

Martial – Physical Exercises In Great Ancestor - Amir Temur's Military Activity

¹Abduazimov Sobirjon Otkurovich and ²Karimov Bobir Bagadirovich

¹The Academy of the Armed Forces of the Republic of Uzbekistan
Head of the Department of “Physical Training and Sports”, Assistant Professor, Lieutenant Colonel

²The Academy of the Armed Forces of the Republic of Uzbekistan
Deputy head of the Department of “Physical Training and Sports”, Assistant Professor, Lieutenant Colonel

Annotation. *This article focuses on the great ancestor, Amir Temur's martial – physical exercises in his military activity as well as reflecting the stages of exercise organization.*

Keywords: “Temur Tuzuklari” (“The Code of Temur”), martial – military exercises, walking, sword, spear, cudgel, broadsword.

INTRODUCTION

The Mongol – Tatars, particularly Genghis Khan's conquest had lasted for a long time in Europe and Asia. The consequences of his wars had a huge impact which prolonged for 300 years. Amir Temur and his generation performed powerful role in liberation from slavery, progressing as an independent state and the development of culture.

It is noteworthy to mention that during the Soviet era, Amir Temur was not considered as a person who had great personality. In contrary, he was mentioned as a spy, invader and colonizer. However, novels based on historical evidence, performance of opera and dramas were dedicated to Amir Temur in Great Britain, Germany and France. In that period, the people of our country were not informed about them.

Thanks to the independence of Uzbekistan, our nation achieved a great opportunity to discover his crucial role. In 1996, international conferences dedicated to his 660th anniversary and the traditions of our country enabled to openly glorify his honor for the first time. This great figure was honored by redecorating alleys, building statue in Tashkent, Samarkand and Shahrizabz. It has become a significant evidence for enhancing national values and developing national culture on a high level.

RESULTS

Study of Amir Temur's strategy in practical activities including training young generation for military and physical fields has been implemented all over the world.

There are many literary sources dedicated to Temur's life and activity. All of them were published in the Arabic alphabet in Turkish. At the end of last century, “Temur Tuzuklari” (“The Code of Temur”) was translated into Russian, and it enabled to familiarize peoples of the Central Asia.

It is obvious that in his work “The Code of Temur”, our ancestor mentioned the activities of ruling the kingdom and spreading the enlightenment of Islam to the peoples of the world. Only the independence of the country gave us a chance to explore these facts. Nowadays, he is being investigated on a large scale.

Resources such as “History and culture of Uzbekistan” (1992), “History of Uzbek nations” (1992, part 1) inform that, in his early life Amir Temur was so ambitious for martial exercises as well as participating in a number of decisive wars. As a result, he gained valuable experience and became skillful warrior. Furthermore, his sons Jahangir, Mironshah, Umarshaikh, Shahrukh Mirzo and grandchildren Pirmuhammad, Khalil Sultan, Muhammad Sultan and Mirzo Ulugbek were taught the secrets of warfare during the preparation for battles by his father.

“The Code of Temur” (1991) provides invaluable information on the following issues: infantry and horse fighting, fencing, javelin (21 – 22 pages), warrior's military and physical training (101-102 pages), reaching the top points of mountains (page 20), crossing rivers (page 28) and etc. Amir Temur's challenging experience in reaching the Boysun, Gissar, Hindu Kush, Turkistan, Chatkal, Caucasus Mountains, deserts and valleys in present-day Kazakhstan and Russia, as well as the Syrdarya, Amudarya, Tigris, Volga, Ganga and many other rivers can give favorable impression about his activities. Walking for a number of days, using sword, spear, cudgel, broadsword and other tools skillfully, employing body strength, agility, speed in defeating the enemy required careful attention. At the right time, it was crucial to fight toughly with enemies, to overthrow them in a wise, masterful and skillful way. Horseback fighting involved the usage of swords, spears, bows, clubs, whips, ropes, and other tools. Fighting with the help of these weapons was challenging. Every warrior had the quality of being strong, agile, brave, and a sniper. In the very moment, they also bravely used natural movements such as fighting, arguing, overturning, beating on a single horse. These activities were also diligently taught by Amir Temur and his special commanders. Hunting, hiking in the desert and mountains were the main activities when spending his holidays. In such cases, he discovered ways to climb mountains on

horseback and on foot, using ropes and sticks. In their time, he encouraged his warriors to engage in activities such as racing, wrestling, fencing, and kopkari (the competition of horsemen). He knew the strategic uses of the sun, moon, stars, shadows, wind, and other factors in his military activities in the mountains, forests, and deserts, especially at night and on foggy days.

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In a word, military exercises were considered as one of the priorities in Amir Temur's activities.

The establishment of the Museum of the History of the Timurids on the occasion of the 660th anniversary of Amir Temur (1996) was a milestone in the history of Uzbekistan. It includes weapons used in the Timurid warfare and tools as well as methods used in physical training. In addition to that, the creation of the Museum of Olympic Glory and its set of exhibits is a model exhibition which serves not only for young people, but for the whole population.

Nowadays, using the heritage of Amir Temur in the lessons of the history of physical culture, the creation of films, videos, and the media will be successful in progress.

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