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**SOURCE STUDY OF THE HISTORY OF AMIR NIZAM AL-DIN YALANGTUSH
BAHADUR: NARRATIVE, DIPLOMATIC AND ARCHIVAL EVIDENCE**

Abstract

This study examines the source base for the history of Amir Nizam al-Din Yalangtush Bahadur, one of the most influential military and political figures of seventeenth-century Transoxiana. It brings together narrative chronicles, diplomatic notices, travel accounts and published archival act-materials in order to reconstruct the different dimensions of his activity in Samarqand, Balkh and neighbouring regions. Particular attention is paid to the correlation between court narratives and documentary evidence.

The article analyzes land-purchase deeds, tax-exemption decrees and waqf-related boundary acts connected with Yalangtush-biy. These documents demonstrate that his authority was not limited to military command or the title of ataliq, but rested on a complex economic foundation formed through irrigated estates, fiscal privileges and pious endowments linked to the Sherdor and Tillakori madrasas.

By comparing chronicles such as Musakhkhir al-bilad, Bahr al-asrar, Tarikh-i Qipchaqkhani, Tarikh-i Muqimkhani and Samariya with archival documents, the study clarifies the material and legal mechanisms of elite power in the Bukhara Khanate. It presents Yalangtush Bahadur as a regional magnate whose political, military, diplomatic and architectural activities were inseparable from property relations and control over agrarian resources.

Keywords: Yalangtush Bahadur; source study; archival documents; Bukhara Khanate; Samarqand; waqf; landholding; Ashtarkhanids; Transoxiana.

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ӘМІР НИЗАМ АД-ДИН ЯЛАНГТҮШ БАҒАДҮР ТАРИХЫНЫҢ ДЕРЕКТАНУЫ: НАРРАТИВТІК, ДИПЛОМАТИЯЛЫҚ ЖӘНЕ АРХИВТІК ДЕРЕКТЕР

Аңдатпа

Бұл мақалада XVII ғасырдағы Мауереннахрдың аса ықпалды әскери-саяси қайраткерлерінің бірі Әмір Низам ад-Дин Ялангтүш Бағадүр тарихын зерттеуге арналған дереккөздер кешені қарастырылады. Зерттеу баяндау сипатындағы жылнамаларды, дипломатиялық мәліметтерді, саяхатшылар хабарларын және жарияланған архивтік акт материалдарын өзара салыстыра отырып, оның Самарқанд, Балх және көршілес аймақтардағы қызметінің әртүрлі қырларын қалпына келтіруге бағытталған. Ерекше назар сарайлық баяндаулар мен құжаттық деректер арасындағы байланысқа аударылады.

Мақалада Ялангтүш биге қатысты жер сатып алу құжаттары, салықтан босату туралы хұкмнамалар және уақф жерлерінің шекарасын белгілеу актілері арнайы талданады. Бұл құжаттар оның билігі тек әскери қолбасшылықпен немесе аталық атағымен шектелмегенін, суармалы жер иеліктері, фискалдық жеңілдіктер және Самарқандтағы Шердор мен Тіллә Қори медреселерімен байланысты уақфтық қорлар арқылы нығайғанын көрсетеді.

Musakhkhir al-bilad, Bahr al-asrar, Tarikh-i Qipchaqkhani, Tarikh-i Muqimkhani және Samariya сияқты хроникаларды архивтік құжаттармен салыстыру Бұхара хандығындағы элиталық биліктің материалдық және құқықтық тетіктерін нақтылауға мүмкіндік береді. Зерттеу Ялангтүш Бағадүрді саяси, әскери, дипломатиялық және сәулеттік қызметі жер қатынастары мен аграрлық ресурстарды бақылаумен тығыз байланысты аймақтық ірі тұлға ретінде сипаттайды.

Кілт сөздер: Ялангтүш Бағадүр; деректану; архив құжаттары; Бұхара хандығы; Самарқанд; уақф; жер иелігі; Аштарханилер; Мауереннахр.

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ИСТОЧНИКОВЕДЕНИЕ ИСТОРИИ АМИРА НИЗАМ АД-ДИНА ЯЛАНГТУША БАХАДУРА: НАРРАТИВНЫЕ, ДИПЛОМАТИЧЕСКИЕ И АРХИВНЫЕ СВИДЕТЕЛЬСТВА

Аннотация

В статье рассматривается комплекс источников для изучения истории Амира Низам ад-Дина Ялангтуша Бахадур – одного из наиболее влиятельных военно-политических деятелей Мавераннахра XVII века. Исследование объединяет нарративные хроники, дипломатические известия, сообщения путешественников и опубликованные архивные актовые материалы,

что позволяет реконструировать разные стороны его деятельности в Самарканде, Балхе и сопредельных регионах. Особое внимание уделяется соотношению придворных повествований и документальных свидетельств.

В работе специально анализируются купчие грамоты, ханские указы об освобождении от налогов и акты о границах вакуфных земель, связанных с Ялангтуш-бием. Эти документы показывают, что его власть не ограничивалась военным командованием или титулом аталыка, а опиралась на сложную экономическую основу, включавшую орошаемые владения, фискальные привилегии и благочестивые пожертвования, связанные с медресе Шердор и Тилля-Кари в Самарканде.

Сопоставление хроник Musakhkhir al-bilad, Bahr al-asrar, Tarikh-i Qipchaqkhani, Tarikh-i Muqimkhani и Samariya с архивными актами уточняет материальные и правовые механизмы элитной власти в Бухарском ханстве. В результате Ялангтуш Бахадур представлен как региональный магнат, чья политическая, военная, дипломатическая и строительная деятельность была неразрывно связана с земельными отношениями и контролем над аграрными ресурсами.

Ключевые слова: Ялангтуш Бахадур; источниковедение; архивные документы; Бухарское ханство; Самарканд; вакуф; землевладение; Аштарханиды; Мавераннахр.

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**EMÎR NİZAMEDDİN YALANGTUŞ BAHADİR TARİHİNİN KAYNAK
İNCELEMESİ: ANLATISAL, DIPLOMATİK VE ARŞİV BELGELERİ**

Özet

Bu makale, XVII. yüzyıl Maveraünnehir'inin en etkili askerî ve siyasi şahsiyetlerinden biri olan Emir Nizameddin Yalangtuş Bahadır'ın tarihini incelemek için kullanılan kaynaklar bütünü ele almaktadır. Çalışma, onun Semerkant, Belh ve komşu bölgelerdeki faaliyetlerinin farklı yönlerini yeniden kurmak amacıyla kronikleri, diplomatik kayıtları, seyahat anlatılarını ve yayımlanmış arşiv belgelerini karşılaştırmalı biçimde kullanmaktadır. Saray anlatıları ile belge temelli kanıtlar arasındaki ilişki özel olarak değerlendirilmiştir.

Makalede Yalangtuş Biy ile ilgili arazi satın alma senetleri, vergi muafiyetini onaylayan hükümdar buyrukları ve vakıf topraklarının sınırlarını belirleyen belgeler ayrıntılı şekilde incelenmektedir. Bu belgeler, onun nüfuzunun yalnızca askerî komuta veya atalık unvanına dayanmadığını; sulanan arazi mülkiyeti, mali imtiyazlar ve Semerkant'taki Şirdar ile Tilla-Kari medreseleriyle bağlantılı vakıf gelirleri üzerine kurulduğunu göstermektedir.

Musakhkhir al-bilad, Bahr al-asrar, Tarikh-i Qipchaqkhani, Tarikh-i Muqimkhani ve Samariya gibi kroniklerin arşiv belgeleriyle karşılaştırılması, Buhara Hanlığı'nda seçkinler iktidarının maddi ve hukuki mekanizmalarını aydınlatır. Böylece Yalangtuş Bahadır, siyasi, askerî,

diplomatik ve mimari faaliyetleri arazi ilişkileri ve tarımsal kaynakların denetimiyle iç içe geçmiş bölgesel bir güç sahibi olarak değerlendirilir.

Anahtar Kelimeler: Yalangtush Bahadır; kaynak incelemesi; arşiv belgeleri; Buhara Hanlığı; Semerkant; vakıf; arazi mülkiyeti; Astrahaniler; Maveräünnehir.

Introduction.

The history of Amir Nizam al-Din Yalangtush Bahadur occupies an important place in the political and cultural history of seventeenth-century Transoxiana. He appears in the sources under several forms of his name and title, including Yalangtush-biy, Yalangtush Ataliq and Nizam al-Din Bahadur. In historical memory he is often associated with Samarqand and with the architectural transformation of the Registan ensemble. Yet the source base shows that his career cannot be reduced to patronage of monumental construction. He was also a military commander, an intermediary in regional diplomacy, a court figure in the Ashtarkhanid political hierarchy and a large landholder whose economic power was recorded in legal documents.

The relevance of this topic is determined by two connected problems. First, narrative chronicles generally describe Yalangtush through events of warfare, loyalty, rebellion, diplomacy and construction. Such evidence is indispensable, but it is often episodic and shaped by courtly conventions. Secondly, archival act-materials, especially sale-purchase deeds, fiscal decrees and waqf-related records, allow the historian to reconstruct the institutional and economic foundations of his authority. The combination of these two groups of sources makes it possible to move from a heroic biographical portrait toward a source-critical understanding of political power in the Bukhara Khanate.

The purpose of this article is to systematize and critically evaluate the written and archival evidence concerning Yalangtush Bahadur. The objectives are: to classify the sources according to their type and evidential value; to show what each source group contributes to the reconstruction of his career; to integrate published archival documents on his landholdings into the existing narrative; and to clarify the relationship between military-political influence, fiscal privilege, waqf practice and architectural patronage. The working hypothesis is that Yalangtush Bahadur's exceptional position was formed not only by personal military capacity or court service, but also by the concentration of productive irrigated land and by the legal protection of this property through khanly decrees and waqf mechanisms.

2. Methodology

The study is based on several categories of written evidence. The first category consists of narrative chronicles created in or around the political world of Transoxiana, Balkh, Safavid Iran and Mughal India. Among them are Muhammadyar ibn Arab Qataghan's *Musakhkhir al-bilad*, which provides evidence on the early seventeenth-century conflicts around Balkh and the participation of Yalangtush Bahadur in military organization [1]. Mahmud ibn Wali's *Bahr al-asrar fi manaqib al-akhyar* is especially important because it refers not only to military events but also to Yalangtush's long presence in Samarqand and to the privileged status of his estates [2, fols. 58b-234b; 2, fols. 98a-99b].

The second category is made up of archival act-materials published in *Documents on the History of Agrarian Relations in the Bukhara Khanate*, edited under A. K. Arends with documents selected, translated and annotated by O. D. Chekhovich. This collection contains purchase deeds, *hukmnamas* and boundary acts from the seventeenth to nineteenth centuries. Its introductory study emphasizes that act-materials are primary evidence for social and economic history and that chronicles alone are insufficient for reconstructing the internal life of the khanates [3, pp. V-IX]. For the present topic, the most important documents are those concerning Yalangtush-biy's land purchases, tax exemptions and waqf lands [3, docs. 1-3, 6, 13].

The third category includes diplomatic and external sources. *Tarikh-i Qipchaqkhani*, *Tarikh-i Muqimkhani*, *Matlab al-talibin*, *Samariya*, Safavid chronicles, Mughal histories and Pietro Della Valle's travel notes provide data on Yalangtush's position in negotiations, military campaigns,

symbolic exchanges and regional perception [4-14]. The article uses comparative source criticism: data from chronicles are checked against archival acts, while archival records are interpreted within the broader political context described by narrative sources. Special attention is paid to the social meaning of legal terms such as milk-i khalis, tax exemption, waqf, tanab and the boundaries of irrigated property.

3. Results:

3.1. Narrative Sources and the Military-Political Image of Yalangtush Bahadur

The earliest layer of information places Yalangtush Bahadur within the conflicts of the first decades of the seventeenth century. Musakhkhir al-bilad records the tensions connected with Vali Muhammad Khan, Nadr Muhammad Khan and the military movements around Balkh. In this context Yalangtush appears as a commander involved in the defense system of Balkh and in the organization of troop movement across the Amu Darya. The evidence is significant because it depicts him not merely as a fighter, but as a participant in logistical and operational management [1]. The same aspect is amplified by Bahr al-asrar, where he appears among the figures supporting Imamquli Khan and opposing the forces linked with Vali Muhammad Khan. The battle near Bagh-i Shamol and the subsequent political outcome demonstrate that Yalangtush had become one of the influential amirs in the Samarqand political environment [2, fols. 58b-234b; 2, fols. 98a-99b].

Bahr al-asrar also records his role in suppressing instability in the 1630s. The source presents him as an ataliq capable of commanding independent operations, including the dispatch of a force to relieve the fortress of Akhsi. It is also noteworthy that rebel leaders attempted to negotiate with him. This detail suggests that his authority was recognized beyond formal court titles: he was treated as a political actor whose decision could influence the outcome of a conflict [2, fols. 58b-234b; 2, fols. 98a-99b]. The image produced by this chronicle is therefore twofold. On the one hand, Yalangtush is a servant of central authority; on the other, he acts as a regional force with his own military and diplomatic weight.

Tarikh-i Qipchaqkhani broadens the geographical horizon. It mentions Yalangtush Ataliq in connection with the confrontation caused by Mughal intervention in Balkh and the response of Abdulaziz Khan. The source shows that the solution of regional crises required consultation with Uzbek amirs as well as the involvement of Kazakh and Qaraqalpaq sultans. The fact that Yalangtush is named in this context demonstrates his participation in decisions that went beyond local administration. The same work also mentions the dispatch of money and valuable gifts by the Mughal ruler Aurangzeb to Yalangtush Bahadur. Such a notice should not be read as a simple gesture of politeness; it belongs to the wider practice of political gift-giving, by which imperial courts attempted to influence or neutralize important frontier actors [4]. B. A. Akhmedov's evaluation of Central Asian historical-geographical literature confirms the importance of such texts for reconstructing political geography and interregional relations in the sixteenth to eighteenth centuries [5].

Tarikh-i Muqimkhani places Yalangtush among the high-ranking officials of the Ashtarkhanid order. The designation 'Yalangtush-biy Ataliq' is not a decorative title. In the political vocabulary of the period, ataliq combined elements of guardianship, military command and political supervision. The mention of Yalangtush alongside officials such as devonbegi and parvanachi marks him as a member of the ruling elite rather than a local notable [6, p. 82]. Matlab al-talibin adds another dimension: Yalangtush's contact with the Juybar khojas and his reception of Taj al-Din Hasan Khoja in the Fathabad locality near Balkh reveal his ties with religious lineages and the moral capital attached to such relations [7, p. 170].

3.2. Archival Acts: Landholding, Fiscal Privilege and Waqf

The archival documents change the analytical focus of the topic. They show that behind the military and diplomatic image stood a substantial agrarian base. The introductory study to the 1954 collection states that documents on the land possessions of the seventeenth-century magnate Yalangtush-biy are especially valuable for concretizing the nature of feudal landholding in the Central Asian khanates [3, pp. IX-X]. It also notes that earlier literature had not given a full

characterization of Yalangtush as one of the largest landholders. What was known was mostly that he governed Samarqand for decades, possessed hundreds of slaves, had resources to construct major buildings and could maintain troops for campaigns. The act-materials make this picture concrete by showing when, where and under what legal conditions land was accumulated [3, pp. IX-X].

Document 1 is a sale-purchase deed dated 12 February 1606. It records that Yalangtush-biy, son of Boy Khoja-biy, purchased a privileged estate in the locality of Yaramtugh in the Samarqand tuman of Ufarinkent from Oy Begim, daughter of Khoja Hoshim Ahrari, for 4,300 silver tangas [3, doc. 1, pp. 3-7]. The price indicates a major transaction, while the legal form of the land as milk-i khalis suggests a privileged private estate. The document also states that the purchased lands were cultivated, irrigated and fit for agriculture. This evidence is important because it links Yalangtush's early rise to the acquisition of productive land in the Samarqand region rather than to political office alone.

Document 2, a hukmnama of Imamquli Khan issued not earlier than February 1611, confirms the fiscal status of lands purchased by Yalangtush-biy in Samarqand tumans. According to the summary in the publication, two-thirds of the lands refused by him were returned to the treasury, while the remaining third became an exempted estate [3, doc. 2, pp. 8-9]. This decree is source-critically significant for two reasons. First, it shows the role of the khan in legitimizing private landholding and tax privilege. Secondly, it demonstrates that Yalangtush's property rights were not merely customary but were incorporated into the documentary and fiscal practice of the state.

Document 3, dated 7 July 1621, concerns a hukmnama confirming tax exemption for a privileged estate purchased for money in the locality of Nahri Haydar in the Samarqand tuman of Anhor [3, doc. 3, pp. 10-12]. This document is useful for locating Yalangtush's interests in the irrigated zones of Samarqand, where access to water and exemption from fiscal burdens were decisive elements of property value. Document 6 is even more explicit in showing scale. Dated between 23 February and 23 March 1631, it records Yalangtush-biy's purchase from Muhammadquli Chuhra-aqasi, son of Gulbed-biy, of 1,100 tanabs of tax-exempt land in Tezakkent of the Kesh/Shahrisabz region for 52,500 tangas [3, doc. 6, pp. 24-28]. The amount is several times larger than the 1606 transaction and suggests a systematic strategy of territorial accumulation.

Document 13, dated 15 February-15 March 1686, is an act establishing the boundaries of the waqf lands of Yalangtush-biy in the locality of Hinduvon in the Samarqand tuman of Shovdor [3, doc. 13, pp. 65-68]. Since the date is later than Yalangtush's lifetime, it is particularly valuable for understanding the institutional durability of his estate. The document indicates that lands associated with him continued to function as waqf property and required formal boundary definition. The introductory study further mentions a waqf deed, not included in the edition, made by Yalangtush-biy in favor of the Sherdor and Tillakori madrasas. According to that deed, waqf lands were located in numerous localities of Samarqand and its surrounding tumans, including Burbechi, Karoyaghuch, Alhasan-teppa, Oq-teppa, Nahri Haydar, Oq Muhammad-soy, Ataliq-qishlaq, Pakhlavonhushi, Karasu, Oymobod, Argunshah, Bogurtak, Dahan Hinduvon, Khoja Ganchola, Hamozgoh, Qavola, Mavoliyen, Dashtak and Muhammadjan. In one waqf deed alone, at least twenty-six private landholdings were converted into endowment property [3, pp. X-XI].

Table 1 – Archival acts connected with Yalangtush-biy's landholding and waqf property

Date and type	Object and place	Legal/economic data	Archive/edition	Source-study value
12 February 1606, purchase deed	Estate in Yaramtugh, Ufarinkent, Samarqand tuman	Purchased by Yalangtush-biy from Oy Begim for 4,300 silver tangas; described as irrigated and cultivated milk-i khalis	TsGIA UzSSR, f. 323, no. 1197/7; [3, doc. 1]	Earliest dated evidence for the formation of his Samarqand land base
No earlier than February 1611, hukmnama	Lands purchased in Samarqand tumans	Imamquli Khan confirmed tax exemption; one-third remained as an exempted estate	TsGIA UzSSR, f. 323, no. 1197/5; [3, doc. 2]	Shows state recognition of his fiscal privileges
7 July 1621, hukmnama	Nahri Haydar, Anhor tuman	Confirms tax exemption for a purchased privileged estate	TsGIA UzSSR, f. 323, no. 1197/1; [3, doc. 3]	Links land value to irrigation and exemption from fiscal burdens
23 February-23 March 1631, purchase deed	1,100 tanabs in Tezakkent, Kesh/Shahrisabz region	Purchased for 52,500 tangas from Muhammadquli Chuhraqasi, son of Gulbed-biy	IIVUz, f. Cheklar, doc. no. 42; [3, doc. 6]	Evidence of large-scale accumulation outside Samarqand proper
15 February-15 March 1686, boundary act	Waqf lands in Hinduvon, Shovdor tuman	Defines boundaries of Yalangtush-biy's waqf lands	TsGIA UzSSR, f. 323, no. 1197/2; [3, doc. 13]	Shows the posthumous institutional durability of his waqf property

3.3. Architectural Patronage and the Economic Base of Power

The archival evidence allows a more precise interpretation of Yalangtush Bahadur's architectural patronage. Samariya records that the Sherdor madrasa was built in 1028/1618 opposite the Ulugh Beg madrasa and that the Tillakori madrasa was constructed in 1051/1641, functioning not only as a madrasa but also as a congregational mosque for the urban community of Samarqand [8, p. 27]. These descriptions have usually made Yalangtush famous as a patron of the Registan ensemble. However, when Samariya is read together with the waqf and land documents, the buildings appear not simply as pious or artistic projects but as institutions supported by a substantial agrarian endowment.

In Islamic legal and social practice, a waqf was sustainable only when it had a revenue-producing base. The record of at least twenty-six lands attached to the Sherdor and Tillakori madrasas explains how two monumental institutions could be maintained. It also shows that architecture, piety and property were interdependent. Yalangtush's patronage was therefore an expression of both devotion and elite strategy: the endowment transformed private wealth into socially recognized religious and educational capital, while also preserving the name and prestige of the founder. The 1686 boundary act suggests that this institutional memory remained legally active after his death [3, doc. 13, pp. 65-68].

The same evidence helps explain how Yalangtush could maintain troops and participate in distant campaigns. A commander needed more than personal bravery: he needed revenue, clients, retainers, transport animals, access to water and ties with the population of agricultural districts.

The documents on land acquisition and exemption show the material basis for such capacity. In this sense, the archival acts support the narrative sources but also correct their perspective. Chronicles usually begin with campaigns and court decisions; the documents reveal the fiscal and agrarian infrastructure that made such campaigns possible.

3.4. Diplomatic and External Evidence

Safavid, Mughal and European evidence places Yalangtush in a wider interstate environment. Iskandarbek Munshi's *Tarikh-i alam-ara-yi Abbasi* reports events of 1610-1611 and later campaigns, including Yalangtush's movement toward Marv in 1614 with a large force, the occupation of the city and the subsequent withdrawal with booty after the approach of Safavid troops [9, pp. 1494-1495]. Muhammad Ma'sum Isfahani's *Khulasat al-siyar* and Muhammad Yusuf Valeh Isfahani's *Khuld-i barin* record later conflicts connected with Maruchaq, Herat, Mashhad and Marv, showing that Ashtarkhanid-Safavid relations were shaped by repeated pressure from the Transoxianan side as well as by counteraction from Iran [10; 11].

Mughal sources add another layer. The *Jahangirnama* states that in 1623 Yalangtush Bahadur built or fortified Chutur near Ghazna and entrusted it to his nephew, a measure connected with the extraction of tribute from local Hazara groups [12, pp. 423-424]. *Padshahnama* records diplomatic exchanges between Yalangtush and the court of Shah Jahan in 1638, including valuable gifts, and also notes complaints regarding unauthorized military action [13, pp. 91-94]. These accounts show the ambiguity of Yalangtush's position. He was useful as a mediator and frontier actor, but his independent initiatives could also become a problem for more centralized rulers.

Pietro Della Valle's travel notes, referring to events of 1621, associate Yalangtush's military-political position with the strategic zones of Ghur and Garchistan [14, pp. 460-461]. Although travel accounts must be used cautiously, they are useful as external testimony to the perception of his power outside the immediate courtly environment of Bukhara and Balkh. Taken together, these sources show that Yalangtush Bahadur was embedded in several overlapping political spaces: Samarqand and the Zarafshan valley, Balkh and northern Afghanistan, the Safavid frontier, the Mughal sphere and the Dasht-i Qipchaq network.

3.5. Source-Critical Synthesis

Each group of sources has its own limitations. Court chronicles tend to magnify military success, to explain politics through the actions of rulers and commanders, and to compress social processes into episodic events. Hagiographic texts emphasize relations with saints, khojas and pious figures. Diplomatic and external sources are often shaped by the perspective of rival courts. Archival acts, for their part, usually do not narrate events; they record transactions, rights, boundaries, witnesses and fiscal formulae. Their value lies precisely in this practical character. They preserve the administrative language through which power and property were recognized.

The comparison of these sources leads to three main results. First, Yalangtush Bahadur's political authority was anchored in Samarqand but extended through wider military and diplomatic networks. Secondly, his wealth was not an abstract reputation; it can be traced through dated transactions, large payments in tangas, measured land units and formally protected tax exemptions. Thirdly, his architectural activity becomes more intelligible when the waqf base is examined. The Sherdor and Tillakori madrasas were not isolated monuments but the visible expression of an economic system that included land, water, legal privilege and religious endowment. V. L. Vyatkin's notes on Samarqand historical geography, which mention additional Yalangtush land documents such as mortgage acts of 1630-1643 and a deed to his descendants, also indicate that the extant published material is only part of a larger documentary complex [15].

Conclusion

The enriched source study of Amir Nizam al-Din Yalangtush Bahadur demonstrates that his historical image must be reconstructed through the interaction of narrative, diplomatic and archival evidence. Chronicles such as *Musakhkhir al-bilad*, *Bahr al-asrar*, *Tarikh-i Qipchaqkhani* and *Tarikh-i Muqimkhani* establish his role as commander, ataliq, negotiator and influential amir. *Samariya* preserves the memory of his architectural patronage in Samarqand. Safavid, Mughal and

European testimonies show his significance in interstate and frontier politics. However, the archival documents give the strongest basis for explaining the material foundations of his power.

The land-purchase deeds, hukmnamas and waqf-related acts prove that Yalangtush-biy accumulated large irrigated estates, secured fiscal privileges and transformed part of this property into endowments serving major institutions in Samarqand. These documents also demonstrate that state recognition, tax exemption and boundary definition were essential mechanisms by which elite property was stabilized. Therefore, Yalangtush Bahadur should be understood not only as a military hero or architectural patron, but as a regional magnate whose authority was produced through the combination of land, law, water, piety and military service. Further research should focus on locating and publishing additional documents mentioned by Vyatkin and comparing them with manuscript copies preserved in Uzbek archival and manuscript collections.

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