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The Education and History of Timur Lenk from Uzbekistan

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ABSTRACT

This paper briefly examines Timur Lenk, a great Muslim conqueror from Uzbekistan, from an educational perspective. This paper is crucial for educating our generation, particularly the Muslim generation that includes prominent Muslims with broad perspectives who have conquered the world. For Muslim countries to improve their socioeconomic standing, this paper is intended to advance their spirit. At the moment, these countries still have limited socioeconomic conditions.

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1. INTRODUCTION

History has grown to be a crucial component of human civilization up to this point (Vuorinen *et al.*, 2007). With the use of history, we can gain knowledge of past events and apply a variety of lessons to the present (Wineburg, 1991). Many individuals believe that studying history is dull (Evans, 1988; Harris & Burn, 2016; Wineburg, 1998). Indeed, learning about history has many advantages.

Education and history are interrelated. What will be beneficial in the future is education (Weisbrod, 1962). Developing a critical mind is one of them, and it's important for a profession. The following are further justifications for understanding the value of history education:

- (i) It enhances moral awareness and character (Afriani *et al.*, 2022). We may learn about a lot of things that happened in the past by studying history. The study of history has many facets and is beneficial for enhancing moral and character development as well as cultural knowledge. You may expand your knowledge of human nature and how society has evolved by studying history.
- (ii) It rejects the idea that the claim of elder adults regarding the current generation of youngsters is different from earlier generations (Quintelier, 2007). The most important factor is how children nowadays, who are regarded as being less polite than youngsters in the past, perceive morality and behave. People can learn how ancient people conducted themselves in upholding and implementing existing morals into daily life by studying history.
- (iii) It broadens understanding. Some people find the historical timeline to be excessively drawn out and boring to examine. Because it takes a critical mind to comprehend the sequence of events from beginning to end, history is a challenging subject. One instance is the history of a country's colonization; as of now, people are aware that colonialism's occurrences lasted for numerous centuries. The actual course of events, however, was more convoluted than that. Your horizons can be expanded by studying history. People can have a better understanding of their surroundings and the events that led to them by studying history. People don't just skim an event and sum it up. People will naturally want to know how the event happened and will try to do so.
- (iv) It fosters a critical mindset. Because individuals don't just look at things from one perspective, but also another, studying history will help us develop our critical thinking skills. People will be intrigued about the truth and look for different explanations or ways to support their theories, for instance, when they read about the history of criminal cases that have not yet been solved. People will be eager to learn the solution up until they are prepared to read a large number of sources and references on the incident. People have been learning and exercising critical thought unconsciously.
- (v) History is not just concerned with the present and past. Some people believe that history consists just of times, dates, people's names, and events. What, Who, When, and Where queries are simply the tip of the iceberg. A historian or someone interested in studying history will delve deeper into the actual events. Like how it would occur or why it might occur in that manner. People will be more interested in sharing the truth about what occurred if they study history as opposed to making assumptions. The general facts surrounding the historical events are typically agreed upon by historians, however, these broad facts are subsequently interpreted in a variety of ways.
- (vi) The world will be greatly impacted by one's decision to become a historian. People can have a significant impact on the world by becoming historians. We can have a better grasp of living in the modern world by studying history. Increasing one's understanding of

historical occurrences fosters a deeper understanding of current happenings. A deeper understanding of the past can help us anticipate the future and prevent bad things from happening again.

(vii) A profession in history can be advanced through study. Many individuals are unaware that a career can be supported in this generally thought of as an uninteresting sector. For a historian or someone interested in studying history, there are numerous job choices. For example, the Department of State and Immigration, journalists, travel media, consultants, heritage planners, librarians, and public historians are some of these that can place people in well-liked and promising jobs. Historical content can also be produced by individuals as personal YouTube channels and films.

The previous report showed the history of Ulugh Beg, a famous astronomer and mathematician from Uzbekistan (Mirzabek, 2023). Here, Timur Lenk, one of the most well-known Muslims who can rule the world, was the subject of this paper. This study is essential for informing our generation, in particular the Muslim generation about the presence of exceptional Muslims. This paper is from an educational perspective, which can help people to be more spiritual in education and science, and technology. In general, Muslim countries, which at the moment still deal with socioeconomic constraints, can improve their spirit and become more prosperous.

2. METHOD

This paper is based on the history of Timur Lenk obtained from some online information and literature. The method of obtaining information is described elsewhere (Azizah *et al.*, 2021).

3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Timur was born in Kesh, which is about 50 miles south of the city of Samarkand in Uzbekistan.

His father was named Teragai who was the leader of the Barlas. He was the great-grandson of Karachar Nevian (the minister of Chagatai Khan, who was Genghis Khan's son and commander of his combat troops), and Karachar was well-known among his people as the first to convert to Islam. Teragai may have inherited a high rank in the army; but like his father Burkul, he was fond of religious life and study.

Under good guidance, Timur when he was twenty years old was not only proficient in outdoor activities, but also had a reputation as an avid Quran reader. At that time, he is said to have shown friendly and sympathetic qualities.

Timur is a Muslim who admires the Naqshabandiyah order that developed in the Transoxiana region. In the city of Tirmidz, Timur received Islamic religious education from Sayyid Baraka who is also a scholar, and Ahlul Bayt. However, the cleric who became an adviser to the Islamic field of his later Empire was Abdul Jabar Khwarizmi, who was a Sunni Hanafi school of thought.

Timur Lenk spent 35 years in various battles and expeditions. Supported by loyalist Turkish troops and Muslim leaders and scholars, Timur also expanded his power. He was known as a genius soldier. His brilliant military career led him to establish the Timurid dynasty in Central Asia. His courage and toughness in expanding and leading have contributed to the development and civilization of Islam. He was nicknamed the conqueror. The leader who is known to have great concern for the spread of Islam was named Timur Lenk or Timurlane. The first Timurid dynasty king was born in the city of Kish, about 80 km south of Samarkand,

Transoxania Province. Timur is of Mongol-Turkic descent. Timur is still a descendant of Genghiz Khan, the leader of the Greater Mongols.

Through his memoirs, Timur relates, "My father told me that we are descended from Abu Al-Atrak (father of the Turks)." From the genealogy, it was revealed that Timur was still a descendant of the Moghuls. His father's name was Teragai, chief of the Barlas. He is the great-grandson of Karachar Nevian, the son of Genghis Khan. Karachar was the first convert to Islam among his people. In Mongolian, Timur means 'iron'. While the last name Lenk or Lame is a nickname that means 'limping'. Several versions are stating the cause of the deformity of one of the Eastern legs. One version says, his legs were deformed since birth. There is also a story, his legs are disabled when fighting. Another version says Timur's leg was deformed while herding goats.

Even so, Timur grew up as a talented young man. The military world is his life choice. He then joined as a soldier with the local ruler, Amir Husein. By 1360 AD, Timur had become a famous military leader. Timur was known as a persistent commander in defending his territory from the threat of Tughluq Timur Khan, the ruler of the Chagatai Dynasty. His toughness and prowess impressed the rulers of the Chagatai Dynasty. Tuglaq then offered Timur a position as the main assistant (vizier) of the Governor of Samarkand, Ilyas. Timur accepted the offer. Together with Amir Husein, Timur then carried out a rebellion and defeated the troops of Tuglaq Timur Khan to make the Chagatai dynasty toppled.

His ambitious military instincts made Timur change his attitude. He also attacked Amir Husein who became his ally. After Amir Husein's troops were conquered, Timur then founded the Timurid dynasty, which was centered in Samarkand on April 10, 1370. Timur ruled for 35 years from 1370 to 1405. The presence of the Timurid dynasty led by Timur had the support of Muslims, especially the ulama, Shaykh al-Islam, and influential tariqa leaders. The support was given by Muslim figures and ulama because Timur paid great attention to spreading the religion of Islam. As a form of support, ulama and tariqa leaders were also involved in the administration of the Timurid dynasty. Some became judges, diplomats, and tutors among the nobility.

Even some 'ulama often accompanied Timur as advisors in every conquest expedition. As a king, Timur never wanted to use Khan's last name. Timur was known as a genius soldier, but his political policies also often failed. Although he likes to carry out conquest expeditions, he never leaves the government apparatus in the areas he controls. As a result, Timur had to reconquer if the territory he once controlled rebelled. The conquest expedition was carried out after Samarkand's position was strong and safe from various tampering.

Timur spent 35 years in various battles and expeditions. Supported by loyalist Turkish troops and Muslim leaders and clerics, Timur also expanded his power. He expanded his power to the West and Northwest including the Mongols, Caspian Sea, Urals, and the Volga. His expeditions to the south and southwest were able to conquer every province in Persia, including Baghdad, Karbala, and Northern Iraq. No wonder, if many cities and areas controlled by other dynasties were successfully controlled by the East. One of the toughest opponents for Timur is Tokhtamysh.

The Khwarizmi and Jata areas were successfully controlled by Eastern troops in 1380 AD after going through a long battle for 10 years. Throughout 1381 AD -1382 AD, Timur conquered the territory of the Persian Empire such as Herat, Mashhad, Sabzavar, Astarabad, Mazandaran, and Sistan. In 1382 AD, Timur's troops succeeded in helping Tokhtamysh to subdue Moscow. The Tokhtamysh troops he assisted turned out to be attacking Timur's troops and invaded Azerbaijan in 1385 AD. In a fierce battle, Tokhtamysh's forces were finally crushed. To face his opponent's army, Timur led no less than 100 thousand troops who

traveled hundreds of miles. About 100 thousand of his troops who marched from the East for hundreds of miles were almost starving. Fortunately, Timur ordered his troops to hunt until they finally did not experience starvation. The Tokhtamysh troops were finally cornered in the Orenburg region and were defeated by Timur's forces.

In 1398 AD, Timur made a conquest expedition to India. He heard that there was a civil war in India. At that time, in India, there was an Islamic kingdom called the Tughlaq dynasty led by Sultan Nashirudin Mahmud. Timur heard that the Muslim Sultan of Delhi was too tolerant and weak towards Hindu society. Timur then decided to take over the power of the Sultan of Delhi. His army crossed the Indus River at Attock on 24 September 1398 AD. The Sultan's army was easily defeated on 17 December 1398 AD He wrote of his conquest of India in Tuzuk-Timuri.

Unfortunately, the conquest of Delhi was tinged with bloodshed that the East did not need. He left Delhi in January 1399 AD According to Ruy Gonzales de Clavijo, Timur brought 90 elephants from Delhi to transport precious stones. He then used it to build a mosque in Samarkand. Historians believe it was the Bibi-Khanym Mosque. After that, he fought with Yildirim Bayezid I, the Sultan of the Ottoman Empire, and the sultan of the Mamluks of Egypt. In 1400 AD Timur invaded Armenia and Georgia. A year later, he invaded Baghdad. About 20,000 people died in the invasion. Timur died on February 19, 1405 AD while fighting against the Ming Dynasty.

4. CONCLUSION

Timur Lenk, a world conquer from Uzbekistan, is briefly described in this paper. This study is crucial for educating our generation, particularly the Muslim generation, about the existence of outstanding Muslims. This work is intended to advance the spirit of Muslim nations, who at the moment still experience constrained socioeconomic conditions, allowing them to grow both socioeconomically and scientifically.

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6. AUTHORS' NOTE

The authors declare that there is no conflict of interest regarding the publication of this article. Authors confirmed that the paper was free of plagiarism.

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