



Universiteit
Leiden
The Netherlands

Framing the conquest: Bactrian local rulers and Arab muslim domination of Bactria (31-128 AH/651-746 CE)

Huseini, S.R.

Citation

Huseini, S. R. (2024, March 28). *Framing the conquest: Bactrian local rulers and Arab muslim domination of Bactria (31-128 AH/651-746 CE)*. Retrieved from <https://hdl.handle.net/1887/3729871>

Version: Publisher's Version

License: [Licence agreement concerning inclusion of doctoral thesis in the Institutional Repository of the University of Leiden](#)

Downloaded from: <https://hdl.handle.net/1887/3729871>

Note: To cite this publication please use the final published version (if applicable).

Stellingen

behorende bij het proefschrift

Framing the Conquest

Bactrian Local Rulers and Arab Muslim Domination of Bactria (31 128 AH/651–746 CE)

Said Reza Huseini

1. The Arab Muslim conquerors did not face one opposing political power in Bactria. Instead, in seventh-century Bactria, different local principalities controlled their areas autonomously and were often driven by rivalries.
2. The Bactrian local rulers' responses to the Arab-Muslim conquests were shaped by their internal socio-political interests. Some local rulers (e.g., the king of Chaghaniyan and the king of Rob) viewed the Arab Muslims as powerful allies to overcome their neighbouring rivals. Some other local rulers (e.g., the *nizak* of Badghis and the king of Khuttal) saw the Arab Muslims as a great threat to their areas.
3. In the early eighth century, the Arab Muslim conquerors benefited from the local rulers' political competition. They effectively used this internal rivalry and removed one ruler with the help of another.
4. The early eighth-century Arab Muslim conquest of Bactria was not a linear process planned by the caliph and implemented by Arab Muslim commanders and soldiers. It was a complex process constantly updated based on the local socio-political situation.
5. Generally, the seventh-eighth century Arab Muslim conquests of the Iranian regions did not happen in a vacuum. To comprehend the process of the conquests, we need to understand these regions clearly before discussing their conquests.
6. Arabic 'traditional sources' related to the conquests were written after the conquests. In most cases, earlier reports were reorganised to make a coherent narrative about the conquests and the formation of the early Islamic empire. The traditional sources reflect a grand narrative; therefore, they do not usually offer details about the local socio-political circumstances in which the conquests happened.
7. Non-Arabic sources like Bactrian documents provide a unique insight into the society, peoples' daily life, local administration and political structure that cannot be found in literary sources.
8. The literary or documentary sources should not be studied in isolation. Studying these sources together (with other material sources, e.g., numismatic, epigraphic and archaeological data) offers more comprehensive results.
9. In the early eighth century, the Umayyads applied different political models to control Khurasan. They tried various policies to develop an effective strategy to control their most challenging frontier. That reflects that the Umayyad administration was not the same everywhere but adjusted to the local and regional circumstances (i.e., different in Egypt and Iraq).
10. Modern Afghanistan comprises a large part of historical Bactria. The history of Bactria offers a great lesson to the Afghans about how a frontier region with its diverse population can be managed.