



Economic structure and trade relations of the Algerian Eyalet before 1830

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Abstract

This research paper aims to address the economic history of the Algerian eyalet and try to research aspects of economic life and its basic components in Algeria during the last stage of the Ottoman era, which is a very sensitive stage because it is a transitional period from the Ottoman circle to the French occupation circle in 1830 AD, and this research is based in general on introducing the most important components of the Algerian economy during a short period following the fall of the eyalet in the clutches of the French occupation, and this research paper aims to follow the most important developments witnessed by the Algerian economy during the Very critical history, by addressing the most important basic pillars of the Algerian economy and its components, including the agricultural and agricultural field, industry and commercial movement, whether local or international, and trying to track the developments and fluctuations witnessed by the Algerian economic sector during the las.

Keywords . Algerian economy Ottoman Algeria Agriculture Industry Algerian.

1: Boot:

During the last era of the Ottoman era, the Algerian Eyalet went through very critical circumstances that included all areas From life, and despite the reform attempts embodied on the ground by some midwives and leaders such as Dey Muhammad bin Othman to save the country, their results were unsatisfactory and did not reflect the general aspirations of statesmen nor in the interest of the country, and it is worth noting that these reforms came at an inopportune time, especially after all social, political and economic values collapsed within the Algerian Eyalet, and on the other hand, foreign countries flocked It coveted the Algerian Eyalet in order to occupy it and benefit From various material and human sources.

The fourth phase of the Ottoman rule in Algeria was considered one of the most important historical stages and the most dangerous for the process of the state and its men for the Algerian eyalet, as the Algerian authority knew during this era a wave of fluctuations and events that touched many vital areas of the state, and this contributed to its promotion as a very important stage for the history of the Algerian state.

Ottoman leaders in the Algiers Eyalet in Algeria, starting in 1671 AD, carried the title of midwives, and this word means the commander of the command in the Ottoman Turkish language¹, and its meaning may sometimes exceed the meaning of father or uncle² The dey Muhammad Bektash is the first to carry this title in the Eyalet of Algeria, and historical studies indicate that this title was not exclusive to the rulers of The Algerian Eyalet in its fourth phase, which is known as the midwives phase, enjoyed strong sovereignty and political authority that transcended the geographical borders of the Algerian state to include the rulers of the neighbor Tunisian Eyalet, and this confirms The Tunisian historian Ibn Abi Diyaf said: "... Sinan Pasha organized... in Tunisia and made each of them a prince called the Dey a title that feels great.(1)

"... There is no doubt that the Ottoman system of government in the North African eyas was very similar, whether in the political or administrative system, and this is primarily due to the fact that these provinces were subject to the same legislator, the Ottoman authority, which enacted unified administrative and political laws for its North African provinces(1)

2. Aspects of the Algerian economy:

Ibn Khaldun confirms that the economy does not come out of three aspects of the first old face in his belief is agriculture or agricultural field has been described as innate, natural and simple activity, it is according to his thinking does not need to know the exact The second activity is the industry or what indicates it has linked and limited to the inhabitants of cities and cities and required where science and thought, and we are surprised here Ibn Khaldun's monopoly of the industrial field on the category of urban or city dwellers for others, and I think that this monopoly has what Justifies it because the potential of industry and its field are linked to the availability of capabilities in cities and large metropolises.(2)

Trade has been described in the Khalduni dictionary as a process based on the collection of financial interest through the process of buying and selling³ and after we have reviewed the various linguistic definitions of the various economic activities in Nadar Ibn Khaldun, now we will go back to that in detail and show the state of these economic profitable activities in Algeria.

2. First: Agricultural and agricultural activity:

Agriculture is the most prominent economic activity adopted by most of the population during the Ottoman era, but the agricultural and agricultural reality in Algeria during the last period of the Ottoman era collided with a set of obstacles that constituted an obstacle to its recovery and development, many historians have pointed to that greed that characterized some statesmen and princes about the land and its ownership, which made its owners and servants deliberately keep it away from them in various ways and methods and prevent its confiscation, and worked to make it Islamic endowments so that statesmen could not own it or transfer them because they have become endowment lands protected by law and law.(3)

Agricultural lands in Algeria enjoyed all the ingredients for success, especially fertility, the size of its areas and diversity, in addition to the moderation of the climate, all factors contributed to encouraging the population to practice agricultural and agricultural activity, and the diversity of the terrain also allowed the diversity of vegetation cover and agricultural crops, all these agricultural possibilities made foreigners praise the Algerian lands, and admire them, and many have expressed their surprise and admiration for the quantity and quality of the agricultural product and the diversity of its yield and the abundance and abundance of steppe lands and the diversity of its soil 4.

The lands of Mitija and the nearby areas of the most fertile lands From the territory of the Algerian state provinces and also distinguished by the regions of the eastern side of the country with this feature and according to some statistics, the Beylek, whose capital is Oran, was poorly produced, and the territory of the lands of Medea and its suburbs was not better than its predecessors 5, It is worth noting in this matter, the Algerian agriculture has been known for its vitality and recovery in many cases, and has shown the production of huge quantities of various grains and products, and has contributed a lot of potential The material and human available in encouraging the breeding of various animals, and this is what was witnessed by foreigners who inspected the Algerian agricultural potential and have expressed this with much wonder and surprise, and they have written down in their decisions and books everything related to the Algerian agricultural and agricultural field, and their blogs included a description of the various agricultural and animal products that Algeria was rich in, as the Spanish prisoner Haido commented on the natural potential that Algeria possesses during that era.

. These available material capabilities contributed to providing Conditions and reasons for the development of agricultural and agricultural production of the Algerian state provinces covered its food needs and achieved food security and contributed to saving France from famine after sending it loads of grain, and in the same context Algeria was able to export a commercial load from the port of Oran estimated at approximately 250 thousand saa of wheat in the late 18th century AD, and Algeria was providing guarantees to some European countries to provide them with wheat in case they need it, According to many research and written testimonies, agricultural activity in Algeria was dual combining the agricultural and livestock Sectors of different types and types.(4).

At the end of the Ottoman era, Algerian agriculture and agriculture witnessed an increasing decrease in the volume of production and its limitations as a result of the reluctance of the Algerian farmer to carry out the craft of agriculture, due to the state's neglect of this important axis and the main pillar in building the foundations of the financial system , and this explains the increasing trend in the size of taxes imposed on farmers, which reflected negatively on the agricultural field, and many. contemporaries were held responsible for the

low agricultural Activity and inferiority to the state and its men and the injustice of employees in the process of collecting the crop and the resulting arbitrary methods funds, which contributed to the process of migration and rural displacement, whether to cities. Or to the mountains away from the eyes of the administration, leaving behind their fertile lands and productive plains, and this situation later exacerbated crises and spread famine. .

Algeria witnessed at the beginning of the 19th century AD a great famine that contributed significantly to the decline in the standard of living throughout the Algerian province, which had a great impact on the Algerian economy, especially after wheat prices increased and increased by times its usual real price and decreased and almost disappeared from the Algerian market, this prompted the highest authority in the country to give orders to the need to bring large containers of grain and import it from various local or foreign sources and adjust its price at 28 francs per saa, and as a precautionary measure to watch over Securing warehouses and protecting them from robberies, looting and theft, and some reports have proven the role of natural pandemics and their contribution to advancing famine, as these reports indicate that many farmers were late in harvesting their yields due to the spread of locusts, which caused the fall of crops and corruption. .

This situation has had great repercussions on the future of the Algerian economy during this period, as this catastrophic situation led to the spread of a wave of fear and panic in the Algerian popular circles, which prompted some poor people to leave their homes and migrate from their regions due to their weakness, dread and hunger, and the importance of this event and the size of its catastrophe on Algerian society, one of the Algerian historians classified a historical book that cares about this situation and records its events and results and is interested in its developments.(5).

The latter has confirmed in his book that the factors of damage to agricultural production have continued in the eastern Algerian region for nearly three continuous years, and on the other hand played natural pandemics also played their role has been the locust pandemic that descended on the region negative results on the agricultural field has been the temporal authority in Algeria aware of all the developments that. touched the country so the Dey realized early the difficulty of the situation and refused to sell grain or barter, whether internally or externally and prevent their export from All the provinces belonging to the Eyalet and in return encouraged to bring them from abroad to provide the needs of the population and the people.,

Some statesmen committed many lapses and serious mistakes when they allowed Jewish traders to sell Algerian wheat and export it to various foreign and European countries and in return put many obstacles to its sale in the Algerian market, which contributed to its scarcity among the general public and considered this procedure a convincing reason for many in its unavailability, and one of the writers goes further when he holds the responsibility for the scarcity of this article for the deteriorating political situation and the lack of stability as a result of the revolution carried out by the Rahmani method In eastern Algeria.

Second: Handicrafts and Industrial Crafts in Algeria:

Handicrafts and crafts in Algeria were not in the best condition of agricultural activity, as crafts and handicrafts in their entirety did not rise to the global level that characterized that era and did not keep pace with international and foreign crafts and industries, especially during the last decades of the Ottoman era, and the availability of raw materials helped the spread of

local handicrafts, and each region differed from the other in its own craft, for example, the manufacture of woolen covers was the share of Tlemcen in the far west of Algeria.(6)

Bani Rashid Fort was known for its wonderful weaving of various gorgeous carpets, which combined the taste of style, the beauty of the shape and the nobility of the origin and every art is justified, and the leather industry had a strong presence through wallets, saddles and belts, the abundance of material materials, crafts and industrial material had an active role in making the Algerian Eyalet a pioneer in the economic field through the practice of the trade exchange process, and one of the American historians explained its exports to Europe and the eastern cities of the Ottoman Attic State, and he pointed to various Its exports and talk was limited to various basic products of crafts and handicrafts in addition to agricultural and agricultural products.

On the other hand, the Algerian Eyalet was able to be an active party through the monopoly of some industries and make it a pure Algerian creation, especially at the regional and regional level and occupy the highest ranks in some textile industries, and this industry remained the subject of competition between the Algerian and Tunisian Eyalet for a period of time until the opportunity arose for the Tunisian Eyalet to re-tighten its control over this industry in light of the availability of appropriate conditions and reasons The city of Algiers, Tlemcen and Constantine specialized in the manufacture of gold jewelry, despite the Jewish competition that was It wants to monopolize this industry, and the villages of Jarjara specialized in the manufacture of silver ornaments.(7).

Algerians practiced various handicrafts and crafts spread at that time, perhaps the most prominent of which are clay pottery industries in addition to the craft of blacksmithing related to swords, daggers and military industries with all their requirements, and this did not prevent them from occupying and manufacturing agricultural production tools, and although the conditions and capabilities are close between the regions of the Eyalet, but this did not prevent a clear disparity in the industry from one place to another.

It should be noted that the Algerian Eyalet was interested in the military and military field in line with the conditions of the nineteenth century AD and on the other hand also paid great attention to the manufacture of warships and merchant has adopted places selected for construction or repair has been distributed these places mainly in the coasts of Algeria and Ahwaza because of the strategic importance of these cities in the policy of the Algerian state has ordered the administration to appoint a man of competence in order to work to benefit from the coastal forests In the eastern region of Algeria, the wood material intended for the manufacture of ships was of great importance in the policy of the ruling regime because the state was indispensable for the naval fleet and its military services, which ensures the achievement of peace and security internally and externally, and what explains its growing interest in this vital material is the great insistence on wood within the terms of its international treaties, whether in time of war or peace.(8).

Many historians have held the Ottoman authority responsible for the scarcity of this vital material, and despite the importance of this vital material, the authority did not have a clear policy to protect the sources of this material and did not take any deterrent position against the random exploiters of Algerian forests, which caused the loss of a large volume of them in the early 19th century AD, as a result of systematic and unstudied exploitations, and as a result of this policy, many trees were cut down for use in some industries.

Economic structure and trade relations of the Algerian Eyalet before 1830

Finally, what can be said is that the file of Algerian handicrafts and industry in the last decades of the Ottoman era has been characterized by many advantages:

Existing raw materials such as wool, leather and timber were considered key pillars of the Algerian industrial sector during the Ottoman era.(9)

The lack of response of the Algerian state and its political authority during the modern era important door and The inability of the Algerian political system in the modern era to follow the strategy customs protection and work to encourage foreign imports

. Many factors intervened that hindered the development and prosperity of Algerian industry, and they can be summarized as follows:

- * The large number of taxes imposed on local industry On the one hand Algerian state employees during the modern era with record numbers

- * Lack Algerian domestic consumption due to the low and low purchasing power of the Algerian population and society

- * Strong competition from European goods for local Algerian goods, which remained tied to the old without their owners trying to develop and improve their products

. The practice of the Jewish community for the process of monopolizing goods and industries such as jewelry, glass, handmade watches and various crafts and crafts in which they excelled, and it should be noted that despite the importance of the manufacture of ships, cannons, gunpowder and the military industry in general, it remained entrusted to Christian prisoners and European volunteers and far of Algerian Muslims and their assistants, during the last era of the modern era the numbers of Christian prisoners declined as result of international treaties and covenants, this important industry failed and disrupted, and thus the Algerian industrial sector lost an essential pillar of its vital pillars. To make matters worse, the general deterioration witnessed by the agricultural and livestock sector, which led to the shortage of raw materials and their high prices, which reflected negatively on the general economic situation.(10)

Third: Foreign Trade of the Algerian Eyala:

Foreign trade has stagnated more often than not risen to the desired level due to the neglect of regional trade relations with Africa or international trade with Europe, due to the control of maritime jihad operations in what was known as piracy among. Christians on the financial system of the Algerian state, which reflected negatively on Algerian public life and thus Algeria became the bottom of the general ranking in the global trade field compared to regional and international countries, and because From the passivity of the administration responsible for imposing sums of money on exported and imported goods at the end of the life of the Algerian Eyalet Trade with foreign countries, all of this has led to the ruin of Algerian trade and also eliminated agriculture in it, The following figures and statistics carefully deal with the various financial and commercial operations and highlight their various types and figures. Algerian government during the first decades of the nineteenth century.(11) .

Imported goods				Algerian Exports		
Value in Spanish	Goods	Country		Value in Spanish currentc	Goods	Commodity size

Economic structure and trade relations of the Algerian Eyalet before 1830

Dollars			y		
500000	Manufactured goods	Kingdom of England	160000	Wool and derivatives	20000
	Silk and various threads	Italian cities	80000	Animal skins at a rate of \$ 30 per quintal	10000
300000	Sugar Coffee Pepper	Leveroix	18000	Wax material and products	600
	Manufactured goods	Genoa	15000	Ostrich feathers and various other materials	
200.000	Coffee, pepper and local items	France	273000		Grand Total
100000	Silk wear and raw materials	Ports of the east of the Ottoman Empire			
100000	Precious stones in addition to wood, diamonds, silver alloys	Italian kingdoms and cities and France			
1.200.000(12)		Total Amount			

What can be commented on these tables is that the trade exchanges of the Algerian Eyalet were very modest and modest taking into account the supreme interest of the Algerian regime in order to open the way for the prosperity of the industrial and commercial system, and it is noticeable that the general policy that was followed by the midwives and their assistants is to preserve capital, but in return this was a reflection of the failed commercial strategy that was followed, which opened the way for local orders and personal impressions.(13)

Algeria has signed many international agreements and treaties, the most prominent and most of which was with France, but these agreements signed between the French and Algerian parties had disastrous results on the future of Algerian global trade, due to the monopolistic strategy pursued by the Royal African Company, where the latter initiated the monopoly of most of the materials produced by the Algerian Eyalet, which qualified it to enjoy an abundant profit as a result of that monopolistic policy, and recognition of Algeria's thanks to

the government, land and people of the company wrote in a year 1776 on a gold medal The following sentence "Marseille sings the riches of Africa".

The Royal African Company has succeeded in playing multiple roles, the most prominent of which were:

First: A commercial role mainly related to the economic system through the acquisition of the properties and capabilities of the Algerian Eyalet in the eastern part of it, and its focus was mainly on coral-rich areas in most of the coastal areas of the east of the Algerian country.

. Second: Make the Royal African Company or what is known as Bastion play a strategic political role and turn the company into a special center for espionage, collecting information and news and permanent access to the country's news, and on the other hand making the center a primary supply base for men of war and naval campaigns, and the owner of this company always insists on the importance of keeping these centers to serve colonial political purposes and make the commercial company a way to achieve its premeditated goals.(14).

On the other hand, the French commercial activity in Algiers and its suburbs appears through the role and shops authorized to trade, which are basically working for the benefit of the French economy under the supervision and service of the men of various French cities such as the group of houses of Paris, Marseille, Guimont and Bremen, and it is worth noting that the sharp commercial competition between the rivals England and France about the attempt of each party to take advantage of the natural potential that Algeria abounds in, a justified commercial competition where Britain hoped to control the World trade and the development of its economic activities, while France pursued through its trade to achieve special political purposes during the French Revolution.

The previous negative policies contributed to the decline and collapse of the Algerian commercial system, which prompted Baldey to take a set of measures aimed at bringing capital to the Algerian treasury and accumulating and exploiting it in maintaining security and peace and establishing a balance in the Algerian financial system in preparation for future transformations, and for this the Dey worked by instructing strict orders to the owner of the treasury and the responsible for it stating that he adheres to and follows a special financial policy aimed at collecting funds from various sources, and this economic policy has borne fruit where it gathered Huge sums of money in the Algerian treasury from the revenues of the maritime jihad, taxes on the tribes and the spoils of foreign wars. However, officials and the men of the Financial House did not know how to invest this accumulated money,

whether in internal or external trade:

Many studies The Algerian economy clearly indicates what the dhimmis have done within state institutions, exactly during the last three decades of the life of the Eyalet and their empowerment to control the internal and external trade of the Algerian Eyalet facilitated by the midwives themselves, and they had a pioneering experience in trade exchanges, which qualified them to play the role of mediation in trade exchanges, especially with regard to agricultural and agricultural production, and their knowledge was extraordinary in currency and trade issues.(15) .

For these reasons, the Jews succeeded in controlling the foreign trade exchanges of the Algerian Eyalet, especially with regard to grain and agricultural production, and caused many problems for the Algerian Eyalet, whether at the internal or external level, and The most vivid

example of this is the fall of the city of Algiers under the weight of French destruction in 1830 for them a large part of the responsibility in what was known as the issue of debt, these developments and sterile policy contributed to the conduct of foreign trade Algeria's temporal power and the inability of the financial system to keep pace with global economic developments, which precipitated the emergence of major economic problems , and one of the Historical documents, which are a letter from the Dey Omar to The first master in the Ottoman Empire complains about the collapse of the economy in the country and the emptiness of the state treasury, which caused the inability of the treasury to pay the dues of military employees and their financial installments .(16)

Results: The Algerian financial system in the last decades of the life of the Eyalet witnessed many developments and developments that had a great impact on its destabilization and weakness, and in fact the Algerian Eyalet by virtue of the circumstances of its strategic location as a primary base in conflicts and clashes against the countries and kingdoms of Europe. during modern times known as permanent and continuous wars did not have a comprehensive economic policy, and the economic system in Algeria did not The Algerian authority has focused most of its attention on building the military system and developing its means, including the fleet, because of its effective role in the survival and prestige of the authority, whether at the internal or external level. contributing to the revival of the financial system with its profits through the revenues generated by the operations of maritime jihad of spoils, prisoners, annual royalties, tribute, and what is generated by international treaties.

However, the financial and economic system was weakened by the weakness of The naval military apparatus, especially after Lord Exmouth's campaign in 1816, and the dhimmis, including Jewish merchant families, during the last decades of the life of the Eyalet bear the bulk of the historical responsibility for the loss that affected Algeria. and failure of Algerian trade, both internal and external, and it must be noted that some of the Algerian eyalet leaders contributed effectively, whether directly or unintentionally, To the dire reality of the Algerian financial system and its sources of income, especially in the last phase of the era of the midwives AD through those serious mistakes they committed In the right of Algerian public affairs, they did not have a clear policy of reform interested in trying to promote the elements of the Algerian economy, and despite some miserable attempts, but they came late in which local or international conditions did not allow the revival of the Algerian economy.

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Economic structure and trade relations of the Algerian Eyalet before 1830

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