territory. (Shaheen, 1993, p. 107)

With the death of Naseer Khan ii, the real exposition of political agent became apparent when without the consultation of Sardar (P.A) political agent in Kalat brought Mir Khuda -Dad- Khan to the throne of Kalat. Though he was not the nominee by Sardars as they were realizing that, this was their right with in the constituency of Khante. As a result Sardars turned against him. (Hameed Baloch:p, 36). It was now clear that, the P.A. has directly involved in the administrative authority of Khanate .The nomination of Mir Khudad-a-Dad Khan was not according to the democratic process of ancient tribble confederacy of Khanate of Kalat .This created lots of troubles for the Brtish and once again caused the selection of Sher Dil Khan in 1867, he was killed soon due internal situation of conflicts and once again Mir Khudad-a-Dad Khan restored.

This was a hot political debate with in Brtish officials after the situation of Afghanistan that, how to tackle the political situation of Baluchistan as in future to smoothly maintain peaceful region for easy control of tribes. The complicated position of Balochistan as per official that, how to keep the status of Balochistan and keep it as an ancient buffer zone or directly occupy it. The British Indain officials divided into two groups. The Sindh British Indian officers were in favor to keep Balochistan as its ancient position of buffer zone in between India and Persia as it was possible not to interfere in their domestic affairs of Balochistan. Punjab officers made antitheses to declare buffer zone the great coastline of Balocistan, which was attractive for Russains to get access over war water, This would be harmful for British India. Therefore, Balocistan status should be abolished and taken over. Thus the contrast of disorder in the era of Mir Khuda-a-Dad Khan living the indirect relationship and started the policy of direct control over Balocistan. (Dashti, 2012, p. 244)

On 3rd February 1871, a conference was held to consider the administrative affairs of eastran Balochistan which its main point was regarding to the peace of eastern Baluchistan. The British officials were facing lots of troubles from tribes which were subject to Khan of Kalat. Though there was colossal old contrast in between Punjab and Sind admirative authorities over the confederacy and about controlling of frontier tribes. But this conference proved that there was mutual consensus about their expansionist ambitions reaching to the borders of Afghanistan, even in Muttonkot conference accepted Merewether policy of non-interference or so called close Border policy. In the same session it is decided that, Robert Sandaman additionally assign the charge of Balochistan areas related to Dera Ghazi Khan. (Mengal, 2013, p. 160)

Later the Punjab opnion was given priority to the Sindh. Robert Sandman was assigned the task to directly involved in the interior of Khanate of Kalat to restore the peace and to make coordination with tribal chiefs and Khan Kalat to affiliate them to British frontier officers. (Axmann, 2008, p. 30) This was the political scenario fully favorable for Sandman to make a direct coordination with tribes. He fully under stood the tribal system of Balochistan and also observed it closely. At that time there anarchy due to the Khan of Kalat and Sardars opposition of each other. Foresighted Sandman took full advantage of internal differences. At the end the famous treaty of 1876, concluded by Sandaman with Sardas and their chief Khan of Kalat. Finally Sandaman became soul arbiter between Khan and his counterpart Sardars. This triangular circle later effected the all history of Balocistan though the power of action were with Sandam and he was the real player of the great game who accomplish the British.

Robert Sandaman entrance

When Robert Sandman took the charge of deputy commissioner at Dera Ghazi Khan the close border was existing there. The plains of Dera Ghazai had already merged, while on mountinious Sulemani areas were entirely in the control of free tribes. There was a red line for the Brtish offiicals and personals at the border area of Sulaman mountain .This was easy for tribes to actively act upon their movement in the British administrated territory and also in Khanate of Kalat territory .With the emergence of the role of middle men due to the red line it created many problems for the British representative realized the role of middle man with its affiliations with notables .So for their misconduct in British administrated area and flew away to Khante territory provided the British officers a clear justification directly coordinate with tribes of Khanate jurisdiction and to stop the role of middleman thereat for their future policies. (Barmani, 2008, p. 148)

To improve relations with Balochistan and Afghnistan Lord Layton has been appointed as Viceroy of Indian Brtish Robert Sandaman visited twice to Kalat the same year ,he fully gave impression to Khan of Kalat that he is rather then independent but would be the representative of federating confederacy .This was almost the superiority of the British represented authorities that, could not opposite their rule as representative of the confederacy as British ignored the Kalat Independence status. (Baluch, 1987, p. 108).

According to the treaty of 1876, Khan and Sardars fully recognized the arbitration of the representative of British India in their internal affairs. The point of view of the Calcutta has acknowledged the separate status of Balochistan conditionally on some economic benefit but the political situation at borders gave space the presence of British Indian representative in Kalat. In February 1877, Government of India appointed Robert Sandam as the first AGG (Assistant to Governor General) in Balochistan. This is how the appointed political agents in Quetta and Jacobabad started functioning of their governance and also started railway line from Sind Jacob Abad to Quetta for the controlling of territory as easy access to all frontiers.Thus the military barracks and cantonment established in Quetta.(Swilder, 2014, pp. 72-73)

The opening of new chapter in Balochistan with the appointment of Robert Sandaman as AGG in Balochistan was historical turning point in Khanate affairs internally as well as externally.

Now this was extraordinary contribution of Sandaman up in relations of colonial powers and local powers, between Khanate of Kalat and the Brtish Government of India. Conditionally making Kalat a federal state was just their idea and attitude towards power struggle between Sardars and Khan explained as according to their own interests in 1877, the position of Government of British India regarding the status of Kalat was that, the political institution of Kalat is feudal in character and argued Riccardo redaelli,

; That it is to say that Khan rules ,not directly over the people but over

A number tribal chiefs, who in turn exercise over their own tribes a Power which has never been sharply defined but which practically Resembles that of the great barons during feudal period of western Society:

The role of the Robert Sandaman in the history of Balochistan is just as that important as the role of John Jacob, srole was at the frontiers of a Sind at early generations. Within nine years of treaty of Jacob Abad, treaty had curved into the Brauhi confederacy that this was his interpretation over the constitution of Kalat that Khan still crowned as nominal as he has been head of state just except, his own crown lands that, He no longer governed the country. The real ruler of the country was AGG with the garrison at Quetta, He was supreme enforcing his decisions. With the attractive subsidies that Sardars Khan with Sandaman further strengthen their position both among Khan Trible chiefs and uprising power in tribes gave him extra boost when turned a group as pro Britisher that he and Phree had aimed twenty years earlier to establish with tribes. (Heathcote, 2015, pp. 215-216)

This is very important in the modern history of Balochistan to analyze the personality of Robert Sandman though he was not a Baloch himself but his role in the social structure of Trible society is conspicuous. The current political and geographical position of Balochistan, himself designed the portray of. He had demolish ancient Trible and Sardari system. Eventhough his system is still existing in modern era. (Bugti, 1996, p. 99). The jurisdiction of AGG as head of Balochistan agency were as,

- 1. British Balochistan as it has been a part of British India as assigned as chief commissioner.
- 2. In Balochistan Agencey acting as an AGG.
- State territories as AGG with support and coordination of P.A (Political Agents). (Kassi, 2104, p. 105)

Transformation of Baluchistan in two ways, introduction of the borders into regions and the selection of Quetta as headquarter extreme north of Balochistan for strategic importance. (Swilder, 2014, p,81). So as the theory separate division of different areas of Balochistan were in the early stage, The British Indian representative got them at leased. So the administrative and strategic point of view combining the leased areas with Quetta and declared it as British Balochistan .

This artificial Baluchistan of the British India the controlling authority over it administration assigned to AGG, This was an extraordinary official position at the North West frontier of India. AGG with his whole civil and military powers was not controlling authority over British Balochistan but he was also running the Khanate affairs from Quetta. Importance of Quetta as basecamp of military and administration was the watch dog allover neighboring countries, Iran and Afghanistan. Kalat got central impotence after Kech and Siwi (Sibi) This was how the British diminished the central position of Kalat into Quetta. (Bugti, 1996, p.41).

Since Robert Sandaman got political and administrative powers, and had a clear command of control for administrative and judicial reforms. The recruitment of tribes for Postal and telegraph, Police Revenue, This kind of governance with the full involvement of the local chiefs firmly link them with District Officer. This involvement from local point of view got sympathy for the British Indaian officers that provided a space to stable their administration. (Awan, 1985, p. 139)

The British presence here was of great importance. The construction of the roads brought considerable changes in the daily life of tribes .Quetta was systematically developed in the shape of arm base. The quetta had been arranged politically, administratively, economically in well planned cultural city. with the establishment of cantonment Quetta from a village became a big city. The largest garrison academy has been constructed in Quetta, Where all the Indian British military officers were living. With making of railway track and connecting the city with India, Afghanastan Persia.As a result, business and economy grown tremendously. (Axmann, 2008,p.35).

Sandaman System in Balochistan

The history of Kalat started from never ending long wars in our time which had splintered between Khan and his chiefs. Khan was on the verge of establishing his own absolute autocratic government, and Sardars were supportively fighting for their constitutional rights. The war had reached such a point that it could result in the destruction of the Khanate, but the intervention of the Sandaman controlled the situation: (Frist.Admn.Report:p.44. 1886.)

The same officer could cure the psychological foundation of monarchist, who could determine the right direction in which to look an act collectively in the interests of individual contacts. In the results of coordinating with tribes of northwestern Sandaman sufficiently got experience it was not difficult for him to successfully test the rest of Balochistan and Kalat. Robert Sandaman was the first British Indain officer who understood the overall structure of the Khante which was generously framed by Mir Naseer Khan, with in it Khan and the Sardars knew each other's retention factor. They complement each other but not compete. This was very delicate relationship, which was even harder to maintain it. (Baloch H., 2010, pp. 57-58)

This was the reason he knew that this civil war and the constant confrontation was going to have a devastating impact on the Khanate institution. How important it was to cure these problems, there were interests of Khan, there were interests of Sardars and the welfare of the masses and for the British colonial superiority and extension. Because Khan had lost his traditional status and Sardar were also in challenging position. Sardars were moving away from the jurisdiction of Khan and they were getting closer to the British administration. Self-promotion, benefits and feuds were also beginning to be received.

The initial step of making affiliation to the people to gain the respect and confidence of the tribes their own control, Robert Sandaman himself a mountainous Scottish took no long time this was natural thing at that time, people started to coordinate with him. He fully understood their Trible nature and also found that, their chiefs wanting considerable capital and authorization without any hesitation he admired these both demands of the Trible chiefs. (Tuccker, 1921, p. 23)

As Axmann Martin mentions three main points which made a clearer coordinating system between Khanate and British officials.

1. Using the Sarder by supporting them financially entrusting them with administrative system.

- 2. Sandman introduced council of elders (Jirga).
- Sandaman introduced a police and administrative machinery (levy system) consisting of warriors from the tribes. (Axmann,2008,p. 31).

With the finalization of treaty in 1876, actively almost the real ruler of Baloch state was the A.GG. Khan,s glory was just his place as puppet where still chief of Sarawan and Chief of Jhalawan were to sit to the right and left of His High Khan still the head of state. After getting authority the affairs of Khanate with the passage of time AGG got more power to the selection of Sardars, conduct of jirgas for the disputes of the tribes. the AGG was also looking the situation of law and order in country. There were almost five thousand (5000) soldiers in Quetta Cantonment for AGG in case of any emergency. (Dashti,2012 .pp, 255.256).

Jirga System

Robert Sandaman made another major change in Balochistan to introduce the jirga system. The mutual disputes of Balochs were being solved through jirga in an organized way. Sandam having lot of experience while working with tribes in Dera Ghazi Khan , he also arranged jirga there to disputes .jirgas were chaired by AGG ,and also for the minor issues the local sardars has permitted to arrange combine Jirgas under their jurisdiction . (Lehri, 1955, p. 223)

In 1876, with the consensus of British officials Khan and Sardars The jirga system was given a legal status. So in 1882, at the occasion cattle show AGG started the grand durbar at Sibi. But later the jirga was attached to the royal court. It had broad based goals, this roal court and annul durbar actually to strengthen government supremacy over people and also strated to expose to imperialist sovereignty. In this durbar all chiefs, the members of royal court notables, and there was full court speech of AGG (lat sb). This was special occasion in perspective of the Brtish administrators as modifying the British Indian policies with some announcements in durbar.(Marri,2002, p,196).

The purpose of the introducing of the Jirga system was to crush the anti-social elements in trbes ,whose members were nominated by the British authorities .In the tribal areas the Jirga was headed by a Sarder, The chief of Jirga was known as Sardari Jirga further two elder men were nominated to assist him the decision had to go to District officer (P.A) Which was subject to his approval. All of them would have royal Jirga. Its work was charity of tribal differences and rebellion against tribal chiefs besides government, as was the case with other affairs. The real way for them was to earn money and feuds for services to the chiefs. They were given judicial powers and could even set up their own private dinners. (Baluch, 1987, p. 141)

Shahi Jirga

Robert Sandaman associated the Jirga with the royal court, which had very broad purposes. Annul court of royal Jirga and was actually imposing the supremacy of tribal chiefs further to strengthen the imperialist sovereignty over people, and begin to promote show imperial power .All the governors of the Balochistan ,Sardars ,the members of ShahiJirga ,Malik and credentials were invited .The AGG addressedon this occasion ,in which the British Government policies and other administrative issues were discussed and also honors and decrees were issued . The chiefs were given a certain amount of money enclosed in envelop. Each chief get credit from the AGG and received obediently. Sarder was given all the manners and ceremonial training a day ago. The government officials, Sardars, Maliks and also the Members of the Shahi Jirga were be issued honored for the provision of best services to the Indain British government. (Marri, 2015, pp.137-138).

The Nawabi, Khan Bahdur ,Khan saib ,and other British honours giving by the Brtish for loyalty to the British officials in real sence were the sign of shame .Before Sandaman the tribes that an individual or person someone from a group of people who decided to negotiate with the chief had never taken it but because of the Sandman the whole tribes became gulty ,The Sandaman system began to give money to the rulers of the state and tribes .

Jirga ruling enabled them to spread and divert blame for decisions which went against the interests of the section of their own tribe. Jirga also gave them access to the political agents, permitting them to maneuvers between their tribes following, the Khan, and the colonial administration .(Axmann, 2008,p.31).

Over this segment the British not only occupied them through money and tribal force but it also strengthened this feudal in regarding to land issues ,in which people were handed over to Jirga who used to make these decisions with the approval of Political agent .the political agency has establishment in with recommendations of Robert Sandaman in Quetta.It did not only control the a activities of Khan ,it also supervised the tribes of Sarwran and Jhawlan. The eastern rebellious tribes were; Thal Chotiali (Sibi). (Marri, 2015, p.140).

Levy System

In 1883, Robert Sandaman formed such a committee, which can review the establishment of the levies system in Balochistan under their own jurisdiction. The recommendations were put into practice in the same year and established tribal levies in Balochistan. Under which the military checkpoints were handed over to the tribes there making them responsible for the establishment of peace. For whom regular and reasonable compensation was approved however, their approach proved to be deliberate. Therefore, at these checkpoints the tribesmen were appointed by their own people for services .They were well aware of their tribes , and could control themselves very well and also given them allowances for which cooperate whole heartedly with officials . In this way the power and authority and authority of the tribal chief also boosted. (Lehri,1955,p .221).

Robert Sandaman, also started giving money to the tribes and the chiefs of the states and also started paying levies as well. The militia was also obliged to fight against the British opposing tribes. The Sardars themselves could strengthen the militia taking big packages from Brtish and were not responsibilites for how how much paying to common levies man. This was almost the authority of Sarder the nomination of the key positions oflevies e.gResaldar, and Jamadar. He would usually posts his son or near relative. In this way the British bought the whole tribe on one hand on the other hand it created a feudal class, which was able to sustain their governance. (Marri, 2002,p.196).

The responsibilities of levies were as,

- 1. Detect and arrest the accused.
- 2. Protection of roads and ordinary passageways.

3. Presenting witnesses in Jirgas and local courts for completing hearings.

4. Arrangments communication of official correspondence.

5. Monitoring of prison.

6.Assissting the government in the collection of revenues. (Lehri,1955, p.222).

This procedure of levies was the lifeblood of all domestic management. And it was necessary to maintain the countries management in Balochistan. So in this way to make utilization of the local tribes for rehabilitation of peace in Balochistan it was impossible for the police to go first .Due to the remote areas this was suitable to control local tribes through levies.

The Formation of Prime Minister of Kalat

Till 1900, political adviser administrative arrangements were functioning with Khan of Kalat as an assistant of the political agent. Later he has assigned to collect revenue in the Niabats of Khan. According to the instructions of the Indain British government the position of political advisor changed into prime minister in 1912. He has given the status of Khanate employ .He would act as Judge in between Khan and his tribal chief and also ,in addition,other state and political affairs of the state would be executed as with the mutal consensus of the Khan of Kalat.On the one hand ,the move was to intenend to show Mir Mahmmod Khan as he was not taking part internal state affairs to retain the powers of political advisor. The tribal chiefs had demanded the same to the British Indian representative, that , the authority of the political advisor as to change into other appointment of an authorized officer . (Naseer, 2010, p. 387)

After the death of Sandaman, when Khuda-a-Dad Khan was soon deposed from his position, and his son as brought at the position of Khanat. In the reign of Mir Mahmood Khan the political and Trible status had almost changed. The British resident became all in all to keep Khan in his hands. The nomination of the prime minister was made with the approval of the British Indain Government. the regular army of Kalat was dissolved. The army of Khanate exchanged into new system of levy with in the administrative authority of British Indain officer with the collaboration of the Trible chiefs. The treasure of Khanate came under the supervision of British audit department. Khan was just a dummy, Although, the Khanate was sovereign state and was not concluded British Indian states, but in practice it was considered a state of British India.

(Baloch, 1987,p; 122).

Formation of State Council

According to official correspondence that, the Khan and his chiefs should be more interested in government and accept internal sovereignty. The British representative had decided to manage a coordination council in the name of state council. to involve the Khan and the Saders to actively take part in state activities and internal self optional manner. This state council was included four trible chiefs of Sarawan and Jahlwan to advise the Mohammad Khan in state affairs as that was existing at the time of Naseer Khan. As their responsibility advise the Khan about the state political and tribal affairs. there was only one meeting of the council. Another meeting did not held in the period of Mahmood khan due to the two Chief of Jalawan.(Redaelli,2012,p.220.221).

Conclusion

The British affiliation with Khante certainly left a profound impacts on the socio-cultural realm of the society. Before their arrival here, the confederation of tribes. At that time, the confederacy had gone weak position because of the domestic affairs. This was the era when British came here. At the same time, the tribal administrative structure with in Kalat was weakened. With the conducting of treaties they easily gained influence in the internal politics , and Khante administration with a systematic way .Not only did the interior influence politically but also for their broader interests, here they explained the flexible tribal system according to their interests .That is why a foresighted man like Robert Sadaman not only understood the tribal psychology but also achieved full influence .He fully indulged with in traditions of the local people and also got the support and superior honors from British he became supreme in his decisions. Due to Sandaman system, remained in till the partition of subcontinent.

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