

Role of Blmyan clan in revival of Iranian identity

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Abstract: Period of Samanids dynasty is of the brightest period of Iranian culture. The Samanids were the first Iranian dynasty that had tried in revival and extension of Persian language. Of their most important cultural effective elements in Iran history was the salient presence of Iranian clan such as Jihanids and Blmyans in Samanids dynasty system. Blmyan clan have done magnificent actions in revival of Persian language by having two outstanding faces at Samanids ministry position and being supported by wise men.

Key words: *Samanids; Blmyan clan; Iranian identity*

1. Introduction

Samanids have been reign since very beginning of third century A.H. in Beyond the River. Their social and political situations were suitable fields for the activity of different Iranian groups in revival of Iranian identity.

Iranian clans in Samanids period played an important role in reign of their goals and they were caused a grand scientific and cultural movement by handling the Samanids government bureaucracy. The most known such clans was Blmyans. Considering Persian literature and culture, Blmyans' actions in revival of Iranian identity were noticeable and outstanding. This paper tries to highlight the role of Samanids period.

2. Ministry in Samanids period

In Islam minister is a man who can be trusted and be consulted. Holy prophet, Mohammad, peace be upon him said, "God will assign a trusted minister for a premier whom he wills justly in order to remind him whenever he forgets and is helped in premier's reminder (Kattani, 27). The power and position of ministry in different periods have not been the same. A minister besides his financial duties was responsible for army tasks and according to Khandmir, "Ranging on army in wars was on the minister responsibility" (Khandmir, 1973). Minister most of the time were chosen among clans who were experienced in reign and of course, merit and being talented were the most important reasons of reign brokers, promotion.

Samanids reign system as an efficient system became a specific role model for other dynasties after it until ninth century A.H (Ghadiani, 2005). Selecting a minister was on Samanids premier responsibility but choosing or dismissal of a minister

had been determined by the army influential officers since governing King Jalil in Nuh ibn Nasr period (Forouzani, 2002).

Samanid system had taken from Bagdad reign system which itself has taken from Iran's ancient kings traditions (Faray, 1970). It can be said that Samanids is the first reign taken its bureaucracy system from Bagdad in Arabic and then translated to Persian language (Tonekaboni, 2004).

3. Blmyan clan

Blmyan clan is one of the famous Iranian clans that played an important role in blossoming of both Iranian culture and literature in Samanids era. The most specific characteristic of Samanids' ministers, considering Blmyan clan was also of Samanids' ministers, were overlooked on management and scribing (Jafarian, 1999).

Abulfazl Mohamad ibn Abdullah the Blmyan was one of Nasr ibn Ahmad's ministers after Jihani. Abulfazl the Blmyan was a wise man educated by great masters and was mastered in discourse and religious and jurisprudence (Nafisi, 1969). He was very experienced in official and political affairs and he, too, translated Kalila- Dimna from Arabic to Persian. He encouraged Roodaki to write the book poetically (Safa, 1997). Abulfazl the Blmyan was also skilled in Politics and had an especial view on poets and he used to give many different gifts to them. Therefore, his merits are quoted in different stories. Abu Ali the Blmyan is another individual became minister at the end of Abdulmalik dynasty and stayed on his position even after the dynasty- in Mansour ibn Nuh era. One of his precious works is the translation of history of Tabari. Abu Ali the Blmyan, in his book, is not committed to whatever is quoted in History of Tabari and the translation has some changes when it is needed. His fluency on Persian and Arabic literature is very obvious in his book. On the other hand, simple and fluent verses of the book

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are of its advantages. In total, Abu AliMohamad the Blmyan became minister in Smanids era and on his position, he developed the Persian culture and literacy.

4. Conclusion

It seems that the Blmyan clan, in continuation of Jihanid clan's cultural movement and the time of Samanids' progresses, used the historical opportunity well and considering the tribal- cultural roots, they provided a scientific and wise- raising space. Blmyan clan has tried so much in order to extend the Iranian original culture. Such clan is known as one of the frontiers for defending the Persian thought and language.

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