

Genghis Khan's preparation activity of the armed forces

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Abstract. The article analyses Genghis Khan's military activity for preparation of the armed forces. The results of the investigation allowed revealing main directions of his military activity. It was aimed at increase of the combat readiness level and war-fighting capability of the army. The important moment is Genghis Khan's acceptance of the decimal system. Genghis Khan formed organisational and structural system of the armed forces. Flexible and effective organisation of the armed forces allowed creating the effective tactical formations and minor units. [Maikhiyev D.K. **Genghis Khan's preparation activity of the armed forces.** *Life Sci J* 2015;12(1):9-11] (ISSN:1097-8135). <http://www.lifesciencesite.com>. 2

Keywords: Genghis Khan's military activity, preparation of the military forces, combat readiness of the army, war-fighting capability of the army

Introduction

The study of the history of the country is impossible without reliance on its historical past. In order to study and preserve the history of the Kazakh steppe in the system of Genghis Khan's empire and its successors it is necessary to reconstruct the real view of the Empire of Genghis Khan's period [10].

In order to develop the above mentioned topic the authors used the comparative method of the investigation together with the method of historical analysis.

The choice of the method of investigation allows to reveal the genesis and transformation of the military traditions and military art of a great number of nationalities and folks which are included into the area of Mongolian Genghis Khan's conquests of the XIII century.

Body

The search of the ways of improving the combat readiness and war-fighting capability of the military forces (army) is always acute.

The conducted analysis of the sources [2, 3, 4] and historic literature [5, 6, 7, 8, 9] about the Mongol Empire revealed that the Mongols had led effective military activity in the XIII century. The high level of their military forces' combat readiness and conducting wars in any conditions became possible thanks to the military activity and Genghis Khan's leadership talent.

The captainship of Genghis Khan was revealed in his military activity as soon as he became the governor of "Hamag Mongol ulusa", i.e. after he had been elected the Mongol Khan by the Mongol aristocracy which wanted to provide its own protection from strong rivals. This choice of the Mongol aristocracy can be explained by the fact that the establishing of the "Hamag Mongol ulusa" took place in the period of intertribal wars for territory and

population, in struggle for the authority in the Mongol steppe.

After having taken the ultimate authority, Genghis Khan implemented military reforms in 1204 (military building - D. M.) concerning the organisation of the armed forces [2, 5, 6, 10]:

- formation of the unified organisational structure of the armed forces;
- formation of the system of recruiting of the tactical formations and minor units with by the military staff, weapon and provision of the army;
- implementing of the system of the constant war-fighting preparation of the army.

The transfer of the armed forces into the decimal system made by Genghis Khan did not deny family binds of the Mongol tribes but compensated for them, bring order in the movement of people, turning the population into the army. As the result of the systematic conducting of the organisational actions he made the unified organisational-structural system of management both of the people and armed forces [2, 11, 12].

Thus, Genghis Khan's activity was concentrated on the following directions:

- unification of the tribes by means of the people's organisation according to the decimal system, providing them with the territory (place) for resettlement;
- transfer to the unified organisational-structural system of management and recruiting the army;
- creation of the managing authorities for managing the armed forces by means of assigning the administrating line officers;
- creation of the khan's supreme stavka;
- organisation of the guards - keshyk.

The above mentioned facts allow us to state that Genghis Khan addressed his main effort to the unification of the Mongol families and tribes by

means of creation of the authoritative bodies and recruiting of the army. As the result Genghis Khan, being the supreme ruler and having started the military reforms from the organisational measures for preparation of the military forces "Hamag Mongol ulusa", achieved the organisational level of his activity. This contributed to the increase of the combat readiness and war-fighting capability of his armed forces.

The achievement of the new level of combat readiness and war-fighting capability of the armed forces always depends on the availability of means of warfare, and professional preparation of the warriors.

Basing on the above said we can draw a conclusion that the unified organisational structure of the armed forces and people administration allowed Genghis Khan to take into account and mobilize all possible inner human and material reserves of the state for the needs of the war. The use of the decimal system united Mongol population and allowed Genghis Khan to form the armed forces.

The administrating line officers at the halt got the opportunity to:

- keep a record of the population and its growth as a crucial factor of the recruiting army with human resources;

- perform a constant control over the business activity of people. This solved the issues of provision army with necessary resources for a war.

For example, K. d'Ohsson wrote that the tribes occupied certain regions, determined for them. When there was a need in the army for some military expedition, one or several people were taken from the dozen [6].

The historian E. Khara-Davan, mentioning the works by M. I. Ivanin, also wrote that in case of army recruiting, people were taken to one, two or more from the dozen. Line officers at the halt: noyon-tsyatsks, sotnik, desyatnik were obliged to provide the recruited warriors with food and all the necessary for the military campaign [7].

In all cases Genghis Khan charged the responsibility for the warriors' preparation on noyon-tsyatsks, sotniks, and desyatniks. The level of the combat readiness of the armed forces depended on their ability to systematically prepare the army to the future military activity. According to the historical sources we know that the combat readiness of the "thousand" as a main military and administrative unit (tactical formation - D. M.) was determined by Genghis Khan basing on its ability to turn to the state of the combat readiness for the immediate combat employment.

For that purpose the line officers had to teach and train warriors during the times of peace. Genghis Khan demanded that «...the amirs of the

army (noyon-tsyatsks - D. M.) should train their sons darting arrows, riding and single fighting. They are to make them [the sons] very brave and fearless so that they could be like persistent merchants in the arts [disingenuity and enterprise] that they know" [4].

Genghis Khan considered that the main principle of chief officers in teaching warriors of the armed forces was stability and insistence in achieving results of their combat readiness. Warriors made different battle exercises individually and in groups. At that time, - E. Khara-Davvan writes, "...despite of his (warrior - D. M.) ranks, individual qualities such as bravery, baldness, courage, stamina, physical strength were mostly appreciated. These are the qualities which, beside the birthrights, determined the fitness of this or that warrior for the role of chief..." [7].

During the investigation we found out that Genghis Khan demanded that every chief officer was proficient in weapons and had skills of managing collective actions of the warriors within the minor units: "Every amir (noyon - D. M.) of the tuman, thousand and hundred must keep order in his army and be ready to march out in any time when the order arrives, by day or at night!" [4].

The implemented system of army management provides the transfer to the decimal system and way of army recruiting. It also allows to speak of the fact that Genghis Khan's military art corresponded to one of the main principles of the military art - constant combat readiness of the armed forces to the war activity. This fact determines their war-fighting capability.

The following historical fact is especially important for those who study military history of the Middle Ages: formation of human reserves by Genghis Khan for the needs of the war. The results of historical sources study showed that organisation of the all-around training of the armed forces allowed Genghis Khan and his officers to complete tactical units, such as "dozens" and "hundreds", if necessary, and tactical formations such as "thousands" from the areas of their settlement.

Moreover, in the areas of settlement Genghis Khan and his chief officers could make additional recruiting of the soldiers and keep it as the reserved army for the urgent complete of the field strengths. The existence of the reserved army explains the proficiency of the Mongol warriors in the collective combat operations and high level of combat and mobilization readiness.

The existence of the reserved army needs constant combat training of the warriors, in-time provision with food and property for the needs of the war. For example, considering the reasons of the military superiority of Genghis Khan over his rival,

K. d'Ohsson paid attention to the fact that in the tribes of Tataria (the Mongols - D. K.) every one who was able to carry weapon, was the soldier [6]. This speaks for the existence of the reserved army on the territories of the Mongols' settlements; this army was ready to complete mobilization to the area of operation and entering into combat.

Conclusion

Genghis Khan's military activity allowed him to create the unified organisational-structural system of the armed forces, conduct constant battle training of the warriors and urgently solve important issues, concerning the completing the army with the armed staff, weapon, property and food. Moreover, it allowed to create inner mechanism within the armed forces, which was aimed at creation of the reserved army, attracting not only the Mongols, but also the slaved nations and folks of different regions for that purpose.

Output

Genghis Khan's military activity for preparation of the armed forces provided constant combat readiness of the army, improved war-fighting capability of the tactical units and formations for the entry into combat whenever it was needed.

The effectiveness of the military operations and achievement of the high level of war-fighting capability and combat readiness by the armed forces became possible due to the military activity and military skills of Genghis Khan-the commander.

The study of the military activity and military art of Genghis Khan concerning the preparation of the armed forces within the framework of the history of the military art of the Middle Ages has both historical and practical value for the preparation of the highly qualified scientific and military personnel.

Acknowledgements

The article was written within the framework of the PhD thesis. Special gratitude is enclosed to the Doctor of Education, Assistant Professor of Pedagogics K. K. Kulambaeva for her association in the writing of this scientific article.

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9/9/2014

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