# PRINCE OF AFGHANISTAN ISAK KHAN ORIENTALIST D.N. IN THE INTERPRETATION OF LOGOPHET

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#### Abstract

In this article, the Orientalist scientist D.N. Logofet cited his reflections on the Afghan Prince Iskhakhan in his works, revealing aspects of Iskhakhan's life in Turkestan.

**Keywords**: Afghan, Prince, Muhajiril, Turkestan, Logofet, Isak Khan, Sheralikhan, Amir, Dostmuhammad Khan, Barakzoi, Pashtun, Bukhara Emirate.

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### Introduction

A Russian Orientalist who lived in Turkestan and the Bukhara Emirate for many years, imperial army colonel D.N. Logofet wrote dozens of books and articles from the late 19th and early 20th centuries. His work presents interesting facts concerning the Russian-English conflict on the issue of Central Asia and Afghanistan, the history of the emirate of Bukhara, Bukhara-Afghanistan, the general governorship of Turkestan and Afghan relations. At the end of the 19th century, internal conflict and quarrels between the descendants of Dostmuhammad Khan's reign (1826-1838 BC) over the succession to the throne intensified in Afghanistan. His son Sheralikhan succeeded to the Afghan throne in 1863-1879, and was forced to flee overseas after the 2nd English Afghan war. Sheralikhan belonged to the barakzoy tribe of Afghans, and this tribe had won the throne of Afghanistan by defeating davogar abdali, the tribe of ghilzoy, in a struggle with the tribes of Afghanistan. Abdurahman (1844-1901), the son of Afzal Khan, the eldest child of Dostmuhammad Khan, who took refuge in the general governorship of Turkestan (1879-1901) during the years of his tenure as Emir of Afghanistan, the future princes, 10,000 Ja'fari tribesmen, fled to Turkestan. The Kavarzor (Afghan Garden-Garden Afghan) neighborhood of Samarkand was settled by Afghan princes and their families who fled Afghanistan for the purpose of keeping their lives [1].

D.N. Logofet: "I had to meet and communicate with many Afghans. Isak Khan, the son of the late Afghan emir, lives in Samarkand. In fact, this prince, who was the real heir to the throne of the Emirate, fled to Russia after Afzal Khan's son Abdurrahman took over the throne. Isakhan was not only given shelter but also sponsored. He has been living in Samarkand for a long time, and Isak Khan is given a large allowance, if I am not mistaken, 12,000 rubles a year [2].

Logofet D.N. While talking with Isak Khan and other Afghan officials, he noted that they call themselves the descendants of Afghani, the son of Prophet Solomon (the Jewish prophet), and that they link their genealogy to the prophet. Isak Khan and his son Ismail Khan, and 100 other people who were related to him lived in Samarkand. The Russian government has set allowances from 100 to 1,000 rubles for all of them. Afghans living in the territories belonging to Russia considered Isak Khan to be the legitimate heir to the throne, and Abdurahman and his successor Habibullah Khan (1901-1919) were considered usurper (false) emirs. Isak Khan and his son, Ismail Khan were surrounded by high-ranking Afghan citizens who were dissatisfied with Habibullah Khan [3].

Logofet D.N. One of the Afghan khans, who I met through the landlord of Sarai (a border town in Eastern Bukhara), answered questions in the conversation: "I left Afghanistan because Abdurrahman was an illegal king. My father took an oath to serve Sherali Khan and called on me to respect this famous person. With the death of Sherali Khan, Abdurrahman took the throne, the legitimate owner of the throne, Isak Khan, fled to Russia. It was hard for us to admit it, but we believed that Isaac Khan would come to the throne one day. From Samarkand, this prince sent many letters to people like us. We read these letters and expressed our displeasure. Without separating our heads from our bodies in Kabul, I escaped from Afghanistan to Russia and became a squadron commander, Russians are good people. I am living well in the lands of Ulug' Akpodsha" [4] - in the dialogue.

So, not only prince Isak Khan, but also khans and beks who were in opposition to Abdurahman were forced to emigrate to Turkestan or fled to the territories belonging to Russia. D.N. Logofet, speaking to representatives of the upper class and beggars, said that they supported Habibullah Khan, who came to the throne after Abdurrahman, in the south of Afghanistan, but there was strong opposition to him in the border regions of Northern Afghanistan and India. The fact that Habibullah Khan Abdurrahman was born from a captive Tajik wife also increased the number of people who proved Isak Khan's accession to the throne.

In northern Afghanistan, the Russian government hoped from Isak Khan and his son Ismail Khan would gather forces against Abdurahman and united around them. Abdurahman attacked the territories of Turkistan belonging to Russia.

The following was stated about Isak Khan's personality and characteristics in an interview with Afghan high circles.

Isak Khan was a capable, knowledgeable and broad-minded person. He had the potential of eloquence and recited the Holy Qur'an in a melodious voice. He was familiar with Persian poetry and literature, and memorized their poems. In addition to being a scholar of sharia, kalam, and jurisprudence, Isak Khan also studied the history of Afghanistan and Eastern countries. His son Ismail Khan served in the Russian army and was awarded several times for his military skills[5].

According to some sources, Iskanderbek, a relative of Isak Khan from the Afghan princes, served in the Russian army with 300 Afghan fighters. Iskandarbek was the grandson of Dostmuhammad Khan on his mother's side. He was awarded several times with the awards of the Russian army for bravery in battles. However, the Russian command looked down on him because he was a child of the East[6].

As for Isak Khan, even at the age of 65, this person was full of strength, had a mature body, was

determined in his eyes, brave and had kept his military skills well. If he was 65 years old in 1909, he was born approximately in 1844-1845. After the death of Abdurahman (1901), the begs of Northern Afghanistan swore an oath to him. In 1804, Isak Khan, who hoped to take the throne even during Habibullah Khan's time, sent one of his relatives, Sardar Majid Khan, to Afghanistan. However, Sardar Majid Khan and his men were stopped and taken into account by the Russian border guards. After learning about this incident, Habibullah Khan persecuted and executed hundreds of people in the north of Afghanistan who were sympathetic to Isak Khan[7].

D.N. Logofet notes that the Russian diplomacy made a mistake in this regard and did not support the pro-Russian forces in the politics of Afghanistan. At one time Isak Khan's father sent a battalion of troops and a garrison of Termiz from Tashkent to the Amudarya to keep Sheralikhon on the throne, but the fact that it was impossible to keep Sheralikhon on the throne did not serve as a lesson [8], D.N. Logophet.

Isak Khan did not give up his dream and desire to occupy the throne of Afghanistan until the end of his life, and he waited for help and support from the government of the Russian Empire. However, despite being the legitimate heir to the throne and having many supporters and well-wishers in Afghanistan, he could not achieve his goal. The strict policy of Amir Abdurrahman in Afghanistan and his ruthless attitude towards his opponents did not allow him to achieve this goal. During the reign of Amir Abdurrahman, thousands of Pashtuns from the warlike Ghilzai tribe were moved to the northern provinces of Afghanistan, which were sympathetic to Isak Khan, and the policy of "Pashtunization" was carried out. More than 18 thousand princes, officials, soldiers, intellectuals were sentenced to emigration and piracy. During the years of Habibullah Khan's rule (1901-1919), some of the emigrants were allowed to return to the country, but princes who claimed the throne, like Isak Khan, remained forever in Russian Turkestan and went abroad to the eternal world.

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