

Algerian -Ottoman Relations under the reign of Mohamed Ben Othman Pasha (1766-1791)

(1766–1791) العلاقات الجزائرية-العثمانية في عهد محمد بن عثمان باشا

Fetissi Nadia

Abed Elhamid Mehri- Constantin2, (Algeria)

Nadia.fetissi@univ-constantine2.dz

Orcid Number :

Accepted ...23/10/2025 Received 05/07/2025

Abstract:

The Ottoman presence in the western Mediterranean basin began with the arrival of the Barbarossa brothers on the island of Djerba in the early 16th century. The brothers' efforts to save the Moriscos and their growing reputation prompted the inhabitants of Algiers to seek their help and annex the city of Algiers to the Ottoman Empire. Thus began relations between Algiers and the Maghreb countries. In fact, the subject of Ottoman-Algerian relations has been addressed by many Algerian researchers, and perhaps the most important concern is that of researcher Khalifa Hamash in his study entitled : "Algerian Relations with the Sublime Porte", which is a distinguished master's thesis in which he dealt with Ottoman-Algerian relations in the period from 1798 to 1830 AD. He explained the similarities and differences between the Ottoman administrations in Istanbul and Algiers, and examined the international relations, both political and military, between the Regency of Algiers and the Sublime Porte. In our study, we will examine Dey Mohamed Ben Othman Pasha, who ruled Algeria for a long time. We will then discuss the relations between the two countries during his time.

Keywords: Mohamed Ben Othman Pasha, The decree of appointment, Exchanged gifts, The Russo-Ottoman War, Recruitment of volunteers.

المخلص:

كانت بداية الوجود العثماني في الحوض الغربي للبحر الأبيض المتوسط بوصول الأخوة بربروسا إلى جزيرة "جربة" مطلع القرن السادس عشر ميلادي، وكان نشاط هؤلاء الإخوة في إنقاذ المورسكيين وذيوخ شهرتهم سببا في استنجاد أهل الجزائر بهم وإحقاق مدينة الجزائر بالدولة العثمانية ومن ثمة بدأت العلاقات بينها وبين دول المغرب. في الواقع موضوع العلاقات العثمانية-الجزائرية قد طرقه العديد من الباحثين الجزائريين ولعل ابرزهم الباحث خليفة حماش في دراسته الموسومة ب: "العلاقات الجزائرية مع الباب العالي وهي رسالة ماجستير متميزة عالج فيها العلاقات العثمانية الجزائرية في الفترة من 1798-1830م"، وقد وضع أوجه التشابه والاختلاف بين الإدارة العثمانية في اسطنبول والجزائر ودرس العلاقات الخارجية في المجال السياسي والعسكري بين ايةالة الجزائر والباب العالي، وفي دراستنا سنعرف بالداي محمد بن عثمان باشا الذي حكم الجزائر لمدة طويلة. ثم نتطرق إلى مظاهر العلاقات بين البلدين في عصره

الكلمات المفتاحية: محمد بن عثمان باشا- فرمان التولية – الهدايا المتبادلة – الحرب الروسية العثمانية – تجنيد المتطوعين.

• Introduction

The roots of Ottoman-Algerian relations go back to the beginning of the sixteenth century AD (tenth century AH) when the brothers Aruj and Khair ad-Din arrived in the western basin of the Mediterranean Sea. With Algerian people were called upon them to rescue them from the Spaniards who had occupied most of their coastal cities. As a result, Algeria was annexed to the Ottoman Empire, transforming from a collection of small, scattered emirates and states into a semi-independent state with strong institutions, clear eastern and western borders, a permanent capital, and diplomatic relations. It also bore the name "Guarded Algeria of the West" and became an advanced Ottoman front in the European-Christian conflict for more than three centuries.

In fact, the subject of Ottoman-Algerian relations is a subject that has been addressed by many Algerian researchers, perhaps the most prominent of which is the study of Professor Khalifa Hamash entitled "Algerian Relations with the Sublime Porte," which is a distinguished master's thesis in which he dealt with Ottoman-Algerian relations in the period from 1798-1830 AD. He focused on the similarities and differences between the Ottoman administration in Istanbul and Algeria.

Additionally, he also compared the Roman army model to Toyota. Furthermore, the third part discusses foreign and military relations between the State of Algiers and the Sublime Porte. However, this chapter examines the later period of the reign of Mohamed Ben Othman Pasha (1766-1791). In this research, we will examine Austrian-Algerian relations during the reign of Mohammed Ben Othman Pasha (1766-1791).

The questions raised are: What were the constants and variables in Algerian-Ottoman politics during the era of Mohamed Ben Othman Pasha? Before that, it's worth introducing this dey, who ruled the state of Algeria for a long period of more than 25 years, with both internal and external influence. Who is Mohamed Ben Othman Pasha?

1. A Biography of Mohamed Ben Othman Pasha

Mohamed Ben Othman was born in Karaman in southern Anatolia, opposite the islands of Rhodes and Stodes, at the beginning of the eighteenth century. According to the Matmati manuscript, his nickname is Abu Abdullah and he is from the village of "Qatwalar, a village in the land of the Persians, next to the Roman Gulf, between it and the Gulf of Rome, a stage and its port known as Merya."¹ He learned to read and write in his hometown, then traveled to the city of Algiers where he joined the Janissary corps. When he collected a hundred Dirhams, he paid them to the authorities to be appointed to the body of writers (khojas). He then rose to the position of Khoja of the Night Watch, charged with guarding the Dey day and night, a position that only trusted people were allowed to hold. He gained the approval of Pasha Ali Bousbaa (1168-1180 AH/1754-1766 AD), and he appointed him as a treasurer.²

He was known for his commitment to the virtuous morals of Islam and his resemblance to the righteous predecessors. He was also known for his modesty in his clothing and food. He would

¹Ali Ben Dawud Al-Sharif Al-Matmati, Explanation of Tanwir Al-Basair wa Al-Absar in Urging the Sultan of Algeria to Fight the Infidels, d. 1189 AH, No. 218/7, Library of the Prophet's Mosque, Medina, p. 151, 152

²Nadia Fetissi, Algeria from the Reign of Mohamed Ben Othman Pasha to the Reign of Hussein Pasha 1766-1830 AD - Political and Economic Conditions as a Model - Part 1, Dar Kawkab, Algiers. 2020, pp. 20-21

not change his clothes unless he could not find a way to mend them. He carried a silver dagger, not a gold one, as was the custom. The continuation of the reign of Mohamed Ben Othman Pasha under the collective supervision of the owners of the solution and contract and with the will of Ali Bousbaa, his predecessor, in complete tranquility. He was appointed Daya with collective approval to take over the rule and management of the Eyalet of Algiers on February 2nd, 1766 AD.

The case of Mohamed Ben Othman Pasha for a long period in power (25 years) until his death in 1791 AD, and it was mitigated and he was sober and had insight in making sound decisions, which made him live in tranquility, and "Venture de Paradis" says to him: "For Dey was unparalleled in his flexibility, humanity, and treatment of soldiers and guards. He required the men who worked with him to have good conduct and good morals¹. So what were his relations with the Sublime Porte and what characterized his foreign policy towards it?

2. Aspects of Algerian relations with the Sublime Porte during the Reign of Mohamed Othman Pasha

The Ottoman Empire experienced continuous wars throughout the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, during which it lost vast areas of its territory, particularly those fought with Russia. At Russia's expense, it reached the Black Sea for the first time. Under the terms of the Treaty of Kaynarji of 1774², signs of decline and collapse began to appear. Under these circumstances, we wanted to understand the nature of relations between the two countries: were they stable? Or had they changed? Algerian-Ottoman relations were based on the loyalty of the Pasha of Algiers to the Sultan, the exchange of gifts, and the provision of military assistance to each other. These relations can be summarized in three elements :

2.1 The decree of appointment

It was customary for the deys to be appointed by the Ojaks of Algiers, free from the intervention of the Ottoman Sultan. This began in 1711 AD, when the Ottoman Sultan stopped sending pashas to Algiers. That same year, Ali Chaouch Dey dared to expel the Sultan's envoy, Sharqan Ibrahim, from Algiers³. From that time on, the Sultan was content to send the decree of appointment to bless the selection of the Diwan, and to present to him a number of commandments, the most important of which was the good obedience to the Sultan and the application of justice among the subjects. When Mohamed bin Othman Pasha took over in 1766 AD, Sultan Mustafa III (1757-1774 AD) sent him the decree of appointment on 17 Rabi` al-Awwal 1180 AH/22 August 1766 AD, and this is part of what it contained:⁴

قدوة الغزات (كذا) والمرابطين عمدة الحماة والمجاهدين المختص بمزيد عناية الملك المعين داي أوجاق جزاير الغرب حالا
محمد خوجة زيد مجده التوقيع الرفيع من باي العالي الواجل إليكم، يكن في علمكم أنه قد بلغنا وفات (كذا) باي البيلار بأوجاق
جزاير الغرب على باشا وارتحاله بأمر الله تعالى لدار البقا (كذا) وانحلال حكم الباي بيلار وكننت أنت للمتوفى المزبور (كذا)
خوجة ثم خزندار والخدمتين أظهرت فروسية وافتكا (كذا) ومجرب الطوال يحب من كل وجه حسن استحقاقك لتقديم اللوا (كذا)

¹Venture De Paradis, Alger Au XVIII^e Siècle, éd, Bouslama, Tunis,(s.d).p.97.98

²Albert SOREL, La question d'Orient au XVIII^e siècle, Libraire, Plon, Paris, 1889, p.262

³Eugène Plantet, Correspondance des Deys d'Alger avec la Cour de France 1579-1833,T2(1700-1833),Paris,1889, p.62

⁴ B.n.a. Group. 3190, file n°01.lettre n°12, is a decree of appointment from Sultan Mustafa III to Mohamed Pasha, on 17 Rabi` al-Awwal 1180 AH (22 August 1767 AD)

خصوصا بناؤه بانتخاب مفاتي الجزائر والقضاة وآغة الأوجاق والضباط وأكابر الديوان والعلماء والصلحاء والأئمة (كذا) والخطباء وسائر الكبير والصغير باستصواب...¹

The Sultan renewed his term after two years and sent him another decree to renew the appointment on 4 Shawwal 1181 AH, corresponding to 23 February 1768 AD, which included the following:

"أمير الأمراء الكرام كبير الكبراء الفخام ذو القدر والاحترام صاحب العز والاحتشام المختص بمزيد عناية الملك الأعلى المتصرف بإيالة الجزائر الغرب حالا محمد دام إقباله التوقيع الرفيع من الباب العالي الواصل إليك معلوم... وإننا ونشرف صدور خط بابي العالي وشوكته مقرونة به موجبه الإيالة المزبورة إلا إبقاء كمقرر باقي على ما كان تصرفك بأتم الكمال بهذا أبرز الأمر بخط بابي العالي وشوكته مقاربا لإصدار هذا الفرمان جليل القدر ابقاؤ(كذا)، مقرر باقي على الطريق المذكور بيلار جزاير (كذا) الغرب أنت المتصرف من ضبط وربط المملكة وحماية وصيانة في رعية بابك ..."²

The Sultan accompanied the decree of appointment or renewal, according to Ottoman tradition, with an Ottoman sword and a caftan. In fact, the Pashas of Algeria used to obtain the decree of appointment or renewal from the Ottoman Sultan as a way to strengthen the moral aspect of the relations between Algeria and the Sublime Porte and to reinforce the Sultan's spiritual sovereignty over the Algerian state³, as he was the Caliph of the Muslims.

2.2 Exchanging gifts

The Pasha used to present gifts to the Sultan on the occasion of his assumption of power in the country, and this custom continued until the occupation of Algeria in 1830 AD. The gift of Mohamed Ben Othman Pasha, which he sent on the second of Shawwal 1179 AH, corresponding to March 13, 1766 AD, with Ahmed khodja The gift consisted of the finest woolen products in the province, such as carpets and blankets, in addition to silk, jewelry, and a sum of money amounting to 7,140 sultanates. It also included pistols decorated with precious metals, gunpowder flasks, and prayer beads of coral, ivory, and amber. A diamond ring and a watch made of precious stones were also included⁴. This gift truly expressed the province's subordination to the Ottoman Empire and the Pasha's loyalty to the Sultan.

Hence, in the same month, the Sultan sent valuable gifts in response to those sent by Mohamed Ben Othman Pasha in two parts. The first part was carried by a French ship, and the second part was carried by a ship from Sardinia. These gifts consisted primarily of war ammunition, equipment, and supplies for ships⁵. These were materials and equipment the province needed to strengthen its defensive fortifications and naval fleet.

There are other occasions when Mohamed Ben Othman Pasha presented large gifts to the Ottoman Sultan, including the gift that Hassan Wakil al-Hardj carried on a French ship following his victory over the first Spanish campaign led by "Aurelie" in 1775 AD against the city of Algiers. It consisted of:

¹ See the full text of the decree in Appendix No(1)

² B.n.a. Group. 3190, file n°01.lettre n°14

³ Khalifa Hamash, Relations between the Regence of Algiers and the Sublime Porte (1798-1830 AD), a thesis submitted for a master's degree in modern and contemporary history, Alexandria University, Cairo, 1988, pp. 38, 41

⁴ A. Devoulx, Tachrifat, Recueil de notes historiques sur l'administration de l'ancienne Régence d'Alger, imp. Du gouvernement, Alger, 1852, p. 58

⁵ Idem, p. 60

52 silk belts, 60 coral necklaces, an ivory necklace, two amber prayer beads, 22 curtains, 10 belts, 10 pistols, 10 rifles, 10 flasks for carrying gunpowder, 10 watches, 60 high-quality silk woven fabrics, 120 red biscuits, 60 southern carpets, 15 lions, 10 Negro women, 16 Negro men, and 70 Christian slaves¹.

2.3.Alliances and military supplies

The solidarity and cohesion between the Algerian state and the Sublime Porte appear, in the face of the common enemy that seeks to destroy and seize Muslim lands, whether against the Ottoman state or the Algerian state. Mohamed bin Othman Pasha of Algeria did not hesitate to aid the Sultan in all the wars that broke out against the Ottoman state, despite the wars he was waging in Algeria against the European countries.

According to El-Zahar, Sultan Mustafa III (1757-1774 A.D) sent during the Russo-Ottoman War (1768-1774 AD), requesting the fleet of Algeria and Tunisia in 1183 AH/1769 AD. The Pasha immediately complied with the Sultan's orders and began repairing five ships, supplying them with provisions and sailing to Istanbul. After they had spent five years, Captain Pasha allowed them to return. During the reign of Sultan Abdul Hamid I (1774-1789 AD), the Pasha sent his ships, led by "Reis Hajj Suleiman," to the islands of the Archipelago Sea (Aegean Sea) to fight the Greek ships. The Sultan had previously sent his ships, but he did not destroy them. The Algerian ships, led by Reis Saleh and Hajj Suleiman, were able to burn the Greek ships that were preventing the Islamic ships from sailing from either Alexandria or Izmir². Following this victory, the Algerian fleet headed to Istanbul and the Sultan received them with great enthusiasm. After a short rest, he replaced their old ships with new ones and they traveled to the Black Sea. wherefore, they met the Russian fleet in major battles. They remained there until the Treaty of Kaynarji was signed in Jumada El-Thani 1188 AH/1774 AD³.

The Algerian fleet's participation was not limited to the first Russo-Ottoman wars (1768-1774 AD), but it also joined the war declared by the Ottoman Empire against Russia in 1787 AD in alliance with the Austrian Empire. The direct reason for declaring war was the Russian attack on the Crimean Peninsula and the occupation of part of it. This war continued until 1791 AD⁴.Accordingly, Sultan Abdul Hamid I (1774-1789) sent several firmans to Mohamed Ben Othman Pasha, which were mentioned by Aziz Samih Al-Tar in his book "The Ottoman Turks in North Africa." They revolved in their entirety around a request to direct the entire Algerian fleet to join the Imperial fleet in the Aegean Sea⁵ The Dey sent five ships to participate in the war against Russia and Austria with the Ottoman fleet in the years 1203 and 1204 AH/1789 and 1790 AD, and the participants provided honorable services.⁶

¹Eugène Plantet, Op.cit, p.225

² Ahmed El-Sharif El-Zahar, Memoirs of Ahmed El-Sharif El-Zahar, Chief of the Ashrafs of Algeria, edited by Ahmed Tawfiq Al-Madani, National Publishing and Distribution Company. 2nd ed., Algiers, 1980, pp. 29, 30

³Ahmed Al-Sharif Al-Zahar, Op.cit.p.30

⁴Yilmaz Oztuna, History of the Ottoman State, translated by Adnan Mohamed Sulaiman, reviewed and revised by Muhammad Al-Ansari, Vol. 1, Phil Finance Foundation, Türkiye, 1988, pp. 639-642

⁵ Aziz Sameh el-Tar, The Ottoman Turks in North Africa, translated by Mahmoud Amer, Dar Al-Nahda Al-Arabiya, Beirut, 1989, pp. 548-550

⁶Khalifa Hamash, Documents on the History of Algeria in the Ottoman Era, Part 1, Publications of Emir Abdelkader University, Constantine, 2013, Document No. 3, pp. 40, 41

Regarding the same war, Hassan Pasha, the captain of the Darya in Istanbul, wrote an order to Mohamed bin Othman Pasha on Sha'ban 17, 1203 AH, corresponding to May 13, 1789 AD, which stated:

« صدر هذا الخط من الباب العالي، سفن دار الجهاد الجزائر مملوءة بالبولداش لار وتجهيز وإرسال وإيصال وعلى الخصوص البولداش لار التابعين لأوجاق جزائر دار الجهاد ودائرة أحوازها [يُعدّون] غزات مجاهدين وكمات مرابطين تابعين النص الشريف: «فَضَّلَ اللهُ الْمُجَاهِدِينَ بِأَمْوَالِهِمْ وَأَنْفُسِهِمْ عَلَى الْقَاعِدِينَ دَرَجَةً»¹

In this decree, Captain Darya asked the Dey of Algiers to send his fleet with soldiers and equip them with the necessary provisions and join the Sublime Porte's fleet in the Black Sea to fight the Russian enemy there².

The role of Mohamed Ben Othman Pasha did not stop at contributing the fleet and soldiers, but he also sought to restrict Russian ships and prevent them from entering the Mediterranean Sea via Gibraltar, as he wrote in a letter to King Carlos III dated 27 Jumada al-Thani, corresponding to April 4, 1788 AD, which Yahya Bouaziz included in his book Algerian-Spanish Correspondence in the National History Archives of Madrid 1780-1798 AD, He tells him that the Ottoman Sultan sent him an envoy with a message ordering him to write to the King of Spain and ask him to prevent the Russian fleet from passing through the Strait of Gibraltar to the waters of the Mediterranean Sea because the Ottoman Empire was in a state of war with Russia, and Spain was a friend of the Sultan and Algeria and had a peace treaty between them and it had a fleet capable of preventing it from doing so. Spain actually responded to the request of the Dey and the Ottoman Sultan and closed the strait to Russian ships in the year 1788 AD³.

Spain also mediated to conclude a peace treaty between the warring parties after presenting the idea to the Ottoman Empire, which agreed to it⁴. Indeed, peace was concluded with Austria under the Treaty of **Zistov** on 8/4/1791 AD, and with Russia under the Treaty of Yas on 1/9/1792 AD⁵. These were examples of Algerian naval military aid to the Ottoman Empire. As for the aid that the Sublime Porte provided to Algeria to support it in its wars, especially against the Spanish, The register of **Tachrifat** recorded that on the 5th of Rajab in the year 198 AH corresponding to the 25th of May 1784 AD, the Ottoman Sultan sent with Hajj Mustafa Khoja ships' equipment, tools, and war ammunition, which included the following: 500 quintals of copper, 18 sail poles, 6 masts, 104 cannon blankets, 500 quintals of iron ropes, 200 quintals, 472 oars, 206 building planks, and 538 quintals of gunpowder⁶.

On the 2nd of Shawwal 1199 AH, corresponding to the 7th of August 1785 AD, the Sultan sent to the lords of Algiers a huge quantity of ammunition, weapons, and ship equipment,

¹This Quranic text is part of the Holy Verse:

"لَا يَسْتَوِي الْقَاعِدُونَ مِنَ الْمُؤْمِنِينَ غَيْرَ أُولِي الضَّرَرِّ وَالْمُجَاهِدُونَ فِي سَبِيلِ اللَّهِ بِأَمْوَالِهِمْ وَأَنْفُسِهِمْ، فَضَّلَ اللَّهُ الْمُجَاهِدِينَ بِأَمْوَالِهِمْ وَأَنْفُسِهِمْ عَلَى الْقَاعِدِينَ دَرَجَةً، وَكَأَنَّ اللَّهَ الْخَسَنَى، وَفَضَّلَ اللَّهُ الْمُجَاهِدِينَ عَلَى الْقَاعِدِينَ أَجْرًا عَظِيمًا." (النساء/94)

²Aziz Sameh el-Tar, Op. cit., p. 550

³Yahya Bouaziz, Algerian-Spanish Correspondence in the National History Archives of Madrid 1780-1798, Dar Al-Basaer, Algeria, 2009, p. 60

⁴Belbraut Ben Atto, Mohamed Ben Othman Pasha and his policy, Asour Magazine, Issue 6-7, December 2005, University of Oran, Algeria, p. 94

⁵Yilmaz Oztuna, Op.cit. p.642

⁶A. Devoulx, Tachrifat, Op.cit. p.60

including: 450 quintals of gunpowder, 200 wooden planks, 17 masts, 50 quintals of copper, 20,000 shells, and 10 cannons.¹

There is no doubt that this aid provided to the state had an important role in increasing the Algerian military power, and thus achieving successive victories against its enemies. It can be said that these donations provided by the Ottoman sultans were in line with the same policy of their predecessors to support and sponsor the Algerian fleet, which did not delay in rescuing the Ottoman state, no matter what the circumstances the state was suffering from.

However, the deys, including Mohamed Ben Othman, did not obey all the orders of the Ottoman Sultan in the foreign affairs of the province. The Algerian government was independent in its decisions and often rejected his decrees and interventions, especially in relation to Algerian-European relations. An example of this was Mohamed Ben Othman Pasha, who refused the interference of the Ottoman Sultan in his relations with some European countries, including his relations with Spain. Which tried to oblige the Algerian authorities to abide by the peace agreement that it concluded with the Ottoman Empire in 1782 AD, considering it a state subject to it, so it sent a copy of it to the Dey of Algeria, but he rejected it and did not respect it². He replied to the Sultan's envoy, saying: "I know that the King of Spain, Charles III, is preparing his fleet, and I do not want him to think that I rushed to conclude peace out of fear of him, so I do not want to talk about this subject."³

Correspondingly, the same thing happened with England. The Dey refused the intervention of the Sublime Porte to accept Consul Fraser in Algeria, even for fifteen days. Rather, he refused to let him go to the port and demanded that he be replaced⁴. In contrast, he accepted the intervention of the Sublime Porte and received the Sultan's envoy who came with the commander of the French fleet, "Sonville", in order to conclude the Centennial Peace Treaty in 1789 AD, after he had refused to renew it⁵. This was not out of fear of the Sultan, but rather the desire of the Dey and his government to maintain the continuation of friendly relations with France.

Sultan Mustafa III (1757-1774 AD) sent a firman to Dey Mohamed Ben Othman Pasha, dated early Rajab 1183 AH/October 30 - November 8, 1760 AD, containing a stern order not to attack or intercept an Austrian ship carrying six thousand copper coins belonging to the Austrian Emperor.⁶

The Spanish ambassador to the Ottoman Sultan in Istanbul, Eid al-Hamid I (1773-1789 AD), also submitted a petition in 1203 AH/1788 AD, following the attacks of Algerian ships on Spanish merchant ships. The Sultan intervened with Osman Pasha to stop such actions and request an apology in order to return matters to their proper course. Otherwise, such attacks would lead to the annulment of the peace treaty concluded between the two countries in 1786, following the three Spanish campaigns on the city of Algiers⁷.

¹ idem

²Yahya Bouaziz, Op.cit. p .60

³Aziz Sameh el-Tar, Op.Cit. P. 539

⁴H-D. De Grammont, Histoire d'Alger Sous la domination Turque (1515-1830), éd. Ernest, Paris, 1887.p.323

⁵ Henri Garrot, Histoire Générale de l'Algérie, Imp. P. Cresenzo, Alger, 1910, p. 583

⁶Abdel Raouf Ben Quasir, The Conflict in the Issue of Recruiting Volunteers in the Authority of the Sublime Porte and the Days, Part 1711-1830, New Eras Magazine, University of Oran, Oran, p.245

⁷Abdel Raouf Ben Quasir,Op.cit.p.245

From the above, we can say that the Algerian-Ottoman relations were not a relationship of absolute dependence on the Sublime Porte, but rather a relationship of nominal dependence, with the exception of what we mentioned previously, especially military aid, since the regular army in the province (the Janissaries), From the above, we can say that the Algerian-Ottoman relations were not a relationship of absolute dependence on the Sublime Porte, but rather a relationship of nominal dependence, with the exception of what we mentioned previously, especially military aid, since its elements were recruited from the lands of the Ottoman Empire, especially from Anatolia, and did not depend on local elements except as reserve units.

3.Volunteer recruitment policy and its impact on Algeria Ottoman relations

The recruitment of volunteers for Algeria began during the reign of Suleiman the Magnificent (1520-1566 AD), who granted Khair ad-Din the right to recruit from Anatolian regions starting in 1525 AD. Since that date, Algeria had its own agencies, the most important of which was the "Khan" of Izmir¹, supervised by an agent appointed by the Pasha in Algeria, called "Bash Dai" or "Bash Day"².

The sultans after Suleiman the Magnificent did not allow recruitment in the lands of the Ottoman Empire except with their permission through a firman delivered to the Pasha Dey. They stipulated that the salaries of employees and the expenses of the volunteers' accommodation and transportation to Algeria be at the expense of the treasury of the state. Colombe mentions that recruitment was carried out from all the Ottoman provinces in Asia and Europe: the Asian from the Anatolian region, and the European from Rumelia and the Morea, in addition to the islands of the Aegean Sea³.

According to Hamdan Khoja, recruitment was initially only carried out among honest men who had prestige and status, then they opened the doors of the militia to anyone, even criminals, and thus the militia became without principles or morals, committing violations and injustices⁴. Laugie de Tassy, who visited Algeria in the first half of the eighteenth century, has the same opinion and says⁵: "All the Turks who were integrated into the militia were originally people without hope." They had no source of livelihood and most of them were the dregs of society, or people persecuted by the judiciary." Thomas Shaw agrees with him, saying⁶: "All the recruits who arrived in Algeria were homeless, financially destitute and morally deviant." Despite this, Mohamed Ben Othman Pasha was able to subject them to his orders and they achieved victories with him in all the wars he led.

It is worth noting that the Ottoman Sultan was seeking the help of the soldiers of the Ojaks of Algeria in his wars against the European countries. Sultan Mustafa III, in his war against Russia

¹Jamila Maachi, *The Janissaries and Society and The Janissaries and Society*, Constantine, a thesis submitted for a doctorate in science, University of Mentouri 2, Constantine, 2007/2008.p.17

²Khalifa Hamash, *Documents on the History of Algeria...*, Op.cit., pp. 318-319

³M. Colombe, *Contribution à l'étude de recrutement d'Odjaq d'Alger dans les dernières années de l'histoire de la Régence in R.A.*, vol, 87, 1943 , éd. A. Jourdan, Alger, p.172

⁴Hamden khodja, preview, Introduction, translation, and investigation by Muhammad El-Arabi El-Zubayri, National Publishing and Distribution Company, ., 2nd ed., Algeria, 1982, p.149

⁵Laugie de Tassy, *Histoire de Royaume d'Alger*, éd.,Henry du Sauzet Amsterdam, 1725.,p.125

⁶Thomas Show, *Voyage dans la Régence d'Alger*, Trad, J. Maccathy, éd., chez Marlin, Paris, 1830,p. 182

(1768-1774 AD), sent a decree to Mohamed Ben Othman Pasha in late Sha'ban 1183 AH, corresponding to late December 1769 AD, asking him to send fifty soldiers from the artillery division to respond to the call for jihad that he declared against Russia In it;”

وانتظارنا قدوم جنود الظفر من أناس دائرة أوجاق جزائر الغرب، فعلى الدوام إجراء فريضة الغزو والجهاد باذلين أنفسهم في تحصيل أوامري الشريفة بذل اجتهاد...، وموجود إجراء غزو الأوجاق المزبور وله شأن واعتبار، تزايد الباعث الآن من قدوم الفن الماهر ممن له ذكر وصيت في علم المدافع من نفرات الطوبجية عددا قدره خمسين رجلا...، ومطالب مصاريف الميرية لا تتناولكم."

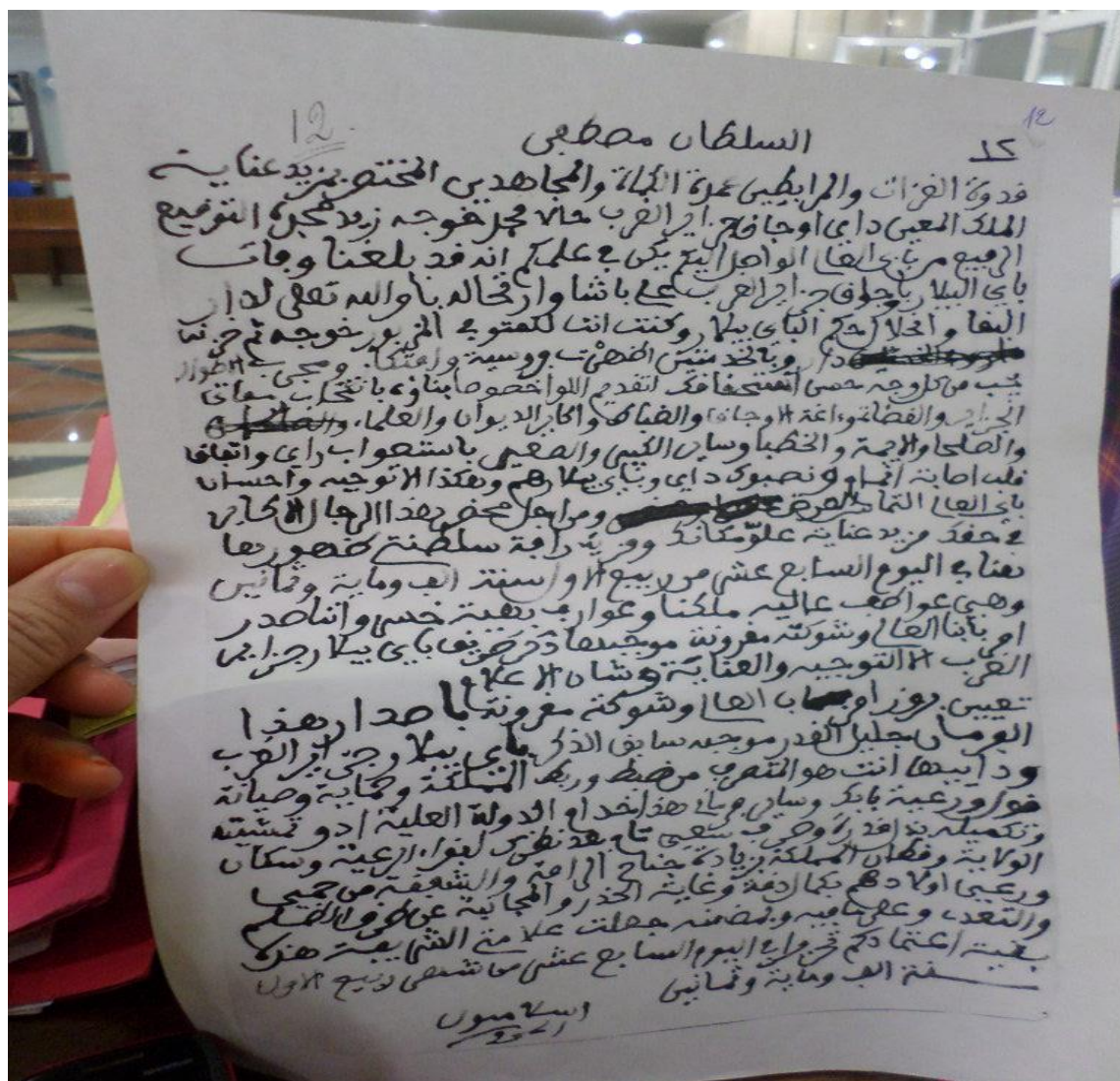
In this decree, the Sultan requested fifty skilled and professional artillerymen to be transported to the Black Sea, where all the Ottoman army was gathered. The expenses would be borne by the Sublime Porte.

• Conclusion

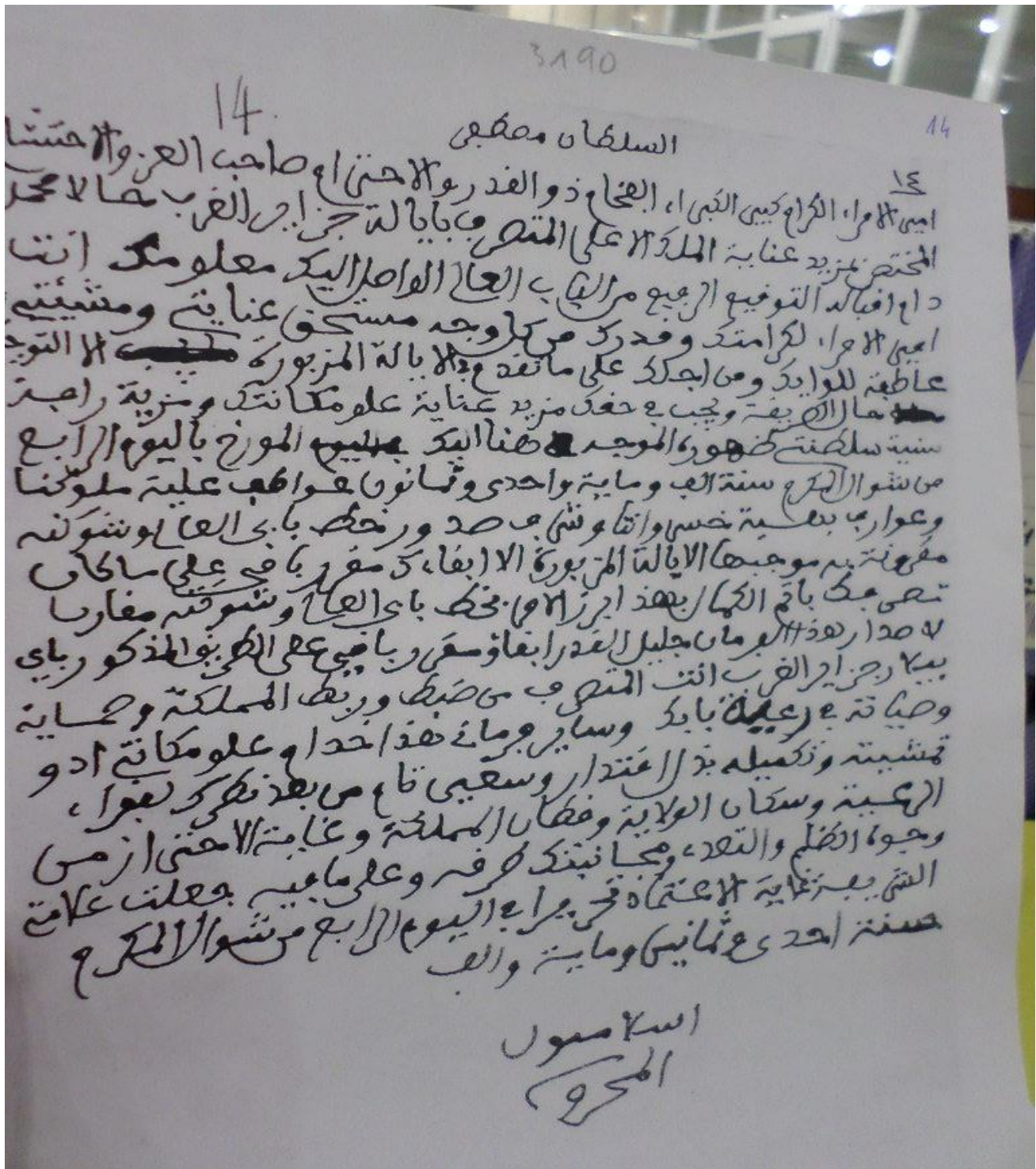
Algerian-Ottoman relations during the reign of Mohamed Ben Othman Pasha were characterized by mutual cooperation. The Sublime Porte sent military aid in the form of weapons equipment, and soldiers to the Regence of Algiers. in contrast Algerian military aid was among the most important aid provided to the Sublime Porte and played a prominent role in its wars with European countries such as Russia and Prussia and in the Balkans. this military aid was not only during the reign of Mohamed Ben Othman Pasha, but also throughout the three centuries of Ottoman presence in Algeria. Moreover, the Regence sent valuable gifts of its own products, such as horses and textiles, and imported products from Sudan, such as slaves and ostrich feathers.

In general, Mohamed Ben Othman Pasha's obedience to the orders of the Ottoman Sultan was great, especially in the field of military support for the Ottoman Empire's wars with Europe despite this, he was not allowed to interfere in his relations with European countries This is what prompted the Sultan to stop recruiting volunteers from Anatolia in order to pressure the Deys of Algiers to carry out his orders. Ultimately, it can be said that Algerian-Ottoman relations during the reign of Mohamed Ben Othman Pasha were characterized by stability, cooperation, the exchange of valuable gifts, and the implementation of the Sultan's order s, especially the call to jihad.

- Appendices

Appendix¹ n°(1)

¹ B.n.a. Group. 3190, file n°01.lettre n°12; It is a decree of appointment from Sultan Mustafa III to Mohamed Ben Othman Pasha, dated 17 Rabi' al-Awwal 1180 AH/22 August 1766 AD



• Biography:

1. Documents

¹ B.n.a. Group. 3190, file n°01.lettre n°14; It is a decree from Sultan Mustafa III to Mohamed Ben Othman Pasha, a decree for reappointment, dated 4 Shawwal 1181 AH (22 February 1768 AD)

- B.n.a. Group. 3190, file n°01.lettre n°12, 14

2. manuscript:

- Ali Ben Dawud Al-Sharif Al-Matmati, Explanation of Tanwir Al-Basair wa Al-Absar in Urging the Sultan of Algeria to Fight the Infidels, d. 1189 AH, No. 218/7, Library of the Prophet's Mosque, Medina.

3. The reviewers:

1. A. Devoulx, Tachrifat, Recueil de notes historiques sur l'administration de l'ancienne Régence d'Alger, imp. Du gouvernement, Alger, 1852,
2. Ahmed El-Sharif El-Zahar, Memoirs of Ahmed El-Sharif El-Zahar, Chief of the Ashrafs of Algeria, edited by Ahmed Tawfiq Al-Madani, National Publishing and Distribution Company. 2nd ed., Algiers, 1980.
3. Khalifa Hamash, Relations between the Regence of Algiers and the Sublime Porte (1798-1830 AD), a thesis submitted for a master's degree in modern and contemporary history, Alexandria University, Cairo, 1988.
4. Yilmaz Oztuna, History of the Ottoman State, translated by Adnan Mohamed Sulaiman, reviewed and revised by Muhamed Al-Ansari, Vol. 1, Phil Finance Foundation, Türkiye, 1988.
5. Venture De Paradis, Alger Au XVIII Siècle, éd, Bouslama, Tunis,(s.d).
6. Abdel Raouf Ben Quasir, The Conflict in the Issue of Recruiting Volunteers in the Authority of the Sublime Porte and the Days, Part 1711-1830, New Eras Magazine, University of Oran, Oran.
7. Albert SOREL, La question d'Orient au XVIII^e siècle, Libraire, Plon, Paris, 1889.
8. Aziz Sameh el-Tar, The Ottoman Turks in North Africa, translated by Mahmoud Amer, Dar Al-Nahda Al-Arabiya, Beirut, 1989.
9. Belbraut ben Atto, Mohamed Ben Othman Pasha and his policy, Asour Magazine, Issue 6-7, December 2005, University of Oran, Algeria.
10. Hamden khodja, preview, Introduction, translation, and investigation by Muhammad El-Arabi El-Zubayri, National Publishing and Distribution Company, 2nd ed., Algeria, 1982.
11. H-D. De Grammont, Histoire d'Alger Sous la Domination Turque (1515-1830), éd. Ernest, Paris, 1887.
12. Henri Garrot, Histoire Générale de l'Algérie, Imp. P. Cresenzo, Alger, 1910.
13. Jamila Maachi, The Janissaries and Society and The Janissaries and Society, Constantine, a thesis submitted for a doctorate in science, University of Mentouri 2, Constantine, 2007/2008
14. Khalifa Hamash, Documents on the History of Algeria in the Ottoman Era, Part 1, Publications of Emir Abdelkader University, Constantine, 2013
15. Laugie de Tassy, Histoire de Royaume d'Alger, éd., Henry du Sauzet Amsterdam, 1725.

16. M. Colombe, Contribution à l'étude de recrutement d'Odjaq d'Alger dans les dernières années de l'histoire de la Régence in R.A, vol, 87, 1943 , éd. A. Jourdan, Alger.
17. Nadia Fetissi, Algeria from the Reign of Mohamed Ben Othman Pasha to the Reign of Hussein Pasha 1766-1830 AD - Political and Economic Conditions as a Model - Part 1, Dar Kawkab, Algiers. 2020.
18. Thomas Show, Voyage dans la Régence d'Alger, Trad, J. Maccathy, éd., chez Marlin, Paris, 1830. Plantet, Correspondance des Deys d'Alger avec la Cour de France 1579-1833, T2(1700-1833), Paris, 1889.
19. Yahya Bouaziz, Algerian-Spanish Correspondence in the National History Archives of Madrid 1780-1798, Dar Al-Basaer, Algeria, 2009