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## THE CAMPAIGN OF THE RULER OF THE GOLDEN HORDE STATE BATU KHAN AND HIS RELATIONS WITH THE CHANGE ULUS

### Abstract

Undoubtedly, Batu, the Khan of the Golden Horde State established in the Dasht-i Kipchak region, stands out as one of the most prominent political figures of the 13<sup>th</sup> century. His profound influence on the history of Eurasia and the Eastern European nations cannot be overstated. He expanded the borders of the state he ruled by bringing together various tribes in Dasht-i Kipchak. He continued the development of the Golden Horde State. He holds the distinction of being the pioneer in the Chinggis to family to forge international alliances with other countries, earning him the esteemed title of "Mister Khan" in the annals of history. Moreover, it determined the politics of the state on the Eurasian continent. The political state structure he established with the power he gained for years continued to exist his death. Therefore, Batu is not only a ruler, but also a state founder, diplomat and commander. At the same time, he was engaged in public social issues in Karakorum. Because after the death of Chinggis Khan and Ogeday Khan, justice was carried out to Batu Khan (the eldest of Chinghis Khan's generation). He also intervened in the situation between the generations of Chagatay in Transoxiana (Maverannahra).

Jochi Khan is famous for being the first commander to conquer Central Asia and also for having many sons. According to some sources, Jochi had around forty sons. He was officially accepted as the heir after Orda Khan. However, after the death of Jochi Khan, his son Sayin Khan (1227-1256) founded the Golden Horde State within the framework of the steppes extending around the Itil River, the Carpathian Mountains and the Danube River and was recognized as a khan (1976, p 49). But the question arises as to why Batu is his father's heir and not Orda. In the article, opinions related to this concept will be differentiated.

**Key words:** Batu khan, Chagatay, Golden horde state, Mongol empire, Europe campaign, Ilkhanid

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## АЛТЫН ОРДА МЕМЛЕКЕТІНІҢ БИЛЕУШІСІ БАТЫЙ ХАННЫҢ ЖОРЫҒЫ ЖӘНЕ ОНЫҢ ШАҒАТАЙ ҰЛЫСЫМЕН ҚАТЫНАСТАРЫ

### Аннотация

Дешті Қыпшақ өңірінде құрылған Алтын Орда мемлекетінің ханы Батый Еуразия мен Шығыс Еуропа елдерінің тарихында маңызды рөл атқарған XIII ғасырдағы жетекші саяси қайраткерлердің бірі екені даусыз. Ол Дешті Қыпшақтағы түрлі тайпалардың басын қосып, өзі басқарған мемлекеттің шекарасын кеңейтті. Ол атасы Шыңғыс ханның саяси, сауда, экономикалық көзқарастарын жалғастырып, Алтын Орда мемлекетін дамытуға күш салды. Сонымен қатар, ол Шыңғыс әулетінен басқа елдермен дипломатиялық қарым-қатынас орнатқан тұңғыш адам және тарих беттерінде «Хан мырза» деген атпен танылды. Оның үстіне Еуразия континентіндегі мемлекеттердің саясатын анықтады. Ол жылдар бойы жинаған билікпен құрған саяси мемлекеттік құрылымы, қайтыс болғаннан кейін де өмір сүрді. Сондықтан Батый билеуші ғана емес, мемлекетті құрушы, дипломат және қолбасшы болып табылады. Сонымен қатар Қарақорымдағы қоғамдық әлеуметтік мәселелермен де араласып

отырған. Өйткені Шыңғыс хан және Үгедей хан өлгеннен кейінгі кезеңде Батый хан Үлкен Аға (Шыңғыс ұрпағының үлкені) ұстанымы-мен төрелігін жүргізген. Мәуереннахрдағы Шағатай ұрпақтары арасындағы түрлі жағдайларға да араласып отырған.

Жошы хан Орта Азияны жаулап алған алғашқы қолбасшы болуымен, сондай-ақ көптеген ұлдарымен танымал. Кейбір деректер бойынша, Жошының қырыққа жуық ұлы болған. Орда Ежен ресми түрде Жошы ханнан кейін таққа мұрагер болып қабылдануы керек еді. Алайда Жошы хан қайтыс болғаннан кейін оның екенші ұлы Сайын хан (1227-1256) Еділ өзенінің төңірегінде жатқан топырақтарды біріктіру аясында Алтын Орда мемлекетінің негізін қалады. Яғни, Карпат таулары мен Дунай өзені маңында хан болып танылды. Бірақ неге Орда емес, Батый әкесінің мұрагері деген сұрақ туындайды. Мақаланың ішінде бұл түсінікке қатысты ойпікірлер сараланатын болады.

**Кілт сөздер:** Бату хан, Шағатай, Алтын орда мемлекеті, Монғол империясы, Еуропа жорығы, Ильханидтер

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## **ПОХОД ПРАВИТЕЛЯ ЗОЛОТООРДЫНСКОГО ГОСУДАРСТВА БАТЫЙ ХАНА И ЕГО ОТНОШЕНИЯ С ЧАГАТАЙСКИМ УЛУСОМ**

### *Аннотация*

Батый Хан Золотоордынского государства, основанного в районе Дашт-и Кипшака, несомненно, является одним из ведущих политических деятелей XIII века, сыгравшим важную роль в истории Евразии и стран Восточной Европы. Он расширил границы управляемого им государства, объединив в Дашт-и Кипшаке различные племена. Он продолжил политические, торговые и экономические взгляды своего деда Чингисхана и приложил усилия к развитию Золотоордынского государства. Кроме того, он был первым членом семьи Чингисхана, установившим дипломатические отношения с другими странами и был известен на страницах истории как «Господин Хан». Более того, оно определяло политику государств Евразийского континента. Политическая государственная структура, которую он установил с помощью власти, которую он приобретал в течение многих лет, продолжала существовать после его смерти. Поэтому Батый не только правитель, но и основатель государства, дипломат и полководец. В то же время он занимался общественными социальными вопросами Каракорума. Потому что после смерти Чингисхана и Угэдэй-хана правосудие осуществлял Батый-хан-ага (старший из поколения Чингисхана). Он также вмешался в ситуацию между поколениями Шагатаев и Мавераннахра.

Джучи Хан известен тем, что был первым полководцем, завоевавшим Среднюю Азию, а также тем, что у него было много сыновей. По некоторым данным, у Джучи было около сорока сыновей. Он был официально признан наследником Орда Эджен-Хана. Однако после смерти Джучи хана его сын Сайын-хан (1227-1256) основал золотоордынское государство в пределах степей, простирающихся вокруг реки Итиль, Карапаты и реку Дунай и был признан ханом (1976, с. 49). Но возникает вопрос, почему наследником отца является Батый, а не Орда. В статье будут дифференцированы мнения, связанные с данным понятием.

**Ключевые слова:** Батый хан, Шагатай, Золотоордынское государство, Монгольская империя, Европейский поход, Ильханиды

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**Introduction.** As we delve into the latest contemporary sources, we encounter a range of perspectives regarding the founder of the Golden Horde and its khans. According to medieval historiographical tradition, Orda, motivated by a profound affection for his younger brother, willingly renounced his own claims in favor of Jochi Ulus's Batu. However, it is suggested that certain family members from Karakorum, particularly Chinggis Khan's senior wife, Borte, might have played a crucial role in influencing his decision. Since both Orda and Batu descended from Borte's eldest son, Jochi, Batu was also the son of Uki-hatun, Borte's grandson. In

other words, Batu's connection with Borte was closer than Orda's, making it plausible that Batu had a stronger influence over her. This included their relatives from the Kungrat clan [1, p.46-52]. At the age of eighteen, Batu Khan headed the largest nation of the Mongol Empire and was forced to participate in state politics. In August 1227, Batu lost his strongest support, as Chinggis Khan himself died six months after Jochi's death. The situation in the Empire began to shift not in favor of Batu but in favor of his uncles, Chagatay and Ogeday.

**Objective.** Firstly, his uncles Chagatay and Ogeday stated that his brother (Jochi Han) had acquired too much property and decided to reconsider the borders of the Jochi Nation. The fact that the Central Asian lands belonged to Jochi before the 1230s and that they fell into the hands of Chagatay, who came to power later, and Siberian property came under the control of Ogeday and his children, is evidence for this [2, p. 45], [3, p. 20]. Moreover, Chinggis Khan's sons held little trust in Batu. When Ogeday was chosen as the new Mongol Khan at the Congress in 1229, according to medieval sources, it is believed that Batu chose not to return to his nation and instead remained by his uncle's side. He stayed in the Khan palace in Mongolia for a while and fought against the Chinese Empire Szin with Ogeday in 1230-1234. At the same time, the struggle began in the Itil (Volga) and Ural regions, which were thought to be a part of the Jochi Nation, under the command of Commander Subitay, a distinguished assistant of Chinggis Khan, and Noyon Kugudey. However, Batu did not participate in these events, on the contrary, he preferred to be with his uncle [4, p. 98]. Batu spending a few years next to Ogeday brought positive results for him. During this time, the Mongol Khan became convinced of the nephew's loyalty and tolerance and began to show his trust in him. Furthermore, Batu was given the right to claim part of the conquered territories for his participation in the war against China. At the Congress held in 1235, the Jochi were given the Pinyanfu district in the Shanxi province, and the revenues were ensured to go to their treasury [5, p. 172].

**Research materials and methods.** At the same Congress, it was decided to go on an expedition to the West, which was influential in Batu's life and the history of the Jochi Nation. The lands starting from the Ural and Volga (Itil) regions and extending to the sea should have been a part of the state ruled by Batu. Batu was given these regions as a form of compensation after the death of Chinggis Khan, to make up for the loss of the lands belonging to the Jochi Nation that were captured by Chagatay and Ogeday. However, the expansion of the Mongol Empire was declared a common "family move" by all of Chinggis Khan's descendants: Sefere Batu and his three brothers (Orda, Shiban, Tangut), along with Ogeday's sons Guyuk and Kadan, Chagatay's son Baydar and his grandson Buri, Toluy's sons Mongke and Bujek, and Chinggis Khan's youngest son Kulkan were attending [6, p. 37]. Even though Batu was trusted by his uncles, this time they chose not to entrust him with it. According to Eastern sources, the sons of Chinggis made secret moves from the ruler of Jochi Ulus. In the year 1236, the powerful armies led by the eleven grandsons of Chinggis Khan triumphantly marched into Volga Bulgaria, where they achieved complete and overwhelming victory in the autumn of 1237. Initially, some local rulers did not resist the first followers of Chinggis Khan, but later they revolted against them [6, p. 38]. After the rebellion was suppressed, direct legal rule of the Mongols was established in the Volga (Itil) region. Later, Itil Bulgar's region became the center of the Golden Horde. In other words, the foundations of the state's trade and administrative infrastructure were developed in the Palace. During the same period, Chinggis Khan's war with the Kipchak tribes in the mid- 1210s was finally concluded.

Between December 1237 and April 1238, Mongol soldiers fought in North-Eastern Russia. During this time, the main provinces of the region – Muromo-Ryazan and Vladimir-Suzdal – were defeated. Therefore, other cities such as Ryazan, Kolomna, Moscow, Tver, Vladimir, Suzdal were also destroyed. Large and rich cities such as Uglich and Rostov sought to surrender in order not to be discouraged. Grand Knyaz Vladimir Yuri Vsevolodovich did not support Ryazan and left the capital to his sons. At this moment, Vladimir Zalessky went north, where he set up a camp on the Sit river and gathered soldiers from his provinces to resist the Mongols. However, the soldiers of the Mongol commander Burunday were there before the troops were established. According to historical sources, there was a fierce battle on the Sit river on March 4, 1238. As a result, Russian troops were defeated and the Great Prince was captured and killed. Persian historian Rashid ad-Din did not write anything about the war process, only stating that the Mongols unexpectedly attacked the camp of Yuri Vsevolodovich, who was executed [7, p. 39]. In the spring of 1238, the Mongols under Batu's command reached the borders of the Novgorod lands and after a long siege captured Torcok. But after capturing Torcok, they immediately retreated. According to researchers, the main factor behind Batu Khan's retreat was the inability of the Mongol cavalry to progress further north due to the thaw. Batu Khan, however, was pleased that Novgorod did not rebel like the knyazs of Ryazan and Vladimir provinces. The final point of the "Russian" union in 1237-1238 was the capture of the city of Kozelka in the Chernigovsk province in May 1238. The small city held out for seven weeks. Thus, they lost their lives, including several Mongol soldiers and their commander, during the siege and attack. Undoubtedly, the Mongols suffered great losses in Russia during this period. For these reasons, Mongolian soldiers rested for about a year after a short but difficult conflict. However, Batu did not rest during

this process. First, his military commanders crushed the Kipchak rebellion in the southern Itil region. After Batu Khan returned from North-Eastern Russia, he sent a letter to the Mongol Khan Ogeday, complaining that some Chinggisids acted independently without showing any respect to him. In response, Ogeday Khan harshly warned his own son Guyuk, Chagatay's grandson Buri and Toluy's son Menggu [8, p. 194]. In some sources, it is stated that Menggu participated in the conflict in Southern Russia in 1239, but after 1238, Guyuk no longer participated in the Western expedition. During his expedition to the West, Batu was still confirmed as the supreme commander and other Chinggisids had to follow his orders [5, p. 233].

The second Mongolian campaign was organized Southern Russia between 1239 and 1241. The Mongols, after seizing a particular city, retreated to the southern Russian steppes. As a result, they captured cities like Chernigov and Southern Pereyaslav in 1239, followed by Chernigov, Kiev, and Galich in 1240, and later Galich and Vladimir-Volynsky in 1241. Some Soviet scholars argue that there is no justification for considering the capture of Kiev in December 1240 as the beginning of the Mongol-Tatar yoke in Russia [1, pp. 130-135]. Between 1241 and 1242, the Mongols launched a campaign into Eastern Europe. In March, they simultaneously invaded Poland, Hungary, and the Transylvania region, advancing in three separate columns. In early April, he won the two biggest cities of Europe, namely Legnitse in Poland on April 9 and Shajo in Hungary on April 11. After winning the victory, military operations in Poland were not as effective. The victory in Hungary ensured that the country was completely under Mongol control. In Hungarian historiography, the vents of the spring 1241-1242 very called "tatarjaras", that is, "tatarism". During this period, the western border of the Golden Horde state began to take shape. As a result of Batu's victories, the Western border of the Golden Horde included the Galitsko-Volynskoy region of Russia, some Balkan regions and many provinces of Eastern Europe (Bulgaria, Wallachia, Serbia, some parts of Hungary). Eastern European countries were dependent on Batu until the XIII-XIV centuries.

Following these impressive victories, the Mongol army's retreat from Hungary in the spring and summer of 1242 revealed many new views. Researchers suggest that Ogeday Khan died in December 1241 and Batu Khan retreated after receiving the news of his death [9, p.247]. In other words, in such cases, the Chinggisids should have stopped all war campaigns and attended the Congress in Mongolia to elect the new Khan. In other words, in such cases, the Chinggisids should have stopped all war campaigns and attended the Congress in Mongolia to elect the new Khan. For several centuries, Russian historian associate this situation with the liberation struggle of the Russian people against the Mongol soldiers [10, pp. 159-163]. Western researchers, on the other hand, believe that strong and invincible European soldiers stopped the Mongolian army on the German border. Most Western researchers, referring to medieval chronicle information, put forward the view that the small number of Mongol soldiers suddenly in the Roman Empire retreated after clashes with local soldiers [11, p. 106]. When we evaluate all these views, the real reason for the retreat may be that Batu Khan achieved his planned goals. Because the Mongols finally defeated their old enemies, the Kipchaks. However, the Hungarians were also punished for helping the Kipchaks. Secondly, when the Mongols reached the Hungarian border, they may have concluded that the remaining lands were not suitable for nomads. Therefore, it was pointless to conquer other lands. Therefore, the Mongols may have prioritized establishing diplomatic relations with other countries in order to expand their power and make it effective. For example, the continuous correspondence between Mongol rulers and European rulers during the 13<sup>th</sup> century provides solid proof of their well-established relationships.

In 1242, Batu Khan again emerged as a commander around the Itil river and completed his campaign. Batu Khan was renowned worldwide as a skilled administrator and diplomat, recognized for his military campaigns and strategic abilities. Between 1242 and 1256, he refrained from engaging in any major wars. Nevertheless, during this period, he successfully established an efficient governance system in the Volga and Ural regions. However, he was able to build state relations with the Seljuk Sultanate of Asia Minor, some parts of Iran, and Eastern European regions, together with the rulers of Russian provinces, Georgia and Armenia. The formation of other cities such as Ukeka, Kazan, Haci-Tarkhan in the Volga region, Solhat in Crimea and Hungarian in the North Caucasus, along with the Golden Horde capital Saray, under the name of Batu, is directly connected. He wanted some of the regions conquered by the Chinggisids during their campaigns to expand the Golden Horde territory to be transferred to them. For example, some nations in the South Russian steppes belonged to the grandchildren of Chinggis Khan, that is, Mauci, son of Chagatay, and Kadan, son of Ogeday [12, p. 72]. But most of the new conquered territories were dispersed among Jochi's descendants. The most essential nations were naturally distributed by the eldest of the Batu brothers, Ordu, Shiban, Tangut, Buval and their descendants, Tuga-Timur and others.

Batu, who is considered the founder of the Golden Horde, undoubtedly contributed greatly to the establishment of the administrative system and the development of the city infrastructure and economy. However, there is no reason to consider him as a separatist who strives for the independence of his own nation. He also never received the title of Khan. Throughout his reign, he closely linked his future with the Mongol Empire and played an active role in the political events that took place in the mid-13<sup>th</sup> century. Batu's vast lands

and countless soldiers were the key factors that enabled him to establish strong diplomatic ties with other nations and ascend to the position of the most influential figure in the Mongol Empire. After Ogeday's death, Batu supported his widow and temporary ruler Turakin in 1242-1246. Ogeday's widow was constantly able to stand against various candidates for the throne this situation was very beneficial for Cuci's heir. Therefore, an agreement was reached between Batu Khan and Turakina: that is, Turakina would not take control of the Golden Horde state from the Imperial side, and Batu Khan would not interfere with the events in Karakorum. But from now on, Batu Khan was accumulating influence and power to participate more in the political life of the Empire.

**Discussion.** At the Congress held in Mongolia in 1246, Ogeday's eldest son Guyuk was elected as the new Khan. During his campaign in the West, Batu Khan supported him, ignoring the incidents in which he constantly clashed with Guyuk, and ordered his brothers who went to Karakorum to support him. On the other hand, Guyuk Khan did not interfere with the internal administration of the Jochi Nation for a while. However, in order to strengthen his own authority Batu tried to limit his status. First, Guyuk Khan appointed two rulers for each state that was a vassal of the Golden Horde. One of the rulers was supported by Batu and the other was neutral. Thus, two grand princes were appointed in Kiev in Russia, Alexander Nevsky and his brother Andrei in Vladimir. In addition, two Georgian kings, Ulu David and his cousin David Narini, and two Seljuk brother sultans, Izz al-Din Kay-Kavus II and Rukn ad-Din Kilij-Arslan IV, were appointed for this situation [13, 56]. This decision adversely affected Batu's influence in the states of the Caucasus and Asia Minor. Additionally, Russia's control over its own territory weakened. Shortly after, Batu's governors were expelled from the lands in Iran that had been transferred to him by Ogedai. Following this, Guyuk Khan was unable to take any further hostile actions against Batu, as he provided no grounds for Batu, a shrewd politician, to retaliate. Moreover, Guyuk Khan faced numerous internal issues within the empire, preventing him from devoting his full attention to his rivalry with Batu. The Mongol Khan, angered by Batu's pretext for a personal meeting, declared before prominent commanders that he would take action against the Jochi Nation in 1248. He later justified this statement as a desire to meet with the leader of the Jochi Nation in a neutral region. However, scholars argue that Guyuk Khan was actually planning a military campaign against Batu. Guyuk Khan died under mysterious circumstances near the city of Samarkand [6, p. 121]. Some sources suggest that Batu was responsible for his death. Nevertheless, due to Guyuk's controversial actions during his reign, many of the Empire's political forces opposed him. As a result, his death was seen as a favorable outcome not only for Batu but also for several key figures in the empire.

Despite all this, it is considered that Batu gained the most from the death of the Mongol Khan. Batu was able to extend the Congress held to elect the new Khan. However, he approved Guyuk Khan's widow, Oghul-Qaimish, as the temporary ruler, whose ability to rule was insufficient compared to Turakina. Scholars believe Batu's actions were indifferent to Imperial affairs. Batu declined the proposal to become the Mongol Khan, stating that he already wielded sufficient power over the vast territories under his control [14, p. 16]. He understood that the status of the Golden Horde would be influenced by whoever assumed the position of Khan of the Mongol Empire. Therefore, he approached the process of selecting a new Khan with strategic intent. Following three years (1248-1251) of negotiations and intense debate, Batu nominated Tolui's eldest son, Mongke, as the next Khan. Mongke was a close ally of Batu, and his mother, Sorghaghtani-Beki, had been Batu's key supporter during the Guyuk-Turakina period. Consequently, Batu's brothers, Berke and Tuga-Timur (though some sources mention Berke and Batu's son Sartak), attended the 1251 kurultai with 20,000 soldiers, presenting the Golden Horde ruler's nomination to the assembly.

After Mongke's ascension to power, Batu's influence within the Mongol Empire reached its peak. He retained his role as the khan's co-ruler, serving as the head of the Chinggisid clan and leader of the empire's western wing. Interestingly, in Juvayni's "History of the World Conquerors," Batu is referred to as "kaan-aka", meaning "great khan." Additionally, some

Caucasian researchers note that he was also given the title "Father of the Khan" (similar to the Byzantine term "Vasileopator") in certain historical studies [15, p. 561]. These titles highlight that Mongke acknowledged Batu's seniority not only within the Chinggisid family but also within the imperial hierarchy. Historical records suggest that, following Mongke's rise to power, the rulers of Western states began addressing Batu directly, bypassing Karakorum. Batu also gave the merchants his own stones and labels. All of this further confirms that Batu held a special status comparable to that of a Khan. This is evident from the fact that only high-ranking officials or rulers had the authority to issue decrees (labels). However, Batu's new title did not signify that he was an independent ruler. His position remained significant within the structure of the Mongol Empire, and for this reason, it would be inaccurate to consider Jochi as the first Khan of the Golden Horde. The authority to issue labels was not an exclusive privilege of the Golden Horde rulers; rather, it was a right Batu possessed due to his unique position and advantages.

**The result.** Shortly after Mongke's election, Ogedai faced a plot devised by his allies and swiftly moved to suppress his political adversaries. During this period, he permitted Batu to exert pressure on certain members of the Chagatai and Eljigidei clans, who were nephews of Chinggis Khan [6, pp. 136-137]. In the same period in 1252, a major change of princes was made in Russia. Grand prince Andrey Yaroslavich was replaced by his older blood brother, Alexander Nevsky. In Russian works this event is called "Nevryuev's Army". Because an army of soldiers was sent under the command of commander Nevryuev to overthrow the grand prince Andrey Yaroslavich from his throne. The reason for all these events that took place in Russia was that grand prince Andrey Yaroslavich sided with the grandchildren of Guyuk (or widow Ogul-Gaimish) in the conflict between Mongke and Batu. [1, pp. 245-249].

Changes like these occurred under Batu Khan, especially, in the Seljuk state, which was affiliated with the Golden Horde. The incident ended with the defeat of Seljuk Sultan Gıyas ad-Din Key-Hosrova II in the Battle of Kesedage [16, p.36-37]. After this, the Sultan sent his ambassadors not to Baijunoyon, the deputy Mongol khan in Iran, who attacked him in order to remain under the protection of the Mongols, but to Batu [14, p. 18]. His eldest son and successor Izz El Din Kay-Kavus II chose to follow in his father's footsteps. This choice caused a negative reaction from Baiju, who supported Rukh ad-Din Kilij-Arslan IV, Kay-Kavus brother and rival for the throne [17, p. 196]. In 1249, as we mentioned before, Guyuk confirmed Kilij-Arslan as Sultan to show that the Seljuk sultanate belonged to the Mongol Khan, not Batu. However, after the Mongke coup in 1251, the lands and all vassal states in the Western Empire came under Batu control. Therefore, Baiju had to get used to this situation for a while [17, pp. 68-72]. In the early 1250s, the brothers rivalry led to conflict. Hence they went to hear Batu's decision along with their younger brother Alla ad-Din Kay-Qubad II to get rid of Baiju's order. But Kay-Qubad was killed by his brothers. As a result, in order to maintain the "quo" status, Batu appointed Izz al-Din Kay-kavus II as the Western ruler of the Seljuk sultanate and Rukh ad-Din Kilij-Arslan IV as the Eastern ruler [18, pp. 155-156].

It is clear that strong relations initially developed between Sarai, the capital of the Golden Horde founded by Batu, and Karakorum. However, over time, these relations began to deteriorate. The primary reason for this shift was Mongke's perception that Batu's growing power and elevated status were undermining his own authority. Despite this, Mongke did not openly oppose Batu. Instead, he sought to reduce Batu's status to be on par with other Chinggisid rulers. One of Mongke's first actions was to revoke the Golden Horde rulers' officially recognized right to receive surplus revenue from Mongolian and Chinese territories, citing the need to protect the imperial treasury. Later, he sent his own officials to the Jochi Ulus and its vassal states to conduct a census, thereby asserting greater control over Batu's domain. In 1253, Batu was instructed to allocate 20% of his soldiers to support a military campaign in Persia led by Mongke's younger brother, Hulagu. All of Mongke's actions were in line with legal norms, and Batu did not resist. Responding negatively would have signaled disobedience to the Khan's orders, which Batu sought to avoid, especially since he had previously supported Mongke's rise to power. For these reasons, Batu, like Mongke, chose not to display open opposition. Instead, he sought to hinder the census process. As a result, the census in the Jochi Ulus and its vassal states was only fully implemented in the late 1250s. By complying with the order to send troops to Hulagu, Batu subtly signaled to his brother that he would no longer support his initiatives [15, p. 268]. Nevertheless, despite the strained relations, Batu and Mongke continued to be regarded as both allies and co-rulers. Mongke later endorsed Batu's eldest son, Sartak, as the successor to the Jochi Ulus. Upon Sartak's arrival at the Khan's court, he received formal approval from the relevant authorities, and the Mongol ruler welcomed him warmly. These events demonstrate that Batu did not seek the independence of the Golden Horde. Instead, he viewed the power of his domain as an integral part of the Mongol Empire and adhered to the principles of maintaining imperial unity and authority.

**Conclusion.** It is seen that Batu had a great impact on the formation, prosperity and crisis of the Golden Horde, which was a part of the Mongol Empire. It is stated that Batu Chinggis Empire tried to establish a large and highly developed state that could carry out internal and external political relations by using the system of political, legal and economic institutions that it managed. However, after Batu became the ruler of the Jochi Nation, he did not immediately become a powerful ruler. Since he had nominal power at the age of seventeen, he could not get involved in the politics of the Jochi Nation. In 1235, it was decided to organize an expedition to the West, which was one of the turning points in Batu's life and the history of the Mongol Empire. As a result of this decision, we see that the western borders of the Empire were established and the Asian steppes were introduced to the Christian world. These campaigns greatly contributed to the growth of Batu's authority and power in the future. Batu became the head of the Chinggis clan after the death of Chinggis Khan's sons Ogeday and Chagatay in late 1241 and early 1242. We can say that only in the late 1240-s did Chinggis Khan gain real power in his family and in the Empire. After becoming the great Khan, Batu achieved the highest position in the Mongol Empire and was given the title "Father of the Khan". This title was considered above the status of the greatest Khan. However, Batu is appeared with different titles in various sources. We see from the studies of many researchers [6, 1960 0], [19, 2000], [21, 2002] that Batu had titles such as "aka" (family elder) and "Dear

Khan" (intelligent, respectful khan). Especially Eastern historians [22, p.44] associated the Jochi Nation with the title of Batu and called it "the land of Mr. Khan".

There was no one in the Chinggis family who received these titles before or after Batu. Therefore, it is known that Batu is the only one left in history with these titles in the Chinggis family. Throughout his life, he struggled to gain power and authority and then to protect what he had gained. This struggle resulted in the strengthening of the Jochi Nation, with him becoming the most ethical figure in the Mongol Empire. The period led by Mr. Khan in Jochi Nation is considered the "Golden Age".

Ultimately, the Golden Horde and the Chagatai Khanate were not close allies, but their shared animosity towards the Great Khanate and the Ilkhanate often overshadowed their mutual disputes, leading to a de facto alliance. During this period, the Golden Horde's support for Kaidu exerted a significant influence on the Chagatai Khanate. Nevertheless, the destinies of these two Turkic-Mongol khanates remained intertwined for centuries after the demise of their Toluid enemies. Both engaged in a complex interplay of cooperation and competition, maintaining a vital trade corridor and fostering a cosmopolitan Islamic culture. Yet, they also harbored aspirations to establish states as grand as the Yuan and Ilkhanate, founded by other descendants of Chinggis Khan.

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