



دور جزيرة صقلية في نقل الحضارة الاسلامية لأوروبا

## THE ROLE OF SICILY IN TRANSFERRING ISLAMIC CIVILIZATION TO EUROPE

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ملخص البحث:

يتناول البحث جزيرة صقلية وأهميتها والموقع الجغرافي والفتح الإسلامي لها وكما يتناول مظاهر الحضارة الإسلامية في صقلية من عمارة وفن وآداب وتقدم زراعي وصناعي وفي كل المجالات كما يتناول طرق ووسائل انتقال الحضارة الإسلامية من صقلية إلى أوروبا

### Research summary:

The research deals with the island of Sicily, its importance, geographical location and the Islamic conquest of it. It also deals with the manifestations of Islamic civilization in Sicily, including architecture, art, etiquette, agricultural and industrial progress in all fields. It also deals with the ways and means of transferring Islamic civilization from Sicily to Europe

الكلمات المفتاحية:

صقلية ، الحضارة ، الزراعة ، الصناعة ، العمارة ، أوروبا

**Key Words:** Europe، Architecture ، Industry ، Agriculture، Civilization ،Sicily

### First: the geographical location of the island of Sicily:

it is a great island from the sea of the Maghreb (1) ,an African interview (2), in the east of Andalusia in the sea, near Roumieh (3), and it is a city in the northeastern mainland which is the city of Constantinople (4) And bordering it from the West countries, African countries, Beja and Tobruk to the marina of beads, and west of it in the sea, the island of Qashqqah, and from the south of Sicily, the island of Qasra, and on the coast of the sea east of it from the mainland on which Constantinople is the city of Rio, then the areas of Qaloriya (5). Between them and the closest righteousness of Malta is eighty miles (6) and between Sicily and an Italian country a bay from the sea (7) which is by length thirty-five degrees, and width thirty-six degrees thirty minutes (8) **Second: The origin of the name:**

Sicily is pronounced three times and the stress of the Lam and Omega is also tight, and some say by the Sine, and most of the people of Sicily open the Sad and the Lam(9) Sicily is named after Chikloo, my brother Ital, who was named Italian and was known before you see villages, and its meaning is the Greek tongue, Three in four, but that is for three honorable places in which they are: Balram, which is its base and the wards of Liwam (10), and its name was said by the Roman tongue to be broken through the seine and the opening of the kaf and the serenity of distraction, and his chains for the breaking of the kaf and the lam, the tightening of the y and



the serenity of the distraction, and its interpretation: fig and olive (11)

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- (1) Al-Qazwini, *Antiquities of the Country and Akhbar al-Ibad*, (p. 215)
  - (2) Yacout al-Hamwi, *A Dictionary of Countries*
  - (3) Anonymous, *The Borders of the World from the East to Morocco*, (p. 40).
  - (4) Ibn Abd al-Haq al-Murasid *Seeing the names of places and the Beqaa*, (part 2, p. 848)
  - (5) Ibn Hawqal, *Image of the Earth*, (Part 1, p.127 )
  - (6) Al-Humairi, *Al-Roud Al-Muatar in the News of the Countries*, ( p. 366 )
  - (7) Al-Bakri, *Al-Masalk and the Kingdoms*, ( part 1, p. 482)
  - (8) Al-Qalqashandi, *Sobh al-Aasha in the construction industry*, ( part 5, p. 354)
  - (9) Yacout al-Hamwi, *Glossary of Countries*, (part 3, p.416)
  - (10) al-Bakri, *al-Masalak and al-Malikal*, ( part 1, p. 482 )
  - (11) Ibn Dahiya al-Kalbi, *The singer from the poetry of the people of Morocco*, ( p. 53)

### Third: Description of Sicily:

It is in the form of an isosceles triangle with a sharp angle from the west of the island, seven days in four days, (1). Archius said: The width of Sicily is one hundred and fifty seven miles and its length is one hundred and seventy seven miles(2). It is immune to many countries and villages (3). It is the merit of Sicily that it has no seven harmful, no tiger, no hyena, scorpion, no snakes, no snakes (4)

Many livestock from horses, mules, donkeys, cattle, sheep, and wild animals, and it has gold, silver, copper, lead, and iron, as well as alum, kohl, vitriol, noshier metal, and metal Mercury, and it contains water, trees, farms and fruits of all kinds, it does not interrupt winter or summer, and its ground sprout saffron, and it was little inert architecture until the Muslims conquered African countries, it was stated that its role is a sixteen days march, and its diameter is a five-day march, and it is full of Good things, water and more R farms and fruit, the mountain is said to him, a palace maintenance wonders of the world (5)

Ibn Jubayr described it, saying: "And that mountain appeared to us in which the volcano was, and it is a great mountain that is elevated in the air of the sky which has been covered by snow" (6). Al-Rum claimed that many wise men travel to Sicily to look at the wonders of this mountain and the meeting of fire and snow in it, so that at night you see a great fire igniting his words, and during the day a great smoke that no one can come close to, if quote from it is extinguished if you leave its position(7). - \_\_\_\_\_

- (1) Ibn Hawqal, *The Image of the Earth*, (part 1, P.127)
- (2) Al-Bakri, *The Tracts and Kingdoms* ,(part1, p. 482).
- (3) Al-Qazwini, *Antiquities of the Country and News of Peoples*, ( p. 85).



- (4) Yacout al-Hamwi, A Dictionary of Countries, (part3, P. 418).
- (5) Al-Qazwini, Antiquities of the Country and Akhbar al-Ibad,( p. 85)
- (6) The journey of Ibn Jubair, )p1,p.11).
- (7) Al-Qazwini, Antiquities of the Country and Akhbar al-Ibad,( p. 85).

There are twenty-three cities in Sicily, thirteen fortresses, and what is not known is lost. Abu Ali Al-Hassan Bin Yahya Al-Faqih mentioned in the history of Sicily a story on the authority of Judge Abi Al-Fadl that Sicily has eighteen cities, one of which is Balram, and that there are three hundred and twenty palaces and twenty fortresses, and they are still old And the hadith of a possessive hand does not obey the kings around him, even if their destiny is largely due to its immunity and its vast income, and it has abundant eyes, running rivers, and wonderful picnics (1).

#### **Fourth: The Islamic conquest of Sicily:**

As for its conquest in Islam, the first to be invaded by Muawiyah bin Hadij al-Kindi during the days of Muawiyah Ibn Abi Sufyan and still after that they were conquered, and the majority of Bin Salem of them opened Niva and twenty cities which are in the hands of Muslims (2). Muawiyah ibn Hudayj conquered an army at sea to Sicily, led by Abdullah bin Qais al-Fazari (3). In the two hundred passengers they insulted and sheep for a month, then they left for Africa with many spoils and slaves and idols system in essence so they shared in them and sent Ibn Hudayj by the fifth to Muawiyah Ibn Abi Sufyan (4)

Then it was conquered by Muhammad ibn Abi Idris al-Ansari, in the days of Yazid ibn Abd al-Malik, and he presented it with spoils and sebaya, then it was invaded by Bishr ibn Safwan al-Kalbi, in the days of Hisham ibn Abd al-Malik, then it was presented with spoils and sabaya, then Umm Habib ibn Abi Obaida, in the year twenty-two hundred And with him was his son Abd al-Rahman bin Habib, so he directed him on the horse and nobody met him except Abd al-Rahman defeated him until he ended up in Syracuse, which is the house of the king and they killed him, he defeated them and hit the door of the city with his sword, so he influenced him, so the Christians feared him and they were satisfied with the tribute, so he took them from them and then went to his father and went back to Africa, Then Abd al-Rahman bin Habib conquered her, in the year thirty and a hundred victories, then an African ruler worked with temptation, So the people of the island of Sicily believed that it was built by the Romans who ate all sides, and they built factories and fortresses with them, and they did not leave a mountain unless they made a fortress on it, and in the year eleven two hundred, the king of Constantinople passed over Sicily, Constantine the penguin, nicknamed the Souda, he built a fleet and walked to an African mainland, and he passed over them to Femi on One side of the island, so he disagreed with Femi and went out to him and killed him. Femi defeated and killed a thousand men from his companions, entered the slab of the city of Syracuse, and Femi and his companions rode into the sea.



- (1) Yacout al-Hamwi, A Dictionary of Countries,( part 3, P. 417).
- (2) Abu al-Faraj, Qudamah bin Ja`far, Al-Kharj and the writing of industry, (p. 351).
- (3) Al-Nuwairi, The End of the Lords in the Arts of Literature, (Part 24, p.353)
- (4) Ibn Adari, The statment of Morocco in the News of Andalusia and Morocco, (part 1,p 17).

And he went to Ifriqiya to Ziad Allah, Ibn Ibrahim Ibn Al-Aghlab, to gain his support. Then God added the faces of the people of Kairouan and their jurists and consulted them in saving the fleet to the island of Sicily, and some of them said: “We invade it and we do not inhabit it and do not take it home.” Until the fleet arrives, collect the fleet, and fight (1)

So God added to Asad bin Al Furat, the judge, the jurist, on an African army from Quraish, the Arabs, the Berbers, and others, and approved it on the judiciary with the leadership. Asad went out in a great army and collected many and several kits in the month of Rabi al-Awwal in the year mentioned. From Rabi 'al-Akher and he arrived at Mazer marina on Tuesday after him, and his way from the marina was on the castle of Ballut and then on the villages of feathers and then it became to the castle of the bear, and it was named so because they hit a soft bear in it, then to the village of peacocks, and it was called so because they hit a peacock in it, then to Battle of Balata, and there the Romans appeared to them, and they came down to them, and the evil was defeated The universe was hit by them as a shepherd and a weapon. Therefore, it was called the Battle of Balata, which is the name of the King of the Christians. Syracuse and fight them, by land and sea, and burned their boats and killed a group of its people, and a lion died in the year thirteen and two hundred and was besieged to Syracuse, and the two deaths occurred in Askar Muslims (2)

And after them the rulers differed on them, then there were among them scholars, servants, jurists, poets and people not what counted it did not take and there was no count on it, until the long term and hardened hearts and differences differed and temptations occurred among its people, and left behind them fear, and the long hurricanes went away and the Christians overcame them in the year four hundred Fifty-three, and the Rajar Al-Franji still opened it Qatar by Qatar until he seized all of it in a period of thirty years, except that the people recognized it for their religion, their laws, their security in themselves, their money, their family, and their offspring, and established this for the duration of his life until he died ninety-four hundred years, and his son succeeded him The second rajjar was done He followed his path, and the people robbed to him and agreed to hand things over to him (3)

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- (1) Al-Nuwairni, The End of the Lords in the Arts of Literature,(part 24, p. 355)
  - (2) Al-Humairi, Al-Roud Al-Muatar in the Country News, (p.366).
  - (3) Al-Hamairi, Al-Roud Al-Muatar in Al-Aqrar news,( p. 366).

**Fifth: Sicily, an outlet for the transfer of civilization to Europe:**



The Normans entered Sicily, and they were amazed by the progress and civilization that Muslims transferred to it. They made an effort to promote it in all aspects of life until the difference between it and the countries of Byzantium seemed very far away. They built great buildings and activated the means of trade. And they worked on reclaiming and cultivating lands, and inserting varieties of plants and animals that the Europeans had neither a covenant nor a science, besides all that they found fine arts and high literature, and many mosques have educational circles, they start teaching Arabic writing and the Holy Qur'an, and end with higher studies In heavy science Religious and non-religious (1). Thus paper progress in everything. The difference is very wide between what the Arabs found Sicily after the departure of the Byzantines, and what the Normans found after the departure of the Muslims. The Normans were on the luck of intelligence, and they knew about it before, so they did not do the effects of Muslims what the Spaniards did to them, then there is this after the Christianization of Sicily for a long time. Thus, the civilization of Spain was really delayed by eight centuries. As for those who saw the preservation and preservation of the civilization of the Arabs, they imitated and benefited from everything that was left except the Islamic religion. The enmity of Islam was, and more correctly, the image that was established in their minds about it is difficult to erase, but the Sicilian civilization remained In progress for a long time after, and remained a manifestation of the h The Arab people are visible on it, and if the Normans accepted Islam and took it as a religion, the era of this civilized prosperity would be longer and more lasting (2)

1- The religious and administrative aspects influenced by the West:

The sources referred to in depicting the Arab civilization in Sicily are few, and we have none of them other than what is scattered in the books of historians from poverty, and a few buildings that did not get the hand of sabotage, and some money, and this is sufficient. The sources, however, to prove that the civilization of the Arabs was in Sicily on something of progress, and that Sicily was when the Arabs evacuated it the finest culture, industry and social of it when they entered it (3)

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(1) Al-Shahud, Ali bin Nayef, Islamic Civilization between the Authenticity of the Past and the Hopes of the Future,( Part 6, p. 261)

(2) Previous source, (p. 262)

(3) Lobon, Gustav, Arab Civilization,( p. 320).

Two hundred years ago, the Arabs came to Sicily from Tunisia and transformed the Sicilian ruins into lush gardens, and imported palm trees from them into their countries and planted pistachio, banana and saffron trees in them. And mathematicians and nature, where it was estimated three hundred between a mosque and a palace (1).

And if we know that the value of a nation's influence on another nation in terms of civilization is appreciated by the extent of its advancement and reform in it, we have seen that the Arabs had a great influence in Sicily, and after the role of the



Arab-Sicilian organization the role of their conquest to them, then the Arabs divided Sicily into three states after it was divided, since The time of the Carthaginians into two states: Plarm and Syracuse, so the division of the Arabs into three states was more appropriate to its geography, and was at the head of each of these three states and the, and each state was divided into several actions, and was performed by the affairs of each of these actions a leader of the governor, And he used to live in Mufaram, and in each region there was a judge and a judge Most of it was in every city of Gap, and it was supervising the administration of money and accounting matters, a large bureau (2), and the Christians of Sicily were left with everything that does not affect the public order, so the Christians, as in Roman times, had their civil and religious laws and rulers of them to adjudicate their disputes and collect the annual tribute That the Arabs imposed on them, and this tribute was not taken from the clergy, women and children (3).

The Arabs made everything related to civil rights, such as ownership, inheritance, etc., fit for Sicilian customs, and the Normans did not want it when they seized it, and the Arabs, in the days of their authority, allowed Christians to preserve their laws, customs, and religious freedom. Public concerts with Messina Raytan: one is Islamic and has a picture of a black tower in a green field, and the other is a Christian, and it has a picture of a gilded cross in a red field. They gave permission to a Spanish Christian (4) - \_\_\_\_\_

(1) Hongka, Zigurd, Shams al-Arab shining on the West,( p. 410)

(2) Lubon, Gustav, Arab Civilization,( p. 320 )

(3) Lubon, Gustav, Arab Civilization, (p. 320)

(4) Shams al-Arab shining on West,( p. 413)

The Norman rulers of Sicily were influenced by the teachings of the Islamic religion when they took Sicily out of the hands of Muslims. Zeghrd Hunka says: People remember the words of Amr ibn al-As when handing Alexandria. On what Islam advocated "There is no compulsion in religion" and on what Thorodic called for that no human being can compel another person to convert to a religion without his desire and prohibited Count Roger forcing Muslim subjects to leave their religion (1). Roger followed their administrative and legal system (2). As for Frederick II, the grandson of Roger II, he was the most prominent and admired of the Kings of Sicily who was the heir to the throne of Germany by his mother, and the king inherited in Sicily by his father and through his marriage to Princess Isabella and the crown prince of her father in the King of Jerusalem, he also became the king of Jerusalem, then it is an affair The Normans all of them emperor of Italy, and he was called Emperor of the Holy Roman State, and he participated in the Crusades for the sake of rule and sovereignty, but his mixing with Muslims in the East made him pay more appreciation and respect, and made Eastern customs and manifestations relate to him and his country, after his failed Crusader dream was connected to the successors of Salah My father N, and he and the complete king Muhammad exchanged gifts, and his



biography was not devoid of strangeness, the most important of which was that he combined serious and beneficial deeds with divine and useless acts other than pomp and boast (3)

2-The West was affected by the economic life of Muslims in Sicily:

the feet of the Arabs were hardly established in Sicily until they approached agriculture and industry, so they were quickly removed from the degradation in which they were, and entered into Sicily the cultivation of cotton, sugar cane, elm and olives, and they dug canals and canals that still remain, They created the swastika, which was unknown before them (4)

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(1) Lubon, Gustave, *The Civilization of the Arabs*, (p. 320)

(2) Hunka, Zigurd, *Shams al-Arab shining on the West*,( p. 411-415)

(3) Al-Shahoud, Ali Bin Nayef, *Islamic civilization between the originality of the past and the hopes of the future*, (part 6, p. 261 )

(4) The same source, (p. 321)

Industry in Sicily advanced thanks to the Arabs, and the Arabs of Sicily took advantage of their natural wealth, extracting from them silver, iron, copper, sulfur, marble, and granite.... Etc., by artistic methods, and they introduced him to making silk, and what is seen in the light of Nurburg is a robe of silk that was worn by the Kings of Sicily embroidered with Kufic inscriptions with the date of the year( 520 H /1133M( , and it bears everything to say the spread of the art of dyeing textiles in Europe from Sicily (1) .

Trade flourished, and its scope expanded during the days of the Arabs, almost zero, before them, as evidenced by the tables of their excises that were included in the lists organized by the Normans at the beginning of the conquest, so that the degree of transformation of Sicily during this conquest was proven (2). The Arabs made Roger II the richest of the richest Europeans after he was the youngest of their kings because of their tremendous ability to cultivate the land, their inherited skills, and the delicate tax system he took from them (3)

The West was arrested by Islamic architecturalism:

As For architecture, the Islamic buildings in Sicily said only a few, the most famous buildings of the deer of the Zeaqa and the Qa'ba al-Qabba village near the Palram, and that they were not experiencing that the historians were not exposed to the prisoners of the Arabs in Sicily, these are the decorated buildings and the mosaic mosaic and briefed the most beautiful and radioactive and mosaic and the brigadies of the Riyadh Almotood, and the blows of the number of the city of the Arabs in the Sahkiyah, and the bottom of the rule in the area of 878 m, moving to the plarm,praising the places of this important city and its mosques and its suburbs



(4) Roger II built a church in Palermo whose roof was decorated with kufic inscriptions (5)

Ibn Jubayr says about her in the Islamic era, and it is enough that she is the daughter of Andalusia in the capacity of architecture, and the abundance of fertility and luxury, charged with different kinds of food, full of types of fruits and their varieties, but they are built with worshipers crossed, they walk in their places, and they grow up in their palms and Muslims with them over their properties and their lost, they have improved in their use and fabrication (6) The Arab imamate in the arts, industries, and sciences explains why the Norman kings protected them, and the monks admired the Arab architects (7). DONC Arab and fountains decorated with ornaments and called them Arabic names led by the name of God (8)

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(1) Lubon, Gustave, *The Arab Civilization*, (p320).

(2) The same source, (p322).

(3) Honka, Zigrad, *Shams El-Arab shining on the West*, (p. 413).

(4) The same source, (p322).

(5) Al-Shahud, Ali bin Nayef, *The Islamic Civilization between the Authenticity of the Past and the Hopes of the Future*, (part 6, p. 265)

(6) Ibn Jubayr's *Journey*, (p. 124).

(7) The same source, (p323).

(8) Ziegerd, Honke, (p. 411)

Europe affected by scientific and literary life in Sicily:

In Sicily the learners used in their writings white paper the first paper known to Europe, and that was long before Spain issued it to the West, and in Sicily poets arranged their fine lyric poetry in a form that the Greeks, Romans, or Germans did not know, and soon if this Arab character becomes the feature of the poets' art in the civilizations of all peoples (1). When the Normans attacked the island, they found themselves surrounded by unparalleled beauty and elegance. They found the art of building at its height, literature and poetry at the height of its prosperity.

Also, Roger used the greatest of Arab geographers to draw a clear and accurate picture of the earth, its climate, its plains and mountains. Al-Idrisi was able to carry out the task with success, as the Idrisi map remained for three centuries in Europe filling a void in the West (2)

Ibn Sina's geological works remained the main reference for European geology until the eighteenth century (3). As for Frederick II, there were a number of philosophers in his court who came from the east, and they had long beards and loose clothes, and people weaved them in their uniforms and other aspects of their lives (4)

King Wilhelm possessed lavish palaces and parks to sing while in his fun he mimics the Muslim princes, and mimics them in their laws and the system of their





governments and in the treatment of his parish as well as their fading and appearance and that he writes and reads Arabic and even that one of his servants states that he used to repeat the words praise be to God for praise on him right and all the girls and slaves in His palace is a believer in Islam (5) - \_\_\_\_\_

- (1) The same source, (p .412 ).
- (2) the same source, (p .412).
- (3) the same source, (p. 413).
- (4) Al-Shahoud, Ali bin Nayef, Islamic civilization between the originality of the past and the hopes of the future, (part 6, p. 261) (5) Honka, Zigrad, Shams El-Arab shining on the West,( p. 414).

Frederick II was reading philosophy, sports, and astronomy, and when he had once encountered dilemmas that were problematic and could not be solved, he sent them to the full Ayyubid Sultan seeking a solution or a miracle for his scholars, but some Egyptian scholars solved it healing, and this was added to what the West took from the East (1)

He again asked Egyptian scientists to try experiments on ostrich eggs so that they could be spawned and hatched on the heat of the sun, and Arabic and Persian books were translated for him in the training of falcons, and he himself produced a book on them, as Aristotle's books on animals and plants were translated to him, and Ibn Sina's commentaries on them (2)

Whatever the matter of Sicily, it contributed with great fortune in transferring the Eastern sciences to the West and was an active translation center, and by virtue of its location and history it was a meeting place of races and languages, and the prevailing living languages were then widespread, Greek, Latin and Arabic, and Jews were also translated as it was In Toledo, and in Sicily, Almagest was translated from Greek into Latin directly, translated in Andalusia from Arabic, and in it he translated the book of optics that Ptolemy had brought out in Alexandria, and in it translated other literary books (3)

Frederick II crowned his fine works by founding the University of Nabeul in Southern Italy and depositing them in a large collection of his own books, and I studied the books of Ibn Rushd, and this work has value, because Europe has returned the philosophy of Ibn Rushd for a long time, and the value of the University of Nabeul is the first official university, and the other universities were to After that era, private universities belonging to monasteries and churches were based on donations and donations. As for the University of Nabeul, a monarchy under the auspices of the Emperor of the World arose, and some other universities borrowed from it, particularly the University of Paris, which had the translations that Frederick had ordered (4) - \_\_\_\_\_

- (1) Al-Shahud, Ali bin Naif, Islamic Civilization between the Authenticity of the Past and the Hopes of the Future, (Part 6, p. 261)



(2)The same source,( p. 233 ) (3)

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(4) The same source,( p. 234)

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