

In The Name of Allaah, The Most Merciful, The Bestower of Mercy.

Alp Arslan's son, Malik Shah, took over the Sultanate after his death, but his uncle Qaaward (or Qavurt) Bin Chaghri, the ruler of the Seljuks of Kerman, opposed him, demanded the Sultanate and a clash took place between them near Hamadan, where he was defeated and killed, and thus Malik Shah took control of the Seljuk state of Kerman, and Sultan Shah Bin Alp Arslan [Malik Shah's brother] was appointed as governor of Kerman in the year 465 AH.

The Seljuk state expanded during the reign of Sultan Malik Shah and reached its maximum extension from Afghanistan in the east to Asia Minor in the west, and Shaam in the south, after Damascus fell at the hands of Atsiz in 468AH, and the call to the Abbasid caliph was established. Malik Shah assigned the areas that he controlled in Shaam to his brother Taj al-Dawla in the year 470AH to pursue the conquest, and the latter established the Seljuk state of Shaam. He appointed one of his relatives, called Sulaymaan Bin Qatlamish Bin Israa'eel as the ruler of Asia Minor, which was affiliated with the lands of Rome, to carry on with the conquest in the year 470 AH, and thus the Seljuk state of Rome was established. This state lasted 224 years and its rulership carried on through fourteen descendants of Abul Fawaaris Qatlamish Ibn Israa'eel, the first of whom was Sulaymaan Qatlamish, who is considered the founder of this state and was able to conquer Antioch in the year 477 AH, and his son Daawud was able to control Konya in the year 480 AH to make it his capital. Konya was one of the richest and stately Byzantine cities in Asia Minor. The Seljuks converted it from a Christian Byzantine city to an Islamic Seljuk city. This state fell at the hands of the Mughals in the year 700 AH and later became one of the possessions of the Ottoman Empire. The Seljuks of Rome were keen on Turkifying Asia Minor and to spread Islam there upon the Sunni path. They were the cause of the spread of Islamic civilization to those regions and they removed the defensive barrier that was protecting European Christianity against Islam in the East.

Despite this strong sultanate at the time of Malik Shah, Atsiz did not succeed in unifying Shaam, and Egypt after the Seljuks posed an actual threat to the Abaydiyyah (Fatimid Shiite) state inside Egypt. When Atsiz wanted to invade Egypt, defeat befell him at the hands of an Arab force before confronting the large army prepared by Minister Badr al-Jamaalee in Rajab 469 AH. This failure led to more fragmentation, political disruption, and bloody conflict, to the end of which Atsiz was killed in 571 AH. When Sultan Malik Shah passed away, that robust succession of strength and glory - between 447AH and 485AH - that was known to the Seljuk state - during the reign of Tughrl Beg, Alp Arslan and Malik Shah - ceased. [Ad-Dawlah Al-Uthmaaniyyah Awaamil An-Nuhood wa Asbaab As-Suqoot. Vol 6. Pages 31-32]

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