

THE ROLE OF ANVAR PASHA IN THE JADID AND INDEPENDENCE MOVEMENTS

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Abstract: *This article analyzes Anvar Pasha's activities related to the national liberation movements and Jadidism in Turkestan. The article highlights Anvar Pasha's arrival in Turkestan, his participation in the independence movement, his policy of uniting the qorbashis, the common aspects between his ideas and the Jadids' concepts of national statehood, as well as his military struggle against the Soviets. Furthermore, his role in the history of Turkestan, his historical legacy, and his significance in the independence movement are examined on the basis of historical sources. The study demonstrates that Anvar Pasha's struggle for the independence of Turkestan was closely connected with the political stage of the Jadid movement.*

Keywords: *Anvar Pasha, Jadidism, independence movement, Turkestan, national liberation movement, qorbashis, Bukhara, Eastern Bukhara, Soviet colonialism, national statehood, Turkestan Jadids.*

Anvar Pasha was one of the prominent political and military figures who played an important role in the history of the Muslim East at the beginning of the twentieth century. Although he is widely known as a famous commander of the Ottoman Empire, he also left a significant mark on the history of Turkestan. In particular, his activities related to the independence movements in Turkestan and the ideas of Jadidism possess great historical importance. Anvar Pasha's arrival in Turkestan was closely connected with the national resistance movements against the growing Soviet colonialism of that period.

After the First World War, the Ottoman Empire was defeated, and Anvar Pasha was forced to leave the country. However, he did not abandon the idea of struggling for the freedom of Muslim peoples. At that time, the independence movement against Soviet rule was gaining strength in Turkestan. While the peoples of Turkestan were carrying out an armed struggle to free themselves from colonial oppression, Anvar Pasha headed to Central Asia in order to support this movement.

Before joining the national independence struggle in Turkestan, Anvar Pasha faced several difficulties in Eastern Bukhara. At first, some qorbashis treated him with suspicion. In particular, Ibrahimbek disarmed Anvar Pasha and his companions and kept them under detention for a certain period at the headquarters in Koktosh. Later,

following the demands of the Emir of Bukhara, Said Alimkhan, and the Emir of Afghanistan, Amanullah Khan, Anvar Pasha was released.

This event demonstrates that Anvar Pasha's activities in Turkestan did not begin easily. However, within a short period, he gained great respect among the local independence fighters. Anvar Pasha considered the liberation of Turkestan to be an honorable duty of the entire Muslim world. On November 9, 1921, addressing the Turkestan independence fighters, he declared: "I have come to join the struggle being carried out for the sacred cause of Turkestan." This statement created a strong sense of inspiration and encouragement among the people.

Anvar Pasha regarded the independence movement in Turkestan not as an ordinary local uprising, but as a liberation struggle of all Turkic and Muslim peoples. Therefore, he attempted to unite the qorbashis from different regions. His main goal was to establish an independent state of Turkestan under a unified command. According to the book, beginning in December 1921, Anvar Pasha took leadership of the qorbashi detachments in Eastern Bukhara and convened a congress of all qorbashis from Bukhara, Fergana, and Matcha in Koktosh. This congress became one of the important steps toward unifying the Turkestan independence movement.

A key aspect of Anvar Pasha's activities related to Jadidism is that he viewed national independence as inseparable from enlightenment and political awakening. The Turkestan Jadids also promoted the ideas of building a national state, awakening the people, and resisting colonial rule. For this reason, Anvar Pasha was received with great interest by local Jadid intellectuals. His arrival in Turkestan brought a new spirit and a new strategy to the independence movement. Anvar Pasha appeared not only as an experienced military commander but also as a political leader. In particular, his views on the unity of Muslim peoples were close to the ideology of the Jadids.

One of the most significant problems of the independence movement in Turkestan during Anvar Pasha's time was the fragmented nature of the local qorbashi forces. Each qorbashi operated within his own territory and with his own troops, while there was a lack of overall strategic coordination and central leadership. This situation made the struggle against Soviet forces considerably more difficult. After arriving in Turkestan, Anvar Pasha primarily sought to address this issue. He clearly understood that independence could only be achieved by uniting all liberation forces under a single command structure.

From the end of December 1921, Anvar Pasha took leadership of the qorbashi detachments in Eastern Bukhara and convened a major congress in Koktosh. Qorbashis operating in Eastern Bukhara, the Garm region, Fergana, and Matcha participated in this congress. This assembly became one of the important political events in the history of the Turkestan independence movement, as it discussed the issue of unifying the armed forces operating in different regions.

Representatives of Said Alimkhan also participated in the congress. In particular, Hoji Latif Devonbegi delivered the Emir's personal letter and gifts to Anvar Pasha. This indicates that Anvar Pasha also enjoyed a certain level of influence among the supporters of the Bukhara Emirate. At the same time, Anvar Pasha sent representatives to the Second Congress of the Muslims of Turkestan. This shows that he paid great attention not only to military affairs but also to political unification.

In February 1922, Anvar Pasha sent special letters to Shermuhammadbek, the commander-in-chief of the independence fighters in the Fergana Valley; Daniyolbek, Jabborbek, and Kholiqbek around Shahrisabz; Bahrombek, Ochilbek, and Usmonbek in the Samarkand region; and Junaid Khan in Khorezm, proposing the unification of all independence fighters under a single command. This initiative was the first attempt in the history of Turkestan to centralize the national resistance forces across a wide territory under unified leadership.

Anvar Pasha clearly understood one important issue: if the armed movements in different regions of Turkestan did not cooperate with one another, Soviet forces would defeat them separately. Therefore, he attempted to establish a unified strategic front. According to the book, by March 1922, a general independence front under the leadership of Anvar Pasha had been formed across a vast territory stretching from Fergana and Samarkand to Eastern Bukhara and Khorezm.

Anvar Pasha sought to mobilize not only military commanders but also the local population for the common struggle. He promoted the ideas of independence and freedom among the people. Although Soviet sources labeled this movement as "Basmachism" in a derogatory sense, it was in fact a national struggle for independence. Anvar Pasha, in turn, tried to transform this movement into a unified national liberation struggle.

From April 10 to 15, 1922, a major congress was held in Kafirnigan, near Boysun. Qorbashis from various regions, Turkish officers, and Afghan representatives participated in this congress. During the congress, Anvar Pasha was elected Supreme Commander and political leader. This further strengthened his position in the Turkestan independence movement.

At the congress, issues such as the formation of a national army, developing a common military strategy, and jointly fighting against Soviet forces were discussed. This process was in harmony with the Jadids' ideas of national statehood, as the Jadids also aspired to the formation of Turkestan as a unified national state. Anvar Pasha's unifying policy produced significant results in a short period of time. In some regions, Soviet garrisons were struck, and confidence in freedom grew among the local population. However, the Soviet army, which had superiority in weapons and military equipment, launched a large-scale counteroffensive.

In the early twentieth century, the Jadid movement in Turkestan aimed to awaken the people through enlightenment, develop national consciousness, and lead

society onto a path of independent progress. Jadids such as Mahmudhoja Behbudi, Munavvarqori Abdurashidxonov, and Abdulla Avloni dreamed of seeing Turkestan as a modern, independent, and developed state. Anvar Pasha's activities in Turkestan were also directly connected with these ideas of national statehood. He understood the liberation of Turkestan not merely as a military issue, but as a process of political and national revival.

After arriving in Turkestan, Anvar Pasha established close contacts with local independence fighters and Jadids. He emphasized that the peoples of Turkestan should unite under a single national state. This idea was consistent with the Jadids' views on national unity. The Jadids desired the liberation of Turkestan from Russian colonial rule and the establishment of its own national government. Anvar Pasha, in turn, believed that this goal could be achieved through armed struggle.

Usmon Khoja and some representatives of the Bukhara government also supported turning Bukhara into a truly independent republic. They considered the establishment of a national government and a national army as their main task. Usmon Khoja openly opposed the presence of the Red Army, composed of Russians, in Bukhara. He clearly understood that a national army was essential for the existence of an independent state. These views were in harmony with Anvar Pasha's policies.

During his activities, Anvar Pasha identified the liberation of Turkestan from colonial rule as his most important goal. He regarded Soviet authority as a force acting against the interests of the peoples of Turkestan. On May 19, 1922, he sent an ultimatum to the government in Moscow, demanding the withdrawal of Russian troops from Turkestan. This demand was not merely a military appeal; it also had significance as a political document defending the right of the peoples of Turkestan to establish an independent state. Anvar Pasha did not limit national statehood to political power alone. He also emphasized the necessity of the people's spiritual awakening and collective action. Similarly, the Jadids sought to lead society toward progress through science and education. In this respect, there was a significant ideological affinity between Anvar Pasha and the Jadids.

A message was addressed to the Soviet representatives in the name of Anvar Pasha and other qorbashis, stating that the people of Turkestan did not wish to see foreign troops in their land and would continue their struggle for independence. Alongside military struggle, Anvar Pasha also attempted to use diplomatic means. According to the book, he tried to hold negotiations with representatives of Soviet authority and sought to resolve the issue with less bloodshed. The Jadids envisioned Turkestan as a modern state with an advanced system of governance. Anvar Pasha also supported centralized governance and a unified command structure. His election as Supreme Commander and political leader at the Kafirnigan congress in 1922 reflected the aspiration to establish a national state. Anvar Pasha's views on

Turkestan later became the ideological foundation of the independence movement. He regarded Turkestan as the historical homeland of the Turkic peoples. The statement found in the book, "This land does not belong to the Russians, but is the true homeland of the Turkic peoples," also demonstrates the strength of this ideology.

After arriving in Turkestan, Anvar Pasha became one of the most active leaders of the independence movement. His main goal was to expel Soviet forces from Turkestan and establish an independent national state. In this process, Anvar Pasha not only made political initiatives but also directly led military operations. In particular, the battles fought in Eastern Bukhara during 1921–1922 are considered one of the most important chapters in the history of the Turkestan independence movement.

After unifying the existing qorbashi detachments in Turkestan under a single command, Anvar Pasha launched large-scale military operations against Soviet forces. He managed to assemble a significant military force in a short period of time. In particular, the local population and qorbashis of Eastern Bukhara supported Anvar Pasha as an experienced commander. In battles, Anvar Pasha used speed and surprise attack tactics. He skillfully took advantage of the mountainous terrain. As a result, Soviet forces suffered heavy losses on several occasions.

By the spring of 1922, the independence fighters had become considerably stronger in the areas around Hisor, Dushanbe, Kulob, and Baljuvon. In some places, Soviet garrisons were forced to retreat. Anvar Pasha tried to introduce strict discipline into the Turkestan independence movement. He worked to reduce disagreements among the qorbashis and insisted on operating according to a common military plan. This significantly strengthened the previously fragmented resistance movement. The Soviet command also began to view Anvar Pasha's activities with serious concern.

Anvar Pasha sent several ultimatums to the Soviet command, demanding the withdrawal of Russian troops from Turkestan. When these demands were rejected, military operations intensified further. The Soviet government dispatched large military forces to suppress the independence movement in Turkestan. In particular, the Red Army's modern weapons and equipment created significant difficulties for the independence fighters. Nevertheless, Anvar Pasha's forces achieved a number of successes in a short period of time. According to the book, his troops defeated Soviet units in some areas and captured a large amount of weapons and military equipment. These successes strengthened the people's belief in independence.

Anvar Pasha influenced his fighters not only as a military commander but also as a spiritual leader. In his speeches to the soldiers, he emphasized that the liberation of Turkestan was an honorable duty of the Muslim peoples. As a result, there was a strong sense of moral unity within his forces. Many young people and members of the local population gathered around him. However, over time, the numerical and technological superiority of the Soviet forces became increasingly evident. The Soviet government organized special military operations to suppress the

Turkestan independence movement. In particular, major battles took place in Eastern Bukhara. Anvar Pasha operated actively with his forces around Baljuvon and Obdara.

In August 1922, one of the decisive battles took place. According to the book, Anvar Pasha was killed during the Eid al-Adha days in a battle with Soviet forces in the Obdara area near Baljuvon. His death was a great loss for the Turkestan independence movement, as Anvar Pasha had managed in a short time to centralize the movement and strengthen the spirit of independence among the people. During the Soviet period, Anvar Pasha's activities were portrayed negatively, and he was labeled a "Basmachi." However, in modern historiography, his activities are evaluated from the perspective of a national liberation struggle. He is considered a historical figure who fought for the independence of the peoples of Turkestan and sacrificed his life for this cause.

Anvar Pasha remained in history as one of the most important leaders of the Turkestan independence movement. Although his activities in Turkestan lasted for a relatively short period, this stage holds a special place in the history of national liberation movements. Upon his arrival in Turkestan, Anvar Pasha strengthened the spirit of the struggle for independence among the local population, attempted to unite the fragmented independence forces, and promoted the ideas of national statehood. For this reason, his death was a major loss for the Turkestan independence movement.

By the summer of 1922, Soviet forces had concentrated a large military presence in Eastern Bukhara. The Red Army made it its primary objective to completely eliminate the independence movement led by Anvar Pasha. In particular, intense battles took place in the areas around Baljuvon and Obdara.

On August 4, 1922, during the Eid al-Adha holiday, Anvar Pasha was killed in a battle near Obdara. According to the book, he showed great bravery on the battlefield and fought until the very end. News of his death was received with deep sorrow among the Turkestan independence fighters. Anvar Pasha had gained significant respect in a short time and had become a symbol of the independence movement.

After Anvar Pasha's death, the independence movement did not come to a complete halt; however, unified centralized leadership became significantly weaker. Some qorbashis continued the struggle, but no leader emerged who could unite all forces on a Turkestan-wide scale as Anvar Pasha had done. As a result, Soviet forces gradually succeeded in suppressing the independence movements in the following years. During the Soviet period, one-sided and negative views about Anvar Pasha were promoted. In Soviet historiography, he was portrayed as the "leader of the Basmachis" and a representative of "reactionary forces." In reality, however, he was a political and military figure who fought for the independence of the peoples of

Turkestan. After independence, as a new approach to history emerged, Anvar Pasha's true historical image began to be restored.

One of the most important aspects of Anvar Pasha's legacy is his views on national unity. He emphasized that the peoples of Turkestan needed to unite around a single goal in order to break free from colonial rule. This idea also held a central place in the ideology of the Jadids. While the Jadids sought to achieve independence through national awakening and enlightenment, Anvar Pasha sought to defend this goal through armed struggle. His vision of Turkestan as not merely a geographical region, but as the historical homeland of all Turkic peoples, is also clearly evident. He envisioned Turkestan as a free and independent state. Therefore, his activities were connected not only with military struggle but also with the development of ideas of national statehood.

In conclusion, Anvar Pasha's activities and his ideas connected to the Jadid movement are closely linked with the political and intellectual processes of the early twentieth century in Turkestan and the broader Muslim East. He left his mark in history not only as a military figure but also as a person who, in the complex political conditions of his time, remained committed to the ideas of national liberation and renewal.

The Jadid movement, in turn, was an important socio-political current aimed at reforming society, awakening the people through enlightenment, and leading them toward modern development. In this respect, the ideas associated with Anvar Pasha were to a certain extent aligned with these principles. Through his activities, we can better understand the complex political struggles, national awakening processes, and interactions between different movements of that era.

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