The Influence of the State Yettishara in Central Asia and the Russian Empire

Yedişehir Devletinin Orta Asya ve Rusya İmparatorluğu'ndaki Etkisi

Gulzada O. CHARGINOVA *

Abstract

The article focuses on the influence of the state Yettishar in the 60-70s of the XIX century on Kazakhs and Kyrgyz people who were in the possession of the Russian Empire. For the purpose of disclosing this problem, the materials of the Central State Archive of the Republic of Kazakhstan, the Central State Archives of the Republic of Uzbekistan and the Central State Archive of the Kyrgyz Republic were used.

The formation of the state of Yettishar had a significant impact on Kazakhs and Kyrgyz of the Russian Empire. Representatives of Kazakh and Kyrgyz nation, who opposed the Russian colonization in Central Asia, went to the state of Yettishar for support. However, they failed to achieve their goals in connection with internal strife and actions of the Qing Empire aimed at restoration of power of in Kashgariya.

Yakub-bek appointed noble Kazakhs and Kyrgyz, who moved to the state of Yettishar, to major positions. Later, due to the collapse of the state of Yettishar, many of them returned to their homeland.

Anahtar Kelimeler: Yettishar, Yakub-bek, Kashgarıya, Kazakhs, Kyrgyz.

Keywords: Yedişehir, Yakub-bek, Kaşgar, Kazaklar, Kırgızlar.

Öz

Makalede, XIX. Yüzyılın 60-70'li yıllarda Yedişehir devletinin, Rusya İmparatorluğu'nun egemenliği altındaki Kazak ve Kırgızlar üzerindeki etkisine odaklanılmıştır. Araştırma yapılarırken, Kazakistan Cumhuriyeti Merkez Devlet Arşivi, Özbekistan Cumhuriyeti Merkez Devlet Arşivi ve Kırgız Cumhuriyeti Merkez Devlet Arşivi'nin materyallerini kullanılmıştır.


Yakup-bek, Yedişehir Devletine göç eden soylu Kazak ve Kırgızları önemli görevlere atadı. Daha sonra, Yedişehir Devletinin kökü nedeniyle, onların çoğu vatanlarına geri dönmek zorunda kalmasıdır.

Keywords: Yedişehir, Yakup-bek, Kaşgar, Kazaklar, Kırgızlar.
INTRODUCTION

In the 60’s of the XIX century Ily, Kashgar, Kucha, Hotan and Urumchi khanates were created as a result of anti-Qing movement of Uighurs and Dungans in the East on a territory of Dzungaria and Kashgariya. Creation of these new countries coincided with military expansion of the Russian Empire in Central Asia. At that time Kashgarian ruler asked military help from Kokands. In order to help Kashgarian people Kokand khanate’s ruler Alimkul sent the army under Yakub – bek’s command.

After arriving in Kashgar Yakub-bek quickly conquered the power and created Yettishar on the ruins of Kashgar, Kuchar and Hotan khanates. Then conquered Dungan’s Urumchi khanate and annexed it. His next goal was to conquer Ily sultanate’s territory, but he could not achieve it.

For the recognition of Yettishar state on international arena Yakub-bek set diplomatic relationship with the Russian, the Ottoman empires and Great Britain.

This state had a tremendous impact on Kazakhs and Kyrgyz who were in possession of the Russian Empire. Representatives of Kazakh and Kyrgyz people who did not want the Russian Empire to dominate in Central Asian region, tried to migrate to Yettishar. Using Kazakhs and Kyrgyz in his own benefit, Yakub-bek dreamed of influencing the Russian Empire. However, this issue has not been considered as a significant research object yet.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

The methodological basis of this study was chosen because of the consistency principle and is based on historical objectivity and how Yettishar influenced the Central Asian region of the Russian Empire. Methods of analysis, synthesis, retrospectives, and also a comparative-historical method were also used.

The sources of the article are archival materials collected by the authors from the funds of the Central State Archive of the Republic of Kazakhstan (Fund No. 21 - "Semirechye Regional Board", Fund No. 64 - "Office of the Steppe Governor-General", Fund No. 825 - "Kolpakovsky GA"), the Central State Archive of the Republic of Uzbekistan (Fund No. I-17 "Syrdariya Regional Board", Fund No. I-715 "Materials for the History of the Conquest of the Turkestan Region, collected in various archives by Colonel Serebrennikov"), the Central State Archive of the Kyrgyz Republic (fund documents No. I-75 "Annexation of Kyrgyzstan to Russia"). The materials of these archival funds are presented by the documents of the offices of the military governors of Turkestan region, as well as the journal of political and military events on the border of the Semirechye region.

DISCUSSION

The influence of Yettishar on Kazakh and Kyrgyz who were part of the Russian empire during that period was not fully considered, but pre-revolutionary authors such as N. Aristov, A.P. Horoshkin, A.N. Kuropatkin considered some aspects of this topic. Those research works were limited to information that some Kazakh and Kirgiz representatives who were citizens of the Russian empire, served to Yettishar state.

East Turkestan’s historians such as Sairami Mullah and Kurbangali Halid used the same arguments in their work. These works present the summary of how Kazakh...
and Kyrgyz were attracted to membership of Yettishar and underlined that their language and religion are similar to Uighur.

Chinese historians negatively assess the Yettishar state in their works. It can be noticed from the content of Chinese history concept’s founder Fan Van-lan’s work. In this work, Yettishar is described as reactionary state that oppressed different Muslim and non-Muslim nations of the West China.

Chinese historian with Kyrgyz roots Baitur Anvar also focuses how Yettishar state oppressed all Kashgar nations and its negative impact on Semirechye Kyrgyz.

Yettishar state’s history attracted researchers during the Soviet era, but influence of the Yettishar state on Kazakhs and Kirgiz who were part of the Russian Empire was not discussed broadly in the fundamental works of historians A. Hojaev & D. A. Isiyev.

One of the modern scientists, who researched and paid special attention to studying history of the Yettishar state was Russian historian S. V. Moiseev. He analyzes the history of the relationship between Russia and Yettishar focusing on the role of Kazakh and Kyrgyz in this relationship by using factual archive files data. S. V. Moiseev can be considered as a scientist who studied the influence of Yettishar on Kazakh and Kyrgyz in the Russian empire. However, this topic is not fully examined and requires further.

RESULTS

By the middle of the nineteenth century, the Russian Empire had reached western China, and in the next ten and a half years it had established itself on the vast territory of Central Asia. As a result, a significant part of the Kazakhs and Kyrgyz became subjects of the Russian Empire. At that time separate tribes of Kazakh and Kyrgyz nations who lived in the East Turkestan were not only external observers of the uprising of Uighurs and Dungans in 1864, but were also involved in conflicts during the formation of the Ili Sultanate in Dzungaria and the state of Yettishar in Kashgariya.

Meanwhile, during the events that took place in Dzungaria and Kashgaria related to the uprising of the Muslim population, the tsarist government, maintaining neutrality externally, tried to take measures that would not allow the insurgents to take over the Russian Empire. Along with this, the main task of the tsarist authorities was to prevent the transition of Kazakh and Kyrgyz tribes from Semirechye to neighboring East Turkestan into the territory of the Ili Sultanate and the state of Yettishar. But the sympathy of Kazakh and Kyrgyz people to the new states created after the uprising in Eastern Turkestan against the Qing Empire, especially to the state of Yettishar, whose founder was Yakub-bey continued to grow. (Mullah Sayrami, 1905: 127). Such a sympathy to Yettishar was clearly manifested among groups that were dissatisfied with the politics of tsarist Russia.

Yakub-bey was known among Kazakh and Kyrgyz before he became the ruler of the state Yettishar. In 1851-1853, during the service as commandant of the Kokand Khanate in the White-Mosque, he closely communicated with the Kazakhs (TsGA RUz., F. I-715. Op.1. D.14, L.517). Then he was seen as one from the leaders in resisting the annexation of Aulie-Ata and Chimkent by Russian troops (Resail-i-Yakubi, 1940). Kyrgyz, who were encouraged by the courage of Yakub-bek, considered him a Kyrgyz, claiming that he was one of the representatives of the
Kyrgyz tribe Toraigyr. At the same time, Kyrgyz poets began to praise this ruler of Yettishar (Arystanbek, 1994: 29). In the 60-70s of the XIX century, the historian and ethnographer who was studying the history and ethnography of the Semirechye region, the participant of the military campaign against the Ili Sultanate N.Aristov in his work in 1873 wrote about how Kyrgyz representatives from the Sarybagish of Chui Valley and Kazakhs from syala, suan, kyzai, as well as the Kyrgyz clan crossed the border areas of East Turkestan and their attempt to support their coreligionists.

In particular, he wrote: "All Kyrgyz people who wandered close to the border in the winter of 1864-1865, taking advantage of the absence of our troops on the border, joined the insurgents. Not only border guards, but also almost the whole mass of Kyrgyz, including those who seemed so devoted before, clearly sympathized the uprising, secretly communicated with insurgents and would undoubtedly join the insurgents if the uprooting was not impossible in the winter and lack of fodder for livestock. In the spring, our detachments were sent abroad, and the Kyrgyz could not flee by masses "(Aristov, 1873: 171).

Having defended the independence of Kashgariya from the Qing Empire, the ruler and founder of the state Yettishar Yakub-bey built a number of mosques and restored the sacred mausoleums of East Turkestan such as Appak Kozhi, Bibi Mariam and Satuk Bokrakhan, thus winning the sympathy of Muslim people. Yakub-bek welcomed the transfer of Russian subjects of Kazakhs and Kyrgyz to his state, providing them with shelter and work. For example, Yakub-bek appointed Mirkasym from Semipalatinsk, who knew Russian well, to the post responsible for clerical and diplomatic activities carried out by the state. Mirkasym was considered as one of the most reliable people of Yakub-bek (TSGA RUz, F.I-715. Op.1., 1564. L.271).

Most of those who passed the territory of the Russian Empire were Kazakh and Kyrgyz, who previously served the Kokand Khan. Yakub-bek was able to recruit military commanders of the Kokand Khanate for his service. Some of the influential people of the Kokand Khanate also supported Yakub-bek, (Collection, 1876: 51). According to A.N. Kuropatkin, the military ranks of Yakub-bey included many Kazakh and Kyrgyz (Kuropatkin, 1879: 166).

The Kazakh historian Kurbangali Khalid, who lived in the second half of the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, pointed to Aldyrazh datkhu as one of the most influential Kazakhs in the state of Yakub-bek, noting: "Aldyrajal datkh separating Jakub-bek's joy and sorrow served as a vizier adviser in his possession. He was from the Kazakhs of the Elder Zhuz "(Khalid, 1910: 147).

Some representatives of the administration of tsarist Russia feared that the proclamation of the state of Yettishar by Muslims of Western China could have a negative impact on Kazakh and Kyrgyz. One of the first to raise this question was the Semirechye military governor G.A. Kolpakovsky. He wrote to the Turkestan Governor-General on June 16, 1867, to Baron K.P. von Kaufman: "I tried to explain that this upheaval in Western China would have a great influence on the position of the eastern part of our Kyrgyz steppe, whose population has the same tribal and religious beliefs as those nationalities who rose up against the Manchus with success. The liberation of Chinese Muslims would have caused Kyrgyz people to unite with their co-religionists. In order to keep them, we had to maintain numerous military troops on the border, and at the same time to foresee that our efforts to keep them are
in vain. The emergence of a powerful Muslim state in Western China, who had a strong military and were hostile to us at the very base of insurgency pose a danger for us. This state could easily be formed by either the Kokands who had won the Eastern Turkestan more than once, or by the state independent from Kokand, but in any case it was hostile and dangerous for us. "(TSGA RUZ, F.I.-715. Op.1. D.42, L.185).

In order to avoid such a danger, the regions of the Semirechye, adjacent to the borders of the state of Yettishar, were fortified by Russian military troops. Despite this, some representatives of the Kazakhs and Kyrrgyz, who were not satisfied with the introduction of the “Provisional Regulations on Governance in the Semirechenskaya and Syrdarya regions”, moved to the territory of the neighboring state of Yettishar. For example, in September 1867 notable people of the Altnemel volost of the Kapal district of the Semirechye region Baizhan Mekebayev, Satybaldy Kalkanbaev, Sharip Saurikov, Ismayil Medetmoldayev, Bainazar Nogayev and Tulen Syronev secretly held a meeting and decided to move with their auls to the state of Yetishar, because they did not want to be in citizenship Russian Empire. However, they could not do it, because Russian administration knew about their intention. According to the order of the head of the Kapal Uyezd, the above-mentioned people were taken into prison, and got freedom only after they submitted to the administration in accordance with the "Provisional Regulations" (CCA RK, 44. Op.1, D. 29185. L. 1).

After the introduction of the Temporary Provision, Tezek Abylaihanov was deprived of the title of senior sultan and tried to secretly establish contacts with the ruler of the state Yettishar Yakub-bek. Yakub-bek sent letters to the influential Kazakhs of Kapal and Vernensky districts of the Semirechye region, such as Tezek Abylaihanov, who were ready to move to Yettishar. In his letter addressed to Tezek Abylaihanov, he called for action against tsarist Russia and prepare for the attack on Russian settlements, such as Koksu and Karabulak (CGU RU, F.I-715, Op.1, D.36, L. 364) . Gazibolat Valikhanov, who had connections with Khan Tezek, put about a rumor that his doubts of the invincibility of the tsarist army. After that, the district chief was commissioned to take Tezek Ablaykhanov and Gazibolat Valikhanov under the police supervision (Moiseyev, 2006: 47).

The Russian administration recognized Tezek Ablaykhanov as guilty of attempts to move to a neighboring state, and tried to put him in jail. In 1868, Major Zdorenko, assistant chief of the Kapal district, received severe injuries from unknown assailants, and as a result lost 15 horses and a huge amount of money. The administration believed that these secret actions of Tezek Ablaykhanov, and without any evidence, accused him. In connection with these events, Tezek Ablaykhanov was arrested, as well as Japek Azhiev, an assistant to the Altnemelsk volost, who was in Kapal, for secret cooperation with the ruler of the state Yettishar. On August 20, 1872, Tezek Ablaykhanov was released thanks to a letter written to him by the military governor of the Semirechye region. As for Japek Azhiev, he died in prison (Central Committee of the RK, F.44, Op.1, D.20531, L.253.).

The Kyrgyz manapas Tilahmed and Muratali of the Issyk-Kul district of the Semirechenskaya region were also suspected of having relations with the ruler of the state Yattishar Yakub-bek. This information in the Russian administration of the Semirechensk Territory was provided by the merchant M.A. Khludov, who at the beginning of March 1868 was at a reception of Yakub-bek. In this regard, the military
governor of the Semirechye region gave instructions to the commander of the Tien Shan detachment Golovatsky to inquire about the contacts of Tilakhmet and Muratali. Meanwhile, the head of the Issyk-Kul Uyezd found out that Yakub-bek with the Bukharian emir is were preparing for military operations against the Russian troops, and that Kyrgyz people of Issyk-Kul region wanted to participate. The military governor received a report from the head of the Issyk-Kul district as follows: "In the last days of March 1868, we received news about the intentions of Yakub-bek, the Kashgar ruler, to invade our borders in the early spring. For greater chance of success of his actions he entered into relations with many of the most influential Manapans of the Issyk-Kul Uyezd. The main culprits of the unrest among the Kyrgyz are Tilahmet and Muratali. The first of them, which previously had the same significant influence and power among Kyrgyz lost it when a new provision on the administration of the Kirghiz was introduced. Muratali entered into relations with Yakub-bek "(TsGA KF, F. I-75. Op., 1. D.51, L.134).

After the statement of the head of the Issyk-Kul district, Muratali was taken sent to jail. Muratali did not admit his guilt in having a connection with Yakub-bek. The authorities did not have time to interrogate Tilahmet in connection with his death. Tole Manapa in Tokmak was suspected among the Kyrgyz of the Semirechye region, who wanted to support Yakub-bek. Therefore the governor took him under his personal control (the Central Administration of the Republic of Uzbekistan, F. I-715, op.1, D. 36. L.361). The military governor sent an order for the immediate arrest of Muratali and Tole Manap if they engage in suspicious cases (TsAGU, F. I-715, Op.1, D. 66. L. 361).

The Manap of the Sarybagysh tribe Umbetal Ormonuly and the representative of the Sayak clan Osman Taylakuly also spoke against the "Temporary position". In May 1868 Osman Taylakuly with an armed detachment attacked the troops of the Major of the Tokmak district G. Zagryazhinsky. During the attack, the rebels took several people into hostage, and moved to the state of Yettishar with their 600 families (TsGA KF.F. I-75, Op. 1. D. 51. L.69).

Yakub-bek did not like the visit of Osman Taylakuly to Yettishar. The ruler ordered to take Osman Taylakuly and all his companions to prison, while releasing captured Russian prisoners (Kyrgyzstan-Russia, 1998: 318). By such actions, Yakub-bek tried to establish close relations with the Russian authorities in Turkestan. But he was not going to comply with the demand of the military governor of the Semirechye region GA Kolpakovsky about the return of Osman Taylakuly and his companion Koichi, who had a direct relationship to the attack on the troops of Major G. Zagryazhinsky (Central Committee of the RK., Op.41, D. 5649 L.7).

On May 26, 1868 chief of headquarter of the Turkestan Military District, Major-General V.D. Dundeevel informed Minister of War D.A. Milyutin that Yakub-bek is going to attack the Russian territory and his contact with the ruler of the Ili Sultanate (Russian-Kashgar, 2008: 22).

At this time son of Kenesary Kasymov, Syzydk Kenesarin and his troops went to the Kazalinsky district of the Syrdarya region from the border areas of the Bukhara Emirate (TsGA of the Republic of Uzbekistan, F. I-715. Op.1. D.41, L.250). Despite this actions military governor of the Semirechye region GA. Kolpakovsky raised the question of the need to bring Russian troops into Western China. Kolpakovsky
believed that by such actions the Russian troops would be able to block the migration of Kazakhs and Kyrgyz to the territory of Yetishar, and informed the Governor General of Turkestan region baron K.P. von Kaufmann (Central Committee of the RK, F.21, Op.1, D.36, L.2). In his report G.A. Kolpakovsky informed about the beginning of a mass migration to Kshgariya of not only Semirechensk Kazakhs and the Kyrgyz, but also Kazakhs of the Semipalatinsk region (TsGA of the Republic of Uzbekistan, F. I-715. Op.1., D.42, L.186).

In the early spring of 1871, bi from the Alban clan of the Vernensky district of the Semirechenskaya region, Tazabek Pusyrmanov, with 1081 families, moved to the Ili sultanate, which was near the state of Yetishar. Tazabek Pusurmanov was allowed to settle in the valley in the territory of the Ili Sultanate. The ruler of the Ili Sultanate, Alahan, ignored the request of the Governor-General of the Turkestan Krai, Baron K.P. von Kaufman about the return of Tazabek Pusyrmanov (TsGA RK, F.44., Op.1., D.5649, L.118). This, in turn, provoked the entry of Russian troops into the territory of the Ili Sultanate and its full conquest on June 22, 1871 (Mukhametkhanuly, 2000: 133).


In the 1870s, among the officials of the Turkestan Territory, a rumor began spreading that agents of Great Britain and the Ottoman Empire also participated in the campaign to attract Kazakhs and Kyrgyz to the state of Yetishar (FSA of the Republic of Uzbekistan, F. I-715. 62. L.134). These rumors were largely influenced by the arrival of British ambassadors to Kashgar, and the fact that Yakub-bek was able to establish contacts with the Ottoman Empire. According to the researcher A.D. Vasilyeva, the Turkish sultan awarded Yakub-bek the honorary title "Amir ul-mumin" ("Defiant to the believers"), giving him more than a thousand different weapons (Vasilyev, 2015: 234). In turn, Yakub-bek, recognizing the Ottoman Empire as an ally, hung the Turkish flag in his residence (Shinzhanin, 1999: 497).

Ambassador of the Russian Empire in Istanbul I.P. Ignatiev believed that the arrival of the British Embassy in Yetishar was contrary to the interests of the tsarist government. On October 14, 1874, he sent a special report to Emperor Alexander II and stated that the purpose of British Ambassador Forsythe was to prevent Russia's invasion of Kashgariya, and the English resident G.Show fulfills commercial
assignments; besides this, he provides Kashgar with military instructions and weapons, and also the British ambassadors are agents of Great Britain in Yettishar (Central Administration of the Republic of Kazakhstan, F. 825. Op. 1. D. 36. L. 1). But the campaign of the Chinese troops led by Zuo Zong-tan in 1876 in Kashgariya dispelled the suspicion that British and Turkish agents are stirring up unrest among the Kazakhs and Kyrgyz of the Russian Empire.

During the military actions of Yakub-bek against the army of Zuo Zong-tan, the number of immigrants from Yettishar to the Russian Empire increased. On October 4, 1876, 193 Kyrgyz families from the Chirik clan returned from Yettishar to the Tokmak district. The reason for their resettlement in the Russian empire was the attraction of a large number of people from among the Kyrgyz to the army of the ruler of Yettishar (Central Committee of the RK, F. 44. Op. 1. D. 32968. L. 2).

After the sudden death of Yakub-bek's on May 17, 1877, the situation in Yettishar worsened. The internal strives, the struggle for power, as well as the military and political actions of the Qing court, which sought to establish hegemony in Kashgariya, largely contributed to the outflow of population to the territory of the Russian Empire.

During the seizure of the city the Manasatsin troops brutally punished the Dungans, killing 1,500 people. This information became known to the Governor-General of Turkestan. In this regard, Baron K.P. von Kaufmann sent a letter to Zuo Zong-tan with a request not to show cruelty when punishing the Dungan (TsGA RK, F. 427. Op.1, D. 11. 11. L.22).

Representatives of the Kazakh and Kirghiz peoples were also members of the troops fighting for Yettishar. Such representatives of the Kazakhs and Kirghiz as Aldashdatka, Osmon Taylakuly, Syzdyk Kenesarin took an active part in the battles against the Qing army. In one of the battle Syzdyk Kenesarin was wounded in his hand and went with the son of Yakub-bek Bek-Kuli-bek to the Sarykol region near the borders of the Russian Empire. Their troops were defeated by the army of the Sultansha Bek who supported the Manchu rule (Baytur Anwar, 2003: 318). After that, on February 10, 1878, Syzdyk Kenesarin decided to return to his homeland. In the city of Osh, he voluntarily surrendered to the representative of the Governor-General of the Turkestan Territory. From Osh, Syzdyk sent a letter to K.P. von Kaufmann, in which he wrote: "If they forgive my guilt, I will reside there and live with my brother Ahmet ...". He was allowed to live in the Shymkent district of the Syrdarya region on bail of his younger brother Ahmet Kenesarin, who served in the Russian army. The head of the Shymkent Uyezd received a written guarantee from A. Kenesarin about the observation of Syzdyk, which stated that Syzdyk was already old, and now can not do anything against the Russian government (TsGA of Uzbekistan F. I-17. 4).

Most representatives of Kazakh and Kyrgyz who sought refuge in Kashgariya returned to their homeland. In addition, representatives of the Uyghur and Dungan people, frightened by the repression of the Qing army, took refuge in the possession of the Russian Empire.

One of the prominent figures of Yettishar Jamadiyardath and his companions went to Afghanistan. He did not stop to hope to return to Kashgar. In connection with these events, on August 3, 1884, the military governor of the Semirechye region was
ordered to take control of influential Dungan people who took refuge in Semirechye, as well as the local population, so that they did not cross the border (TsGA RK, F. 41. Op. 1. D. 41. L. 90).

CONCLUSION

The advance of Russian troops to Central Asia caused a well-grounded concern among the cossacks and Kyrgyz. In this regard, some of their representatives protested against the adoption of the "Provisional Regulations on Governance in the Semirechye and Syr Darya Regions" of 1867, which caused great discontent among the local population. Protesters against the rule of the Russian Empire tried support the state of Yettishar. Yakub-bek, in order to strengthen his state, attracted to the service some representatives of Kazakhs and Kyrgyz, who moved to Kashgariya. He also tried to use Kazakhs and Kyrgyz of Central Asia in his own interests in negotiations with the Russian Empire. But his efforts were not successful.

People who were refused to obey the local authorities of the Russian Empire and did not take part in the riots moved to the state Yettishar. In addition, people who spoke categorically against the military operations of Russian troops in Central Asia also migrated to Yettishar.

The Russian Empire tried to maintain the influence of the new states formed in the 1860s in East Turkestan, including the state of Yettishar, on the Kazakhs and Kirghiz. The influence of the state of Yettishar on the Central Asian region led to chaos.

After the restoration of the power of the Qing Empire in Kashgariya, Kazakhs and Kyrgyz had to return to their historical homeland. They were given the opportunity to live peacefully in accordance with the laws of the Russian Empire.

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