notables. Vital Cuinet reports that 9,875 Muslim, 1,266 Greek Orthodox, 194 Armenian, and 36 other residents inhabited Balikesir towards the end of the nineteenth century (Cuinet, La Turque, 262–7).

Balikesir was established on a fertile plain that had many vineyards and produced cereals, vegetables, and all types of fruit. The region was also rich in minerals. Livestock raising was a major source of income, and locally produced fleece and wool was exported to Europe.

A number of architectural works, including mosques, medresses, and fountains, were constructed in Balikesir during the Ottoman period. The most prominent of these works include the Yıldırım Beyazid mosque built by Sultan Bayezid (Bâyezid) I (r. 791–804/1389–1402) in 790/1388, the Zağnos Mehmêd Paşa mosque built by Zağnos Paşa, the son-in-law of Murad (Murad) II (r. 848–50/1444–6 and 855–59/1455–6) in 855/1455, and vizier of Sultan Mehmed (Mehmed) II (r. 855–59/1455–6 and 859/1459) in 855/1455 and the Saat Kulesi (Clock Tower) built by Mütesellim (tax-collector) Giridlizade Mehmed Paşa in 1259/1843.

Balikesir was invaded by the Greek army on 30 June 1920 and was liberated by the Turkish forces on 6 September 1922.

Bibliography


Zeki Arîkan

Baraq Khân (Chaghataiyid)

Baraq Khân Chaghataiyd was a Chaghataiyd khân (r. c. 664–70/1266–70), whose descendants became the dominant rulers of the Chaghataiyd khânate. Baraq was a grandson of Mö’etüken, Chinggis Khân’s favourite grandson, who died at Bâmiyân in 618/1221. Baraq’s father was
banished to China for his support of the Ögödeids, the losers in the succession struggle among Chinggis Khân’s heirs, which ended with the accession of the Toluid Great Khân Möngke (r. 649–58/1251–60). Barâq grew up in the camp of Möngke’s successor, Qubilay Khân (r. 658–93/1260–94), who sent him back, after 661/1263, to Central Asia, to represent his interests in his conflict with Qaydû, the rebel Ögödeid prince (r. 669–700/1271–1301). Barâq settled in his patrimonial appanage at Chaghâniyân, near Tirmidh (Termez), but soon acquired the support of the Chaghatayid commanders, deposing the reigning Chaghatayid khân Mubarak Shâh (r. 664/1266) in Dhûl-Hijja 664/September 1266. Barâq turned against both Qubilay and Qaydû, defeating Qubilay’s troops at Khotan in 1268 and challenging Qaydû on the Jaxartes (Syr Darya) at about the same time. With the Golden Horde’s help, Qaydû defeated Barâq near Khujand (in present-day Tajikistan), and the two held an assembly (quriltay) at Talas (Taraz) in about 667–8/1269, dividing Transoxania’s territories, troops, and weapon-producing workshops among those two and the Golden Horde. Barâq, who received two thirds of Transoxania, was at that time already planning to invade Ilkhanid Khurâsân, which he considered his ancestors’ appanage. In preparation, he sent his administrator Mas’ûd Beg (d. 688/1289) in 667/1268–9 to spy on Abâqâ and induced his kinsman Tegüder (d. 683/1284), the commander of the Chaghatayid contingent in the Ilkhanate since Hülegü Khân’s time (r. 654–63/1256–63), to join him against Abâqâ. Tegüder’s rebellion in the Caucasus was exposed and quelled by Abâqâ’s troops in late 668/1270.

In about early 668/late 1269, Barâq crossed the Oxus (Amu Darya), reinforced by Qaydû’s troops, conquered most of Khurâsân, and began to assert his control there. Abâqâ went himself to drive Barâq back. The two armies met near Herat on 1 Dhûl-Hijja 668/22 July 1270, and Barâq was defeated, due in part to the desertion of Qaydû’s troops and to the latter’s support of Abâqâ. Fleeing into Bukhara with just a few men and struck by paralysis, Barâq converted to Islam, adopting the title Ghiyâth al-Dîn, but died in early 670/after early August 1271, either of natural causes or by being poisoned by Qaydû. Qaydû, however, buried him on a high mountain in the Mongol, not the Muslim, fashion.

Barâq’s defeat paved the way for the rise of Qaydû as the leader of Mongol Central Asia and overlord of the Chaghatayids and resulted in Abaqa’s retaliatory attack in 671/1273, which devastated Bukhara, leading to the emigration of much of the city’s population. In Central Asia, after an initial struggle, Barâq’s son Du’a allied himself with Qaydû, who enthroned him as Chaghatayid khân (r. 681–706/1282–1370), and the two collaborated until Qaydû’s death (701/1301). Soon afterwards, Du’a reconciled with Yuan China and, with its support, regained Chaghatayid independence. Du’a’s descendants, who ruled the khânate until 734/1334 and from 748/1347 to 1089/1678, were instrumental in its Islamisation.

Bibliography

Sources
The sources contain various versions of Barâq’s activities. I have followed Qarshî’s dating, as he is the only Central Asian source for the events.

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Berke b. Jochi Khān

Berke b. Jochi Khān (603–65/1207–67) was the third son of Jochi Khān (d. 624/1227), the grandson of Chenggis Khān, and the fourth khān of the Golden Horde (r. 655–65/1257–67). When Batu died, in 654/1256, his eldest son, Sartaq, was residing in the court of the great khān Möngke, in Qaraqorum (in Mongolia). Möngke immediately installed Sartaq as heir to his father’s ulus (appanage), but Sartaq died while returning home (655/1257). Ulaghchi—Batu’s younger son (according to Rashīd al-Dīn) or, less probably, Sartaq’s son (according to al-Juwaynī)—succeeded him, but he too soon died, and Batu’s younger brother, Berke, became khān in 655/1257.

By the time that he ascended the throne, Berke had fought in many battles and was an experienced leader. Earlier, on his older brother’s orders, he had participated in two quriltays (imperial assemblies, 644/1246, 649/1251), the first one electing Güyük and the second Möngke as great khān.

Soon after Berke ascended the throne, Möngke died in 658/1259, and, during the next few years, the Mongol empire had again to face a period of political uncertainty as to the succession to the throne. At two separate quriltays both Ariq-Böke and Qubilay, brothers of Möngke, were elected to be great khān, and their enmity ended only in 658/1260, with the victory of Qubilay, who was then acknowledged by all as great khān. Qubilay moved his capi-