

RESEARCH ARTICLE

**IMPROVEMENTS MADE IN THE EDUCATIONAL FIELD
DURING THE KAVALALI MEHMET ALI PASHA PERIOD**

حركة التجديد في التعليم في عهد محمد علي باشا

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Abstract

Egypt located in the north of the African Continent; The Nile Valley and Delta are divided into four regions, namely the Arabian Desert, the Libyan Desert and the Sinai Peninsula. Yavuz Sultan Selim took Egypt from the Mamluks in 1517 and made it an Ottoman Governor. The French, who invaded Egypt in 1798, left the region three years later and Mehmed Ali Pasha of Kavala was appointed as the governor of Egypt in 1805. After Mehmed Ali Pasha seized power, Egypt entered into a modernization process in many areas, especially in the military.

Mehmed Ali Pasha wanted to improve the country's economy, modernize agriculture, increase welfare and spread education. For these purposes, he established a modern army, a strong navy, military schools and factories in Egypt.

The Westernization and modernization efforts implemented by Mehmet Ali Pasha in Egypt are worth examining from many angles. On the one hand, it is a social movement of the type of Ottoman Westernization and, on the other hand, a much more intense type of Russian or Japanese Westernization. It is seen that educational institutions have an important place in this modernization.

However, the lack of a solid infrastructure, the skeptical behavior of the Pasha, the fact that most of the men who support modernization are adventurous and contentious people have prevented modernization from settling on solid grounds. At that time, the changing world conditions prevented the change from happening continuously. Therefore, these modernization efforts were largely limited to the life of Pasha.

Key Words: Education, improvement, westernization, modernization.

INTRODUCTION

1-Who is Kavalali Mehmed Ali Pasha?

Kavalalı Mehmed Ali Pasha¹ (Arabic: محمد علي باشا, 4 March 1769 - 2 August 1849), the governor of Egypt, the founder of the Kavalalı dynasty, is the first Khedive of Egypt and Sudan. He started a successful rebellion against the Ottoman Empire. Although he seemed to be attached to the Ottomans, he was accepted as the true ruler of Sudan, Egypt, Palestine, Lebanon and Syria, and these lands were ruled by his dynasty for 150 years.

Mehmet Ali was born in Kavala (Macedonia) in 1769. Many opinions that he is Albanian are wrong. Mehmet Ali is a member of a Turkish family who moved from Arabkir to Kavala hundreds of years ago.²

His father, guardian İbrahim Ağa had 17 children, but only Mehmet Ali survived. Mehmet Ali, who lost his beloved father at an early age, fell under the protection of his uncle Tosun Ağa, and after a while his uncle was also left alone when he was executed by the government's decision.

Mehmet Ali suffered greatly and this situation caused him to feel a great grudge against the Ottoman Empire, who had his uncle executed. Mehmet Ali was quite intelligent and had an extremely harsh disposition due to the events he had experienced in his childhood. Although he is illiterate, he showed himself soon after he came to Cairo because he was hardworking, very brave, cunning, outspoken and resourceful. He had an excellent ability to perceive his responsibilities.

It is said that he learned to read and write after the age of 45. A while after the death of his uncle, he met a man named Leon, who was engaged in trade in Kavala, was his postman and broker, and also engaged in tobacco trade. Leon had a profound influence on Mehmet Ali, and Mehmet Ali's tendency towards France and the French began in this period. Mehmet Ali entered the military service at the age of 18 and immediately attracted attention in this profession. Mehmet Ali married a rich girl from his relative in 1787 through his patron governor, and as a result of this marriage, he had five sons. Among his sons, especially İbrahim, Tosun and İsmail, they gained much reputation in Egypt.

2-General Situation in Egypt Before Modernization in Education

Egypt has a very special history in terms of religion, culture and administration. Considering the power of the pharaohs, a very high technology that built the pyramids, scientific studies that will guide the whole humanity in the fields of mathematics, astronomy and medicine, and the effect of Islam on the whole Islamic world, Azhar seems to be unfair. On the other hand, it is accepted that the

¹ ERGÜN, The Westernization of Education in Egypt During the Time of Mustafa, Mehmet Ali Pasha, 2015, Journal of Ahi Evran University Kırşehir Faculty of Education

² <https://islamansiklopedisi.org.tr/kavalali-mehmed-ali-pasa>

high culture and civilization under the rule of the Pharaohs actually relied on a sound and common education system. The Alexandria Library has enlightened the whole world for a long time since the Hellenistic period. Established in 975, Al-Azhar Madrasah has been the center of Islamic wisdom, education and thought for centuries.³

Sultan Selahattin had established 5 madrasas (schools) in Egypt (Cairo), those who came after him had established 26 more madrasas until the time of the Mamluks. During the Mamluk period, al-Makrizi (1364 - 1442) describes 73 madrasas in Cairo. Instead of the Cairo madrasas, which went up to 125 in their glorious period, El-Ceberti counts 20 that existed when the French invaded Egypt (Jabarti, 2009). While other madrasas collapsed and disappeared over time, the world's largest mosque-madrasa, al-Azhar, was constantly evolving. Efforts to reform the Azhar madrasah started in the 18th century. The first seeds of the Egyptian Renaissance (an-nahda al-Mısriyye), which started in the 19th century (1860-1940), were actually laid in the 18th century by thinkers such as Hasan al-Attar (1766-1835) and Abdurrahman al-Jeberti (1753-1825). Attar wanted to reform the religious education in Azhar and add new modern sciences. These reformers were called soft reformers. Those in the 19th century were radical reformers.

3-Reforms of Kavalalı Mehmed Ali Pasha in Egypt

Mehmet Ali Pasha, by eliminating his rivals and gathering all political and economic power in his hands, became the biggest political power in the region and thus gained the right to be recognized. Using this enviable but equally dangerous position, Mehmet Ali Pasha initiated an ambitious reform program to an unprecedented extent.

His reforms were inspired by Western examples and carried out under the guidance of European experts. Although its reforms are based on the army, it also includes economic, social and cultural innovations that led to Mehmet Ali Pasha being given the title of "founder of modern Egypt". When Mehmet Ali Pasha became the governor of Egypt, a new era began in terms of its impact on both Egyptian and Ottoman history. In Lamartine's words, this "genius adventurer" has achieved great success in Egypt in a short time in administrative, economic, cultural and artistic fields.

Kavalalı Mehmet Ali Pasha has carried out many activities in various fields such as education, culture, economy in Egypt, and thanks to these studies, Mehmet Ali Pasha is known as the founder of modern Egypt. There are even some books written on this subject.

Mehmet Ali Pasha understood the importance of intellectuals and scientists for the development of a nation, therefore he attached great importance to education.

³ EREN Emine, Kavalalı Mehmet Ali Pasha Rebellion and the Egypt Issue, 2008, Eskişehir Osman Gazi University.

Mehmet Ali Pasha forced the traditional education system to modernize and opened Egyptian intellectuals to Western culture. The first Egyptian intellectuals came to France in 1826 under the direction of Rifa al-Tahtawi, and al-Tahtawî was greatly influenced by France. Mehmet Ali Pasha also called French technicians, Clot Bey came for medicine, Colonel Séve (the future Süleyman Pasha) for the army, Linant de Bellefonds for dams and canals.

Undoubtedly, one of the most important services of Pasha for the development of Egypt is the schools he opened in large numbers and at all degrees. The European education system has been implemented in these schools. The first high school is Hendese school, which was opened in 1816 in the castle.⁴ When the need increased, an Engineering Center was established in Bulak in 1834. Providing important information about Egypt's history, culture and social situation, Dr. Medicine was established in 1827 by using Mr. Clot. French teachers were brought to these schools and the courses were taught in French and translated into Arabic. Later, pharmacist, midwife, language, mining, accounting, art, agriculture and veterinary schools were opened. Since he was an open-minded person, he did not consider sending students to Europe against religion. In order to have knowledge in every field, the young people were sent to various countries of Europe, mostly to France. These young people returned to Egypt after receiving education in Europe, learning the science and technique of Europe, and here, translators, teachers, officers, civil servants, etc. They started working as.

But most importantly, it created a modern army. To train technical staff for engineers, physicists and the military, an education system based on European education system preparation and private schools was established in Cairo.

He came to power in Egypt at a time when the Ottomans and Europe were in danger. This situation enabled Mehmet Ali Pasha to rise in the position of power and easily apply what he wanted. Mehmet Ali Pasha spent all his efforts to bring Egypt into full order and initiated an ambitious reform program. Mehmet Ali Pasha, who provided discipline in administration, made development initiatives in many areas.

Military education institutions Military Education School was opened in 1816 for Derviş Hasan Efendi, who came from Istanbul. In this school, which had 80 Mamluk students, Turkish, Italian, Koran, physical education, military tactics, weapon use and horse riding were taught. At that time, there was another school called Dârü'l-Hendese in Kale, where arithmetic, geometry and mathematics

⁴ EREN Emine, Kavalalı Mehmet Ali Pasha Rebellion and the Egypt Issue, 2008, Eskişehir Osman Gazi University.

were taught. In 1820 he joined this school as an Italian and geometry teacher, as an Italian pastor, and as a painting and mathematics teacher, X.P. We see Coste appointed. This person founded another educational institution called Medresetü'l-Hendese in Bulak in 1821.

At the school Scagliotti taught Italian, Bilotti mathematics, Masi measurement and mapping. Raphael also taught Arabic lessons.

Textbooks were brought from France. The French formed artillery units with two trained Turkish officers from Istanbul. General Boyer and his team, who were not served in the army in 1825, resigned in 1826. In 1825, the military school in Bulak moved to Kasr el-Ayni and named it "Medresetü'l Cihadiye" or "Medresetü'l-Cihadiyetü'l-Harbiye" or, according to other sources, "Medresetü'l-Techiziyetü'l-Harbiye" took. It enrolled 600 students between the ages of 12 and 16. The students were from different nations such as Turkish, Kurdish, Circassian, Georgian, Albanian and Armenian, Egyptian students were not accepted. Courses were taught in Turkish, Arabic, Italian (Ratazzi), painting, arithmetic, geometry (Don Carlos), infantry training (Daumergue and Acerbo). The students were divided into 10 groups, the best of each group tutored the others; Exams were held every month and the best of the group was going to tutor. Over time, translators from Syrian and native Christians who knew Arabic and European languages were found. A civil school named ed-Dershanetü'l-Mülkiye was opened in 1829 to train civil servants and accountants. Reading and official correspondence (construction) were taught here. In addition to mathematics, they were doing mutual translation between Turkish and Arabic. In 1834, a Mulkiye and Mutercım School (Medrese li't-Talimu'l-Idaretu'l-Mulkiye) was established in Suriçi under the supervision of Artin and Stefan Efendi. It is known that some translations were made in this school for Mehmet Ali Pasha to read. In 1835, a Translation School (Medresetu't-Tercume) was opened by Rıfa'a al-Tahtawi (1801-1873), then continued as a Language School (Medresetü'l-Alsun) (after the 1840s it was more translated than school. office turned into shape).

During the time of Mehmet Ali Pasha, the lecture notes given by European teachers were immediately translated and published. In fact, students who were sent to Europe were asked to translate the books they read there immediately or to continue their translation activities when they returned to Egypt.

4-THE FIRST ARABIC NEWSPAPER WAS PUBLISHED IN THE ERA OF KAVALALI

Vekâyi-i Mısriyye

The newspaper that started to be published in Egypt in 1828. It is the first newspaper published in Ottoman Turkish.

This publication, published in Turkish and Arabic by the Egyptian governor Kavalalı Mehmet Ali

Pasha, emerged as an effective propaganda tool against Egypt's Ottoman Empire.

A communication tool that took on a new look emerged in Egypt. Mehmet Ali, who started his business on a planned basis, sent Nikola Musabek to Italy in 1815 to learn the art of writing and printing, and he trained many people to work in the printing house. The first works were given in 1822, when the Bulak Printing House was established in 1820. The first step in the newspaper was taken in 1826 by publishing a bulletin called Curnalu'l Hidivi in Bulak printing house. Curnalu'l-Hidivî, which was in a narrow frame, was printed and sent to senior executives and soldiers.

Mehmet Ali decided to publish the Vakayii Mısriyye newspaper in 1828 in order to write down the selected subjects from the Court. On December 4, 1828, the first issue of the newspaper was published as 4 pages, the right side of the pages consisting of two columns was written in Turkish and the left side in Arabic.⁵ Koloğlu stated the reason for the publication of the newspaper in two languages from the 34th issue of the newspaper (Koloğlu, 2014: 61); "The Egyptian people are a mixture of Turks and Arabs, and in order for both sides to benefit, Vakayii Mısriyye invents a skillful style with Turkish and Arabic languages." It is known that the Arabic section of the newspaper has translations of what is written in the Turkish section. First, Turkish texts were prepared and presented for the approval of the governor, the approved texts were translated into Arabic and both Turkish and Arabic texts were published in the newspaper. Picture 1. Title of the 1st Issue of Vakayi Mısriyye (Koloğlu, 2010: 8) To serve the interests of some foreign countries and in their own language, Tanzimat Era (1831-1876) Ottoman Press and Vakayii Mısriyye 53 Kastamonu Journal of Communication Studies, aside the newspapers they published. If it is left, we will see that the first Turkish newspaper was published by Mehmed Ali Pasha in Egypt.

Vakayii Mısriyye, the official newspaper of Egypt, aimed to convey the views of the administration, what they did, their reasons and why, and their goals to the management levels. The newspaper was initially published irregularly, and after a certain order, it was published at least twice a week. Mehmet Ali Pasha, who was closely involved in every work of the newspaper, asked that the articles be shown to him in advance and paid attention to grammatical and typographical errors.

The content of Vakayii Mısriyye was created differently from the known newspapers of the period. In Vakayii Mısriyye, articles, news and advertisements on various subjects could be found in addition to articles related to administrative issues such as laws, decisions of the council and various instructions, which are natural to be in an official newspaper. The majority of the news has been about the council and council meetings established by Mehmet Ali. Apart from the council and council meetings, the newspaper focused mostly on trade and economy news. The ships coming to Alexandria, the goods

⁵ https://tr.wikipedia.org/wiki/Vek%C3%A2yi-i_M%C4%B1sriyye

they carry, the number of passengers, etc. such information is given in the news. In addition to foreign news and interesting events, the newspaper also featured advertisements and advertisements.

Among the news sources of Vakayii Mısriyye, the most important one is official sources. The information coming from official authorities such as Egyptian Parliament, Divan el Hidivi, Shura-yı Askeriye, Meclis-i Meşveret was transferred by citing the source. The second important source was the media outside Egypt. News from places such as France, Crete and Italy appeared in the newspaper. Little or no news of the Ottoman State has been mentioned. Another news source of the newspaper was the captains of the ships arriving at Alexandria port. Many people took part in the Turkish and Arabic section of the Vakayii Mısriyye newspaper and in the newspaper management.

In addition to Sami Efendi, the newspaper's first minister, Derviş Ahmet Efendi, Kâşif Efendi, Hasan Ratib Efendi served as ministers, and Arabic editorials were examined by names such as Hasan el Attar, Tahtavi and Şidyak (Yazıcı, 1991: 270). The newspaper's sales place is Bulak's printing house and its price has been determined as 1 kuruş. The subscription fee is 12 kuruş in 3 months and 24 kuruş in 6 months (Koloğlu, 2014: 52). Mehmet Ali Pasha wanted anyone with a salary of more than 1000 kuruş to become a mandatory subscriber to the newspaper. The newspaper has undergone changes since Mehmet Ali's last period. In 1863, Ruzname-i Vakayii Mısriyye newspaper was published and sent to some cities in Istanbul and Anatolia in order to reach a wider circle.

Thus, journalism in Egypt, which was a province affiliated to the Ottoman Empire, developed with the Vakayii Mısriyye founded by the initiative of Mehmet Ali Pasha and the newspapers published after him. However, as stated by Koloğlu (2010: 10), although the Turkish press seemed to have actually started in 1828 with Vakayii Mısriyye, the newspaper could not go beyond being a state news bulletin that did not affect the outside of the bureaucracy in Egypt.⁶

5-CONCLUSION

As a result, to summarize the results of my research;

Kavalalı Mehmet Ali Pasha (1769-1849, was an illiterate but intelligent, hardworking ruler who was appointed as the Governor of Egypt by III Selim in 1805⁷. He made important innovations in agriculture, trade and military, and most importantly, education and training in Egypt. However, according to historical data, he rebelled in 1831 and defeated the Ottoman army, because the Greek rebellion (1821-1829), the abolition of the Janissaries (1826), the burning of the Ottoman navy by the French, British and Russian navies in the port of Navarino (1827), Russia '. Due to events and disasters such as the attack of the Republic of Turkey (1828-1829), the state could not find time to

⁶ YAZICI Nesimi, A few words about Vakayi-i Misriye.

⁷ AKYÜZ Yahya, History of Turkish Education, Pegem Publications, September 2015, Ankara.

recover and form new armies.

In summary, the innovations Mehmet Ali Pasha has undertaken in education are as follows.

Bringing French officers for training of the army.

Establishment of Bulak Printing House (1820).

Sending students to France (1826).

Opening of a medical school (1827).

Newspaper publication (1828).

Civil and Translation School (1834).

Establishment of the Translation School (1835).

The innovations in Egypt soon followed in Istanbul. This is interpreted as II. Mahmud receiving inspiration and encouragement from them.

However, It must be inspired by the military training activities initiated in the period of III. Selim and before him. In addition, since he aimed to make Egypt, a province, a rival state to the Ottoman Empire, he also made serious and long-term efforts to realize this idea.

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