

ANCIENT ASSYRIAN MILITARY REFORMS

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Annotation: This article provides additional information about the important role of the Assyrian state in the history of the ancient world in the Middle East, its reforms in the military sphere, which existed for the 13th century, and the fact that today these military discoveries have become extremely important for that time.

Keywords: Assyrian, Mesopotamia, hierarchy, kisru, Salmanasar III, Army, chariots, wooden fences, catapult, javelin Armour, cavalry, transport, communications, metal wheel.

Introduction: There were many powerful invasion States in the ancient world, but none of them carried out the invasion march continuously for nearly 1,300 years. The main reason why Assyria became a powerful state for such a long time lies precisely in the fact that constant military reforms and discoveries were carried out at that time.

Troop formation

The Assyrian army hierarchy (structure) was of the type typical of Mesopotamian armies at the time. The king, whose reign was granted by the gods (as viewed in religious beliefs), would have commanded the entire army of the Empire. If the King did not participate in the battlefield, he instead appointed some senior positions to lead the army.

Before the reform of ruler Tiglath-Pileser III, the Assyrian army closely resembled the Mesopotamian armies. The soldiers were mostly farmers who had to return to their fields to harvest. Professional soldiers were limited to a few guards who protected the King, nobles, officials, but only. Therefore, they were not sent to war until the situation became serious. But after the reform, the number and quality of the Assyrian army increased dramatically. In particular, king Salamansar III boasted of having an army of 120,000 men in his campaigns against Syria. Gathering such a large number of troops required soldiers from the conquered peoples. The larger army also needed more food and supplies, and for this the Assyrians prepared what was needed for the Army before the military campaign.

Preparing for a new walk

Preparations for the new march required, first of all, a meeting of soldiers at the designated military base. In Assyrian territory, there were places where soldiers gathered, such as Nineveh, Kalhu or Khorsabad. In some cases, the meeting places changed depending on the military march. The governors were instructed to supply grain, oil and war materials. Other duties of governors included calling in the necessary soldiers. Vassal states had to present their soldiers to the Assyrian king in time: failure to do so was seen almost as a rebellion. The arrival of the king and his guard ended the initial phase, and the army headed towards its target. The army moved in very good order; the Vanguard was structured as the gods would like, and this indicated that Assyrian kings would serve the main god Assur. After that, the King, the humble servant of Assur, was surrounded by his guard with the help of chariots and war troops, the elite of the army. Infantry in the rear; peoples conquered after the Assyrian armies. He was followed by a siege train, supply carts, and then military camp

builders. This formation of the army was too weak for an attack from behind. Some parts of the military could cover 30 miles a day, and such speed was useful for subjugating and intimidating the enemy. A rapid military reform was carried out when constant wars began to weaken the army. One such reformer was Tiglath Pileser III mil. In the 1st century BC. All had to change when he came to the throne in 745. After the reform of Assyrian public administration, he in turn set about transforming the Assyrian army. The most important aspect of the reform was the introduction of a standing army. This included a large number of foreign soldiers, but they were mixed with other Assyrian soldiers. These soldiers were supplied by vassal states as tribute, or as required by the Assyrian king. They were given Assyrian weapons and clothing to keep them apart and to strengthen their solidarity. While the infantry in the regular armies was made up of a large number of foreigners (including Armenians and even Greeks), the cavalry and chariots in the Army were exclusively Assyrian. However, there were exceptions, as reinforcements were needed, Sargon II reports that he added 60 Israeli chariots to his army.

Transport and communication

With the rise of the Assyrian empire, new demands were made for transport and communication. Unlike the Neo-Assyrian Empire in Mesopotamia, roads were much less than the very good roads used by the local population. However, the armies of these roads were not enough for an empire that was constantly in motion, always rioting one after the other. The Assyrians were the first to control and improve the system of roads throughout the Empire. A state communication system consisting of regular road stations was established for messengers to rest and Exchange horses. Later, for the Persians, this system provided the basis for the expansion of their empire.

Roads through the mountains have significantly reduced travel times. Engineers built stone roads leading to the major cities of Assur and Nineveh. By the 2nd millennium BC, wooden bridges had been built on the Euphrates. In the 1st millennium BC, there were stone bridges in Nineveh and Assur. This indicated the wealth of the Ashur Kingdom. The construction of roads and the advanced transport caused the easy transportation of various goods and goods through the Empire and the rise of Assyrian war power. Obviously, these routes would have accelerated not only the Assyrian armies, but also the enemy armies.

Use of camels

The Assyrians were the first to use camels in military campaigns. Camels have been used more often than donkeys because they can carry up to five times as much load and require less watering. Camels were not trained in the hand until 1000 BC. The first camel trained in the hand was the dromedary.

Wheelbarrows

According to reports, the Sumerians are considered to have discovered the wheel around 3000 BC, despite the abundance of evidence supporting its origin in the Black Sea region of Ukraine (Volchover, Scientific Amerikan, 2012). Assyrians first produced metal wheels made of copper, bronze, and later Iron.

The strength of the Assyrian army was in chariots. Initially these carriages were used as two-horse vehicles. The ancient Egyptians and Sumerians used military chariots as mobile firing platforms or mobile command platforms; the high visibility gave military generals the opportunity to see how troops were fighting. The Assyrians used chariots for intelligence work, carrying combat messages. The rise of chariots in the 1st millennium BC, until the 7th century BC, used chariots only to perform

military duties; light Chariots of two to three horses were later changed to heavy Chariots of four horses under Ashurasir II. Such chariots could accommodate up to four men. Heavy chariots began to be used to penetrate into enemies, to blunt and shock infantry soldiers. Assyrian cavalry and infantrymen could take advantage of this loophole to overpower the enemy and occupy the battlefield.

Cavalry was rarely used by Assyrians and many other Mesopotamians until the 9th century BC, when the use of cavalry was emphasized during the reign of Tukulti-Ninurta II. Prior to this, many settlers or desert warriors used cavalry to invade Assyrian lands. The Assyrians quickly adopted the use of this war weapon, and used it in an appropriate manner against their opponents, especially in their battles with the Iranians. Perhaps the greatest external influence is the Iranian Medes. It was from these peoples that Assyria received help in building the cavalry that thwarted the kingdom of Elam. However, Assyrian attempts were not without difficulties; mounted archers were used, but they could not use bows and horses at the same time. As a result, the cavalry under the Ashurnasirpal arm was depicted in pairs, with one rider controlling a horse bridle and another shooting with a bow. The Assyrians had less trouble communicating with the cavalry; During the reign of Tiglath Pileser III, the Assyrians continued to fight in pairs, but this time each warrior grabbed his spear and began to control his own horse. By the 7th century BC, Assyrian Warriors were armed with bows and spears, and had slats, armor. The Cavalry later formed the basis of the Assyrian army.

Large cavalry units were to be formed by the Assyrians; some units were formed from hundreds or even thousands of cavalry. Without the horses supplied continuously, there was no doubt that the Assyrian war machine would collapse. As Ashurbanipal suffered terrible casualties in the invasion campaign, rebellions following his death may have contributed significantly to the Empire's crisis, which made it difficult for vassals to supply cavalry and other war materials needed. Horses were a very important source of war, and the Assyrian king himself expressed an interest in horse breeding.

Three main horse sources:

- * Raids designed to steal horses from Scythians, desert peoples and other opponents
- * Tributes paid by Vassal states
- * Reporting to high-ranking government officials and the king overseeing the production of horses

Organization of military affairs.

As a result of the centuries-old wars of the osurite tsars with neighboring peoples in order to capture slaves and obtain spoils, military affairs were extremely high. In the second half of the 8th century BC, during the reign of King Sargon II with Tiglatpalasar III, who made a number of harbin campaigns in succession for the purpose of conquest, achieved brilliant victories, various reforms were carried out, resulting in

In the osurian state, the harbic works were rebuilt and flourished. The Kings of osuria formed a large number, well-armed and strong ar brain, and served the entire apparatus of the state government to military extirpations. Osuriyaying's large army consisted of military colonists, and at the same time this army gathered a soldier from the territory under which the head of each Oblast, filled with people who could be plucked for military purposes from among the vast layers of the free population, and these soldiers were commanded by the head of the region himself. The army also included people drawn from the "allies", the tribes of the countries to which ya'n was subjugated and annexed by Osuria. For example, we know that Sargon's son Sinaherib (late 8th century BC - niig) formed

10,000 archers and 10,000 shield-bearers from captives brought from the "Western country" and added these to the army, while Ashshurbanipal (7th century BC-era Miz) filled the ranks of the army with archers, Shields, Cossacks and blacksmiths brought from Elamiing's warred lands. A permanent army was formed in osuria, which was named the "Tsar's detachment" (exactly "knot"), and this Army served to suppress the rebels. Finally, the King had a personal guard, which was to guard the "holy" person of the King. The development of Western affairs required the formation of certain combat units. Records indicate that there was a small-small soldier unit lar (kisru) of 50 men. However, smaller units and larger soldier formations were also composed of bulishi probably. Regular soldier units included infantry, cavalry, and soldiers riding a battle cart, while sometimes a proportional ratio was also set between certain types of soldiers. The Chunonchi, 200 infantrymen were commanded by 10 cavalry and one battle ara and a mounted warrior. In Ashshurnazirpal's time (9th century BC), the first appearance of the battle chariot and cavalry greatly exaggerated the agility of the Osur koshins, giving the opportunity to attack violently and rapidly chase the retreating enemy behind them. But in any case the bulk of the army, which made up a very large number, remained composed of infantrymen. The infantry consisted of archers, Shields, spearmen, and spear throwers. The Assyrian army was the best-supplied army with weapons. The osurian army consisted of owls, shields, and helmets. In the types of weapons and rainbow, short sword and Spear were more painting.

The Assyrian kings paid great attention to the good arming of their armies. From the palace of Sargon II, a huge number of weapons had been found, Sinaherib with Asarkhaddon (7th century BC) "to arm the blackheads, to build horses, mules, donkeys, camels, chariots, a cargo cart and ordinary chariots, holsters, arrows, kamalaks, all kinds of tools to receive the saddle-harness of horses and mules," all that is kept in Nineveh".

For the first time," engineering " soldier parts also appeared in Assyria, these soldier parts were used to make way from the mountains, build simple and pontoon bridges, and build camps for soldiers. Surviving Su'ratas show that the art of building fortifications in ancient Assyria was immensely progressive for the time. The Assyrians were able to establish permanent camps in Fort-type enclosures, four sides of which were fortified with thick walls and towers (guardhouses), while these enclosures were rectangular or circular. The technique of building fortifications was learned by the Iranians from the Assyrians, and then it passed from the Iranians to the ancient Romans. The still-preserved ruins of castles found in several places and, among others, in Chanli, also indicate that the techniques of building a castle in ancient Osuria were of Exceptional Merit. The presence of fortified strongholds required the use of siege weapons. Consequently, in connection with the progress of the construction of a fortress in Osuria, the buds of the oldest "artillery"also began to appear. Images depicting the siege and shturming of the castle survive on the walls of the Palace in Assyria. The surrounding area of the fortified castle was usually surrounded by a mound of Earth and dug a ditch. Near the walls of the fortress, they made a Yule from a board and special suckers for studying siege weapons. The osurs used wall-breaking siege guns, distinctive, wheeled Tarans. The part of the Taran that would hit and overturn the wall would have consisted of a large and large charioteer covered in iron bi lan and hung on a chain. The hanging Hari was swung by soldiers and wrapped in the walls of the fortress, bringing down the wall. the example of these primitive weapons used by the Iranians was taken from the Assyrians, which may later have been based on the more perfect weapons used by the ancient Romans-possibly.

Military art has grown considerably as a result of the widespread use of occupation policies. The Assyrian warlords knew how to attack their enemy from the front and from the side, and both of

these methods were used by the bnr in the transition to a wide offensive along the entire front. Often the Assyrians also used various "military tricks", the chunonchi, who attacked the enemy at night. Along with the tactics of crushing the enemy, they also used the tactics of drying his tincture. To this end, in order to cut off all the communications of the enemy, to deprive him of water, food and the opportunity to receive military assistance, military detachments occupied all mountain passes, water sources, Wells, places to be bypassed by rivers.

The large column of the Assyrian army was such that it was able to attack the enemy very boldly and fiercely, hitting him at lightning speed, until the enemy gathered his forces together and regained consciousness. Oshshurbanipal (7th century BC) conquered the land of Elam in a moment, which consists of mountains and is laborious to go all the way. The osurs, very skilled masters of the military art of their time, understood very well that the complete destruction of the military forces of the enemy had the greatest importance. For this reason, the Osurian forces pursued and destroyed the enemy, who had eaten a heavy blow in battle, intensively and violently, for this purpose they used chariots and cavalry soldiers.

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