

AMIR TEMUR AND BOYAZID YILDIRIM CONFLICT: THE BATTLE OF ANQARA

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ANNOTATION: On July 20, 1402, one of the most terrible battles of the century took place near the city of Ankara, located in the territory of the current state of Turkey. The armies of the two great states of the time - the Ottoman Empire and the Timurid Empire - clashed here. Key words: 1402, "Battle of Ankara", Ottomans, Golden Horde.

In the 15th century, two great Turkic states appeared on the stage of history in Asia. The Ottoman state founded by Osman I, considered the successor of the great Seljuks in the West, strengthened its rule in Asia Minor and the Balkan Peninsula. The rise of the Sultanate was very rapid and alarmed European and Byzantine rulers. Sultan Bayazid I was named Yildirim (Lightning) because of his decisive victory over the Karakhanids in Serbia and Bulgaria. The Sultan's siege of Constantinople, the capital of Byzantium, shook the entire Christian world. During this period, after the Mongol invasion of Central Asia, a new power was established - the Timurid state led by Amir Temur. Amir Temur, who was glorified as Sahibqiran, defeated one of the most powerful states of that time, Tokhtamysh Khan, the Golden Horde Khanate, and after his attack, this huge state practically disintegrated. As a result of Amir Temur's conquest of Georgia and Syria, the borders of the two great Turkic states directly intersected.

Amir Timur sent an ambassador to Sultan Bayezid I Yildirim when he was starting the campaign of the Golden Horde and offered to act together. The emir, who followed the rules of Eastern etiquette, hailed the Sultan as "the sword of God, who protects Islam from outsiders." Amir wanted to organize an attack on the Golden Horde by the Ottomans from the Balkans, and he wanted to organize an attack from the Caucasus, but Sultan Bayezid I sent a rude and sharp reply to Amir Temur. Further exchanges of letters will also end in this way.

After defeating the Golden Horde and the Mamluks, Amir Temur knew that his next opponent would be Bayazid I. Kara Yusuf, who waged a war against Sahibqiran, sought refuge in the palace of Bayazid I, and severed the last threads of the relationship. Amir Temur asked the sultan to hand over Kara Yusuf to him. Having received a refusal, Amir Temur decided to start marching towards the Ottoman Empire in 1402.

The armies of the two great leaders of the Islamic and Turkish world, the most powerful rulers of their time, Sahibqiron Amir Temur and Bayazid Yildirim (Yashinchaqnar) clashed on the slopes of Mount Stella one morning in June 1402. The battle was fought for the city of Ankara, which was besieged by Timur...

By the end of the 14th century, the Sultan of the Ottoman Turks, Bayazid Yildirim, conquered the vast territories of the Balkans and Asia Minor and began to own a vast kingdom.

At the same time that Bayezid was expanding his kingdom, Amir Temur founded his huge kingdom in Central Asia. They were great rulers of their time, representatives of a brotherly nation and a single religion. Nothing could prevent the establishment of mutual respect and friendly relations between the two leaders. But the judgment of the Creator was different.

It is known that Temur wrote to Bayazid several times before he met him on the battlefield and received a reply. In each of his letters, Timur urged the Ottoman sultan to conduct a thoughtful

policy. Both rulers emphasized that they represent the same religion and brotherly nation, that Timur's enemies, who were taken under Bayezid's protection, should be returned to him, and that friendly relations between the two powerful countries should be established. However, the Ottoman sultan, who at first wrote favorable comments to Timur's thoughts, in his last letters sent rude and offensive responses against Timur.

One of the main mistakes that led to the downfall of Sultan Bayazid was his invasion of Erzinjan territory ruled by Timur's subordinate Kara Yusuf. Angry at this situation, Temur sent an ambassador to Bayazid and demanded an apology from him. But the arrogant and self-confident Sultan Bayazid gave an insulting answer to the powerful Temur. Bayazid violated all the boundaries of diplomatic correspondence with his threatening letters.

Mounted on the horse of anger, Temur immediately ordered to march on the Ottomans. Soon, Sahibgiron's army invaded the territories of Asia Minor. The first battle took place in 1399 near the city of Sivas. In this battle, Bayazid's son Suleiman Timur's army clashed with units, and Sivas was conquered.

Bayazid waited for Timur's army 150 kilometers west of Sivas, in a forest and a mountainside that was inconvenient for cavalry. Sahibqiran refused to fight there with the Ottoman army and led his army around the right bank of the Qizil River, to the rear of Bayezid's army, and besieged Ankara from the rear. The Ottomans were forced to retreat and fight in unfavorable conditions. The battle for Ankara began in the morning of June 1402, near Mount Stella, with the attack of Sultan Bayezid's army.

More than 200,000 fighters from both sides took part in the battle. The Ottomans attacked from the right flank of Amir Temur's army and tried to cut off his main forces from the reserves by going to his rear. But this attack was repulsed by Temur's cavalry unit. After that, Timur's right wing army launched a continuous counterattack, separating the main Ottoman forces from the reserves and encircling them. Timur's central and left wing units attacked and crushed both wings of the sultan's army. Bayazid's sara and Janissary soldiers in the center were also destroyed. The surviving soldiers and generals of Sultan Bayazid began to flee in all directions. All three Ottoman princes chose to leave their fathers and flee.

Bayazid's loyal generals advised the sultan that the fate of the battle was decided and that he should flee. However, the Sultan refused to flee. Sultan Bayazid, who was surrounded by the enemy, fought fiercely with the enemy until midnight. In the middle of the night, his horse fell and Timur's warriors captured Bayazid Yildirim. The relentless and brutal battle ended with the defeat of the Ottoman Turks. The state of the Ottoman Turks was completely under the control of Amir Temur. Two-thirds of Bayezid's army was destroyed on the battlefield. Sahibgiron lost one-eighth of his army.

The proud Bayazid, who could not bear the captivity, died soon after. Amir Temur Bayazid divided his kingdom between his sons and returned.

This battle for Ankara was the largest clash of two armies of its time. This battle was a clash between two Turkic peoples. As a result of the battle, European countries were freed from the threat of the growing Ottoman Turks and had the opportunity to recover. The defeat of Bayazid Yildirim delayed the conquest of Constantinople (now Istanbul) by the Ottomans by 50 years.

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