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# Power Dynamics and Ottoman Administration in Algeria: "An Analytical Study of Structures and Functions"

ديناميكيات السلطة والإدارة العثمانية في الجزائر: "دراسة تحليلية للهياكل والوظائف"

- 1- Ben Gharbi Farid\*
- 2- mammeri mohamed
- 1- University of djelfa, faridbengharbi14@gmail.com
- 2 University of Relizane, Algeria . mammeri30med@gmail.com

#### Abstract:

This study explores the power dynamics and administration during the Ottoman period in Algeria, focusing on a comprehensive analysis of administrative structures and functions, and the relationship between central and local authority. The research begins by outlining the historical timeline, examining changes in the administrative system from 1515 to 1830. It analyzes the relationship between the central authority in Istanbul and the local governors in Algeria, studying the balance between military and civil power and the role of the Ottoman army in this context. Additionally, it addresses the organization of the financial and supervisory systems, including the taxation system, as well as penalties and rewards. The study also highlights the transformations within Ottoman administration and the challenges it faced, such as communication difficulties and local rebellions. Furthermore, the research examines how local elites were managed and their influence on the Ottoman administrative system.

**Keywords:** Power dynamics, administration, functions, structures.



\* المؤلف المرسل: Ben Gharbi Farid، الإيميل: #Ben Gharbi Barid

الملخص:

تتناول هذه الدراسة ديناميكيات السلطة والإدارة خلال الفترة العثمانية في الجزائر، مع التركيز على تحليل شامل للهياكل والوظائف الإدارية، والعلاقة بين السلطة المركزية والسلطات المحلية، يبدأ البحث بعرض الخط الزمني التاريغي، وبدراسة التغيرات التي شهدها النظام الإداري خلال الفترة الممتدة من 1515 إلى 1830، كما يحلل العلاقة بين السلطة المركزية في إسطنبول والحكام المحليين في الجزائر، من خلال دراسة التوازن بين السلطتين العسكرية والمدنية، ودور الجيش العثماني في هذا السياق.

ويتطرق البحث أيضا إلى تنظيم النظامين المالي والرقابي، بما في ذلك نظام الجباية، إضافة إلى العقوبات والمكافآت، كما تبرز الدراسة التحولات التي طرأت على الإدارة العثمانية والتحديات التي واجهتها، مثل صعوبة الاتصال والتمردات المحلية، علاوة على ذلك، يتناول البحث كيفية تعامل الإدارة العثمانية مع النخب المحلية وتأثير هذه الأخيرة على النظام الإداري العثماني في الجزائر.

الكلمات المفتاحية :ديناميكيات السلطة، الإدارة، الوظائف، الهياكل.

#### Introduction

The Ottoman administration in Algeria represents one of the most significant historical periods that deeply influenced governance and regional management. Since the Ottoman Empire established control over Algeria in the early 16th century, the country underwent fundamental changes in its administrative structure and system of governance. This period was characterized by the formation of a diverse and complex administrative system, which aimed to integrate the central authority of Istanbul with local laws and tribal customs prevalent in Algeria. By examining the distribution of power between central and local administrations, the role of the military in supporting or undermining civil authority, and the relationship between local elites and Ottoman rule, we can better understand the dynamics that shaped this administrative system.

The study also explores the transformations and challenges faced by the Ottoman administration due to internal and external pressures, highlighting how the administrative system evolved in response to various crises. Over nearly three centuries of rule (1515–1830), complex dynamics emerged between the central authority in Istanbul and the local administration in Algeria. These dynamics resulted in the formation of a unique administrative system that combined military and civil authorities, allowing the development

of a flexible administrative structure capable of adapting to local challenges and available resources.

## 1- Topic Definition:

The Ottoman presence in Algeria began in the early 16th century after the Algerian tribes sought the protection of the Barbarossa brothers against the Spanish invasion. The Ottomans took control of Algeria in 1515, and it remained part of the Ottoman Empire until 1830, the year of the French occupation (Saadallah, 1998, pp. 45–58). During this period, the Ottoman administrative structure relied on a combination of centralized authority in Istanbul and local leaders appointed to govern the regions. The Ottoman governors, or "Beys," oversaw local administrative, financial, and military affairs, while the Algerian Council (Divan of Algiers) played a key role in making decisions related to governance and administration (Al-Jilali, 1992, pp. 143–150).

Studying these administrative structures is essential to understanding how the Ottomans balanced central authority with local governance. This balance was part of the Ottomans' strategy to maintain control over distant territories and form effective power dynamics in Algeria, where the local elite played a crucial role in local governance in cooperation with Ottoman forces (Al-Zubairi, 1997, p. 223).

We will address the concept of "power dynamics" and Ottoman administration in Algeria within the topic of "An Analytical Study of Structures and Functions." It is important to provide clear definitions of the key terms that will help in understanding the overall context, including several definitions, as well as the researcher's operational definitions of power dynamics, administration, functions, and structures:

# 1/ Power Dynamics

Definition: "Power dynamics refer to the processes through which authority relationships are shaped in societies, including interactions between individuals or institutions that lead to a particular distribution of power and influence" (Mansour, 2019, p. 53).

This definition emphasizes that power is not static but changes according to interactions between individuals and institutions. It is appropriate for analyzing the nature of

power in the Ottoman administration, where power was distributed across various administrative structures and specific functions.

Researcher's operational definition: Power dynamics refer to the processes that characterize the distribution of power and influence within the Ottoman administration in Algeria and how this distribution changed over time due to political and social interactions.

#### 2/Administration

Definition: "Administration is the process of coordinating human and material resources to achieve specific goals through planning, organizing, directing, and controlling" (Al-Qasimi, 2020, p. 112).

This definition highlights the interactive and organizational nature of administration, aiding in the study of how the Ottoman state managed its territories, including Algeria. It is useful for analyzing the roles of Ottoman administration in coordinating its structures and functions to achieve its goals.

Researcher's operational definition: Administration in the context of this study refers to the methods and approaches used by the Ottoman state to organize its human and material resources in Algeria through established structures and functions to maintain control over the regions.

#### 3/ Functions

Definition: "A function is a set of tasks and responsibilities assigned to a person or a group to achieve a specific purpose" (Abdul Rahman, 2021, p. 78).

This definition clarifies the roles and responsibilities assigned to individuals within the administrative organization, allowing for an interpretation of how functions were distributed in the Ottoman administration and their impact on its effectiveness.

Researcher's operational definition: Functions refer to the tasks and responsibilities assigned to individuals within the Ottoman administration in Algeria and how these functions were part of the hierarchical system managing governance.

#### 4/Structures

Definition: "Organizational structures are frameworks that define the distribution of tasks, roles, and responsibilities in institutions to facilitate achieving objectives" (Al-Saadi, 2018, p. 66).

This definition highlights the importance of structures in distributing responsibilities and tasks, which is crucial for understanding how the Ottoman administration built its authority through the organizational frameworks it established in Algeria.

Researcher's operational definition: Structures refer to the organizational frameworks used by the Ottoman administration in Algeria to distribute power and tasks among various administrative positions, and how these structures affected governance and administrative efficiency.

These definitions help shed light on the key terms in the study's topic and clarify the dimensions of each concept within the Ottoman administrative system. Through these operational definitions, the relationship between power dynamics, administrative structures, and functions in the Ottoman system can be analyzed, leading to a better understanding of control and leadership during that period in Algeria.

## 2- Research Objectives:

This study aims to achieve several key objectives related to understanding the relationship between central authority and local administration during the Ottoman rule in Algeria. The first objective is to analyze how this relationship was organized between the center of power in Istanbul and local administrations in Algeria, including how information and decisions were exchanged between the central authority and local leaders. This includes examining how power and resources were distributed among Ottoman governors, beys, and the Divan, and how this contributed to maintaining stability in Algeria (Al-Sharif, 2010, pp. 150-155).

The second objective is to identify the functions of Ottoman administrative structures, including the roles played by the governors, the Divan, and the beys in the administrative organization. This examination requires studying how these functions were organized and how they impacted daily administration, political, and social affairs in Algeria during that period. The analysis will also include how different regions were managed, the

coordination between different entities, and the challenges faced by the Ottoman administration in a multi-cultural local context (Al-Jammal, 2015, pp. 80-85).

## 3- Significance of the Research:

The study of Ottoman power dynamics and administration is essential for understanding Algerian administrative history, as it provides a deep insight into how governance was organized under the administration of a vast empire like the Ottoman Empire. This organization helped define the relationship between the central authority in Istanbul and local administrations in Algeria, reflecting how the Ottomans managed remote governance and balanced authority between military and civilian influence. Understanding these dynamics contributes to analyzing administrative and institutional development in Algeria and provides a better understanding of how administrative systems evolved during the Ottoman period and their impact on subsequent periods, including the French colonial era and beyond (Ben Khada, 1983, pp. 102-105).

Through this study, researchers can understand how Algeria was managed as part of the Ottoman Empire and how these administrative structures helped maintain the country's stability for over three centuries. This knowledge plays a crucial role in exploring the subsequent administrative transformations Algeria witnessed and the impact of Ottoman strategies on modern administrative history (Al-Joudi, 1991, pp. 67-70).

#### 4- Research Problem:

The research problem lies in understanding the power dynamics that governed the relationship between the Ottoman administration and local structures in Algeria during the Ottoman rule (1515-1830). The research explores how this relationship and interaction were organized between the central authority in Istanbul and local leadership in Algeria, and how it influenced the organization of administrative functions. The Ottoman administrative system in Algeria was complex and diverse, involving a delicate balance between military and civilian power in the relationship between central authority and local leadership. From this, the following questions can be posed:

How did the central authority control and direct local administrative structures? How were administrative functions distributed and coordinated between local and central units to ensure continuity of governance and ease of managing distant territories? These questions

form the core of the research problem, requiring an in-depth analysis of the Ottoman administrative structure and the roles of the governors, Divan, and beys in the administrative organization in Algeria.

The importance of answering these questions lies in providing a clear vision of how the Ottoman administration operated in Algeria and how administrative challenges related to long distances, cultural, and regional differences were managed. This understanding can contribute to a deeper knowledge of how these dynamics impacted political and administrative stability in the region during the Ottoman era.

## 5- Research Methodology:

The research methodology relies on using both descriptive and analytical methods to provide a comprehensive analysis of Ottoman power dynamics and administration in Algeria. The descriptive method focuses on providing an accurate description of the Ottoman administrative structure, including how the relationship between the central authority in Istanbul and local administrations in Algeria was organized. Data is collected through examining historical sources and documentary texts related to Ottoman administration, allowing for a deeper understanding of how regions were managed and administrative functions coordinated (Al-Nasser, 2008, pp. 95-100).

The analytical method, on the other hand, aims to analyze the extracted data to identify patterns and trends in the organization of power and administrative structures. This includes examining how political and social conditions impacted Ottoman administration and assessing the effectiveness of the strategies used in governance. These analyses rely on documentary sources that highlight how the Ottomans dealt with administrative challenges and provide insights into the effectiveness of the administrative system in Algeria (Al-Saeed, 2012, pp. 130-135).

# 6. Historical Background

# A/ Temporal Framework:

The study covers the period of Ottoman rule over Algeria, which began in 1515 and lasted until 1830. During this time, Algeria underwent significant transformations in its administrative and political structures under Ottoman control, profoundly influencing its social and political history. The Ottomans initially established their dominance by supporting

the Barbarossa brothers in resisting the Spanish invasion. Gradually, they expanded their influence, imposing a complex administrative system that aligned with the needs of the vast empire stretching across multiple continents (Saadallah, 1998, pp. 45-58).

## B/ Ottoman Administrative Organization in Algeria:

The Ottoman administrative system in Algeria was characterized by the division of the territory into provinces, each governed by local leaders within a complex administrative structure. Algeria was divided into several regions, each headed by a Bey responsible for both military and administrative duties. This system aimed to strike a balance between centralized power in Istanbul and local authorities in Algeria. It played a crucial role in managing daily affairs and interacting with local communities, thereby contributing to the stability of Ottoman rule in the region (Djilali, 1992, pp. 143-150).

## C/ Major Power Structures:

The Ottoman administrative structure in Algeria included several key institutions, such as the Dey, the Bey, the Divan, and the Janissary army. The Dey represented the highest executive authority in Algeria, overseeing political and military matters, while the Bey managed the provinces and coordinated local affairs. The Divan functioned as an advisory council that made key decisions and supervised the implementation of policies. The Janissary army played a crucial role in maintaining military control and order (Zoubiri, 1997, p. 223).

# 7. Power Dynamics in Ottoman Administration

# A/ Relationship between Central and Local Authorities:

The dynamics of power in Ottoman administration were manifested through the distribution of authority between the center in Istanbul and the local governors in Algeria. The purpose of this distribution was to maintain effective control over distant territories of the empire. The Ottoman Sultan appointed governors, who were responsible for implementing central policies and directives. In return, local governors, such as the Beys, enjoyed a certain level of autonomy in managing provincial affairs and making decisions that suited local conditions, provided these decisions were aligned with the empire's overarching goals. This balanced distribution of authority between the center and the provinces contributed to administrative and political stability (Abdelrahman, 2004, pp. 115-120).

An examination of the distribution of power between Istanbul and the governors in Algeria reveals a complex interaction between central and regional administration. While Istanbul exerted direct influence through the appointment of governors and the issuance of directives, these governors held substantial powers at the local level, allowing them to manage daily affairs and respond to local crises. However, they were required to adhere to central instructions. This dynamic allowed for the fulfillment of local needs within a functional centralized political framework (Cahen, 1968, pp. 89-95).

As the relationship between the Sultan and the governors illustrates, power was concentrated in the hands of the Ottoman Sultan, while local rulers were entrusted with the task of implementing policies and making decisions in the provinces. This relationship relied on constant coordination and organization to ensure that central policies aligned with local practices, leading to relative stability in the distant Ottoman provinces (Güler, 2010, pp. 88-96).

Through the study of power dynamics in the Ottoman administration of Algeria, it becomes clear that the Ottoman Empire successfully maintained a delicate balance between central and local authority, contributing to relative stability in its distant provinces. This balance resulted from a carefully thought-out policy that combined direct control over the appointment of local rulers with granting them some autonomy in decision-making to adapt to regional circumstances.

Although the relationship between the center and the provinces reflected a degree of flexibility in adapting the administration to local needs, it was not without challenges. Tensions between central and local authorities occasionally arose, particularly under external pressures and local crises. Nevertheless, the Ottomans' ability to maintain this balance for an extended period reflects the strength and flexibility of the Ottoman administrative structure in confronting challenges.

From a historical perspective, it can be said that this dual system, combining centralization and decentralization, strengthened the Ottoman governance structure in Algeria for a long time. However, these dynamics gradually eroded over time due to internal and external challenges facing the empire, leading to gradual changes in the power and administrative structures.

From a sociological perspective, the dual Ottoman administrative system in Algeria, which integrated centralization and decentralization, can be viewed as a complex social and cultural mechanism. This system was not merely an administrative structure but embodied a dynamic process of interaction between central and local powers. The balance between centralization and decentralization reflects how power and resources were distributed: centralization provided comprehensive control over the provinces, while decentralization allowed local rulers some autonomy in addressing local issues. This dynamic shaped complex networks of social and political relationships, where central and local authorities worked in an integrated manner but with points of tension and negotiation.

Internal challenges, such as tribal conflicts and rebellions, forced the Ottoman administration to adapt to local forces in ways that exceeded traditional administrative methods. Meanwhile, external pressures, such as European threats, deepened tensions between the center and the provinces, prompting the development of flexible crisis management strategies. These dynamics illustrate how social and cultural contexts influence political and administrative interactions.

Over time, the gradual erosion of the dual system led to changes in the structure of power and administration, reflecting shifts in social and political values and priorities. The pressures and challenges reshaped the power structures to balance the center's needs with local demands. These changes reflect the interaction between social and economic forces that impact the sustainability of the administrative system.

Despite the challenges, the system's ability to maintain relative stability for a long time reflects the resilience of the empire's administrative and social structure. This stability resulted from ongoing negotiation and adaptation between central and local powers, enhancing the understanding of how to manage the balance between central control and local flexibility in historical and social contexts. Therefore, from a sociological perspective, the Ottoman administrative system in Algeria can be seen as a complex interaction process between central and local authorities, highlighting the impact of challenges and pressures on the development of power and administrative structures.

# B/ Balance Between Military and Civil Authority:

The Ottoman army, particularly the Janissary forces, played a crucial role in maintaining the balance between military and civil authority in Algeria. On one hand, the military was instrumental in upholding security, maintaining order, and enforcing laws, thereby supporting the central authority in Istanbul. On the other hand, it had a direct influence on civil authority, exerting significant power over administrative and political decisions. This balance between the two authorities was essential for ensuring the stability of Ottoman rule in Algeria, as the army was not only a tool for maintaining security but also controlled resources and influenced local leaders, making it a key component of the administrative system (Hassan, 2007, pp. 135-140).

Studies on the role of the Ottoman army indicate that maintaining this balance required careful coordination between military leaders and civil officials. The army played a dual role: supporting administrative stability while, at times, undermining civil authority. The primary challenge was to maintain this balance to prevent overlap between the two roles, which was crucial for sustaining effective governance (Sakaoğlu, 1999, pp. 112-118).

The impact of the Ottoman army reveals that its role extended beyond security matters to influencing public policies and administration. The military was a powerful tool for enhancing Ottoman influence, but it was also sometimes used to restrict civil authority. This interaction between military and civil authority illustrates how the army contributed to managing Ottoman provinces and shaping the direction of power (Çelik, 2006, pp. 121-130). Analyzing the balance between military and civil authority in Ottoman administration in Algeria shows that the army was a decisive factor in determining the nature and effectiveness of governance. Although its primary role was to support civil authority, its significant military influence occasionally constrained this authority, leading to a continuous interaction between the two sides. This dynamic helped ensure long-term stability but also created tensions between military leaders and civil officials. This balance highlights the complexity of the Ottoman administrative system and how maintaining equilibrium among different centers of power was crucial for stable governance.

From a historical perspective, this dynamic interaction reflects how the military and civil authority coexisted within a complex administrative framework. While military authority supported civil policies, it also had the capacity to influence administrative decisions. This

balance was vital for ensuring the continuity of Ottoman rule and achieving stability in Algeria, though it was not without conflicts and challenges.

From a sociological perspective, this balance illustrates the complexity of the Ottoman administrative system and how interactions between different centers of power affected governance continuity. The relationships between the military and civil authorities formed a complex network of social and political interactions, where maintaining equilibrium between these forces was crucial to avoid administrative collapse. The tensions between military and civilian leaders reflect the challenges faced by administrative systems striving to integrate various authorities within a unified framework, underscoring the importance of negotiation and coordination among multiple powers to ensure system stability.

Local Elites and Ottoman Authority:

The relationship between the Ottoman authorities and local leaders, such as sheikhs and tribal chiefs, was complex and based on mutual interaction aimed at achieving stable governance. The Ottomans sought to gain the loyalty and support of local elites by offering privileges and political agreements that ensured their cooperation. These elites played a prominent role in organizing local communities and maintaining social order, which significantly helped the Ottoman authorities manage the provinces in alignment with their goals. This interaction with local elites greatly contributed to achieving political and social stability in the areas under Ottoman control (El-Barnes, 2006, pp. 210-215).

Studies show that local leaders had substantial influence over the daily administration of the provinces, cooperating with Ottoman authorities to ensure stability. In return, these leaders were expected to pledge loyalty and adhere to directives issued by the central authority. This reciprocal relationship between the two sides was crucial for the implementation of Ottoman policies, as local elites played a key role in addressing local challenges and implementing policies in line with Ottoman interests (Kuran, 2002, pp. 75-82).

The dynamics of the relationship between Ottoman authorities and local elites reveal a delicate balance between cooperation and negotiation. The Ottoman authority relied on strategic alliances with local elites, leveraging their influence in local communities to avoid conflicts and enhance stability. This analysis illustrates how local elites had a dual

role: either contributing to the strengthening of Ottoman authority or posing a challenge to it, depending on political and social conditions (Yıldız, 2009, pp. 65-74).

Studying the relationship between Ottoman authority and local elites highlights that these elites played a pivotal role in the stability of Ottoman rule in Algeria. Cooperation between the two sides was based on mutual interests; the Ottoman authority provided privileges to ensure the loyalty of the elites, while the local elites assisted in implementing Ottoman policies and managing communities. However, this relationship was complex and occasionally fraught with tension, as the ability of local elites to organize provincial affairs made them a necessary partner, yet they could also challenge the central authority.

From a historical perspective, local elites served as a link between the central authority and local communities, aiding in achieving administrative and political stability. However, this relationship was not without complications. Although local elites were essential partners in managing the provinces, they sometimes posed a challenge to central authority. Their ability to manage local affairs and provide services enhanced governance stability but could also create tensions and conflicts with the central authority.

From a sociological perspective, the relationship between Ottoman authority and local elites reflects a complex network of social and political interactions. Cooperation between the two sides highlights how shared interests can lead to effective partnerships, while tensions arising from differences in power and influence underscore the challenges faced by administrative systems in integrating multiple authorities within a single framework. This dynamic between central authority and local elites emphasizes how social and political relationships impact stability and effectiveness within the administrative system.

Analysis of Ottoman Administrative Structures:

# Functions of the Wali and the Bey:

In the Ottoman administrative system, the role of the wali (governor) and the bey was central to managing local affairs, particularly through the positions of the daï and the bey. The daï, who held the highest administrative position in Algeria, was responsible for overseeing political and military matters at the regional level. His primary duties included organizing and collecting taxes, implementing policies issued by the central authority in Istanbul, and leading defense against external threats. On the other hand, the bey was tasked

with managing specific provinces, handling the implementation of policies, supervising financial and administrative matters, and coordinating local defense. These roles were crucial in maintaining administrative stability and reinforcing Ottoman authority in Algeria (Khalifi, 2009, pp. 77-85).

Analyzing the distribution of responsibilities between the daï and the bey reveals how these positions interacted within the Ottoman system. The daï was responsible for general governance and higher administration, while the bey handled executive aspects such as tax organization and defense. This organization reflected a balance between military and civilian aspects; the daï led defensive operations, while the bey managed the financial and economic administration of the provinces. This task distribution illustrates the complex administrative structure of the Ottoman system, where military and civilian authorities intertwined to ensure effective and stable governance (İnalcık, 1994, pp. 153-160).

The analysis of the roles of the daï and the bey demonstrates how their task balance contributed to the effectiveness of Ottoman administration. The daï managed military and high-level administrative affairs, while the bey oversaw civilian matters such as tax organization and local defense. This organization helped regulate provincial systems and coordinate the use of financial and military resources, significantly enhancing the stability of Ottoman rule in Algeria (Öztürk, 1998, pp. 64-72).

Examining the functions of the daï and the bey in Ottoman administration reveals that their task distribution was part of a broader strategy to achieve a balance between central and regional authority. The daï represented the supreme authority, bearing responsibility for general affairs and defense, while the bey focused on the executive details related to provincial administration. This interwoven administrative structure featured a clear integration between military and civilian aspects, with each playing a necessary role in stabilizing the Ottoman system, relying on mutual dependence between leaders to effectively address local and central governance needs.

Historical Perspective: Historically, the daï represented the supreme authority, bearing extensive responsibilities encompassing public affairs and defense, highlighting his central role in maintaining the empire's stability. Conversely, the bey was responsible for the

executive details of provincial administration, reflecting a delegation of tasks focused on the daily aspects of local governance.

Sociological Perspective: From a sociological perspective, this intertwined administrative structure reflects a clear integration between military and civilian elements. The dual role of both the daï and the bey was crucial in ensuring systemic stability, with each operating within their specialized domain while relying on each other to effectively meet local and central governance needs. This task distribution was not merely an administrative organization but a reflection of social dynamics aimed at balancing central control with regional needs. It underscores how administrative structures can enhance political and social stability through power balance and role integration.

## The Role of the Divan in Decision-Making:

The Divan played a pivotal role in the Ottoman administrative and judicial systems. It was a supreme institution comprising senior officials and advisors whose primary responsibilities included consulting the Sultan on major imperial issues and guiding public policies. Besides its administrative functions, the Divan also had a judicial role, which allowed it to contribute to policy implementation and coordinate actions between central and local authorities effectively, ensuring that decisions were applied at all levels of administration (Al-Latif, 2011, pp. 102-110).

The Divan functioned as the highest administrative body within the Ottoman Empire, composed of senior officials and ministers who made crucial decisions on administrative and political matters. Its tasks included discussing legislation and foreign policy, making decisions on public finances, and adjudicating major judicial cases. This combination of administrative and judicial responsibilities facilitated better coordination between the administrative and judicial branches, which positively impacted the effectiveness of adopted policies (Hanioglu, 2008, pp. 122-130).

Analysis of the Divan's role reveals its importance as both an advisory and administrative institution. It met regularly to deliberate on significant issues and issued executive decisions based on consultations among senior officials. Through this system, the Divan helped unify policies and ensure their implementation across the empire, thereby enhancing the stability and effectiveness of Ottoman administration (Yılmaz, 2004, pp. 82-90).

The study of the Divan's role highlights its critical importance in the Ottoman system as a convergence point between central and local authorities. The integration of administrative and judicial functions within the Divan improved the empire's ability to handle issues comprehensively and effectively. Its advisory and executive roles significantly contributed to directing and coordinating policies, allowing the empire to maintain stability across its various regions.

Historical Perspective: Historically, the Divan represented a vital junction between administrative and judicial functions, contributing to the integration of the empire's administrative and supervisory systems. The Divan's advisory and executive roles enabled the empire to address diverse issues effectively and in an organized manner.

Sociological Perspective: From a sociological perspective, the Divan's role reflects how institutions can facilitate policy coordination and guidance to enhance stability across different regions. The Divan served as a mechanism to ensure harmony between central and local authorities, helping balance interests and streamline decision-making processes. This coordination between administrative and judicial dimensions illustrates the complexity of the Ottoman social and political system and how stability was achieved through a balance of power and the integration of various roles.

#### Civil and Administrative Functions:

Civil and administrative functions were crucial components of the Ottoman system. Judges and local officials played significant roles in managing the daily affairs of the provinces. Judges were responsible for applying Ottoman laws and resolving legal disputes, while local officials handled administrative tasks such as land registration, market organization, and addressing local complaints. These administrative structures were essential for ensuring the smooth operation of daily matters and providing basic services to the population. Studying these roles highlights how they contributed to organizing local communities and maintaining stability under Ottoman rule (Al-Madani, 2014, pp. 155-160).

Examining non-military administrative structures, such as judges and local officials, sheds light on how civil and administrative affairs were managed within the Ottoman system. Judges formed the backbone of justice and law enforcement, while local officials dealt with daily administrative tasks related to record-keeping and public services. These administrative

structures played a key role in maintaining the stability and effectiveness of the system at the local level (Kara, 2011, pp. 78-85).

Analysis of non-military administrative structures reveals the importance of judges and local officials in managing civil affairs. These individuals were responsible for efficiently implementing Ottoman policies and providing administrative services to local communities. Their roles enabled the system to meet the needs of the population and ensure effective law enforcement, contributing to balance and stability within local communities (Aydın, 2001, pp. 45-55).

Civil and administrative functions in the Ottoman system were essential for achieving societal stability and organizing daily affairs. The integration of roles between judges and local officials helped manage daily operations efficiently, enhancing the continuity of the administrative system and its ability to respond to the needs of the population. By studying these structures, one can understand the impact of the Ottoman administrative system on local communities and the significance of its role in providing services and enforcing laws, which contributed to strengthening the stability of the regime.

Historical Perspective: Historically, the integration of roles between judges and local officials was crucial in managing daily affairs, contributing to the continuity and stability of the administrative system.

Sociological Perspective: From a sociological perspective, this integration reflects the impact of the Ottoman administrative system on local communities. Civil and administrative functions played a critical role in delivering services and enforcing laws, which reinforced the stability of the regime and the effectiveness of administration. Through these structures, one can understand how the system interacted with local needs and contributed to organizing society in a manner characterized by efficiency and balance.

# Taxation and Financial System:

The Ottoman administration played a crucial role in organizing taxation and managing financial resources, which was essential for maintaining economic and administrative stability in Algeria. The Ottoman financial system involved collecting taxes from lands and commercial crops, which were used to fund military and administrative operations. Additionally, there were systems and procedures designed to organize the

distribution of financial resources and ensure effective tax collection. The governor (wali) or the regional leader (bey) was responsible for implementing financial policies and coordinating tax collection with the central authorities in Istanbul to ensure financial balance and administrative stability (Al-Baradi, 2005, pp. 88-95).

The study of the Ottoman administration's role in organizing taxes and financial resources highlights the importance of the advanced system adopted by the empire. This system included collecting taxes from the provinces and organizing financial resources to ensure their effective use. It involved various types of taxes, such as zakat (alms) and kharaj (land tax), and relied on officials assigned to collect and manage these taxes. This organization contributed to financing government activities and meeting the empire's financial needs (Erdem, 2003, pp. 45-53).

Analyzing the role of the Ottoman administration in managing taxes and financial resources reveals how public finances were managed and resources were distributed across provinces. The financial system was complex and relied on a system of taxation to collect revenues from multiple sources, which supported administrative operations and ensured financial stability for the empire. This organization was fundamental for maintaining the continuity of the administrative system and meeting the state's needs (Kara, 2003, pp. 112-120).

The study of the taxation and financial system in the Ottoman administration underscores the vital role these systems played in maintaining the stability of the regime. The precise organization of taxes and distribution of financial resources supported government operations and ensured economic and administrative stability. By understanding how taxes were organized and collected, we can appreciate the impact of the financial system on the effectiveness of Ottoman administration and its ability to meet state needs and achieve financial stability.

Historical Perspective: Historically, the meticulous organization of taxes and financial resource distribution had a significant impact on supporting government operations and enhancing economic stability. This system reflected the Ottoman Empire's ability to manage resources effectively, contributing to the continuity of rule and state stability.

Sociological Perspective: From a sociological perspective, the taxation and financial system illustrates how financial organization affected society and administrative structure. The

organization and collection of taxes played a crucial role in ensuring economic stability and achieving administrative objectives. By understanding how these systems were managed, we can gauge their impact on the effectiveness of Ottoman administration and its ability to meet state needs and achieve financial stability. This reflects the relationship between financial policies, societal well-being, and political stability.

Monitoring and Performance Evaluation:

Monitoring job performance and evaluating administrative efficiency were critical aspects of the Ottoman administration. The monitoring mechanisms included periodic reports and internal audits to assess employee effectiveness, helping to ensure that policies were implemented efficiently and identifying weaknesses in administrative performance. The evaluation process involved reviewing work records and performance assessments, contributing to improved administrative effectiveness and ensuring adherence to established standards (Al-Tamimi, 2010, pp. 145-150).

Studies on performance monitoring and administrative efficiency evaluations reveal the importance of oversight in the Ottoman system to achieve goals effectively and efficiently. Monitoring mechanisms included periodic reports and evaluations by senior officials in the central administration, where performance was assessed and necessary guidance was provided to improve efficiency. This process involved reviewing financial reports, monitoring policy implementation, and ensuring compliance with laws and regulations (Özdemir, 2012, pp. 102-110).

Further studies on performance monitoring and strategies for evaluating administrative efficiency demonstrate that the Ottoman system relied on a comprehensive monitoring system, including performance evaluations and continuous task reviews. This system helped improve administrative quality and enhance transparency by ensuring that administrative goals were achieved efficiently (Güven, 2007, pp. 95-103).

The study of the performance monitoring system in the Ottoman administration highlights that oversight was a vital element in ensuring the effectiveness of the administrative system. Accurate monitoring mechanisms and continuous evaluations contributed to improved performance, increased transparency, and adherence to administrative standards. By analyzing how monitoring and evaluation were implemented, we can understand the role of

these mechanisms in enhancing administrative effectiveness and ensuring that goals were achieved efficiently.

Historical Perspective: Historically, monitoring played a crucial role in improving administrative performance through precise evaluation mechanisms and ensuring adherence to administrative standards. These mechanisms helped enhance transparency and improve performance efficiency, positively impacting the stability and success of the administrative system.

Sociological Perspective: From a sociological perspective, the monitoring system reflects how administrative practices influence social dynamics within institutions. Continuous monitoring and evaluations contributed to developing a culture of accountability and improving job performance, fostering a more transparent and efficient work environment. By analyzing how monitoring and evaluation were implemented, we can understand the role of these mechanisms in enhancing administrative effectiveness and ensuring goal achievement, illustrating the relationship between administrative procedures and social outcomes within institutions.

#### Penalties and Rewards:

The system of penalties and rewards was a key tool for promoting administrative discipline within the Ottoman system. Rewards were granted to employees who demonstrated outstanding performance, while penalties were imposed on those who violated laws or failed to perform their duties properly. This system aimed to motivate employees to adhere to administrative standards and enhance discipline within institutions. By implementing this system, the Ottoman administration sought to achieve a high level of discipline and efficiency, which contributed to improving administrative quality (Al-Sharif, 2012, pp. 120-125).

Studies on the penalties and rewards system in the Ottoman administration reveal its importance in promoting administrative discipline and motivating good performance. Rewards were given to individuals who achieved exceptional results, while penalties were imposed on those who neglected their duties. This system helped incentivize employees to perform effectively and comply with laws, thereby raising the level of discipline and improving overall administrative quality (Yavuz, 2005, pp. 67-75).

Further analysis of the penalties and rewards system as a tool for enhancing administrative discipline in the Ottoman administration shows that it was part of the administrative policy to ensure compliance and encourage good performance. Penalties were used to address violations and inappropriate actions, while rewards were given to outstanding employees to motivate them to deliver better performance. This system aimed to improve discipline and enhance efficiency within the administration (Yurt, 2002, pp. 54-62).

The study of the penalties and rewards system in the Ottoman administration highlights it as an effective tool for promoting administrative discipline and motivating good performance. By rewarding excellent performance and imposing penalties for violations, this system contributed to achieving a high level of discipline and efficiency, leading to improved administrative quality and enhanced adherence to laws and standards.

Historical Perspective: Historically, the system of penalties and rewards was an effective tool for achieving discipline and motivating individuals. By rewarding excellent performance and imposing penalties for violations, this balance between rewards and penalties contributed to increasing efficiency and improving administrative quality, as it reinforced adherence to laws and standards.

Sociological Perspective: From a sociological perspective, this system reflects how administrative tools can influence individual and collective behaviors within institutions. The rewards and penalties system was not just an administrative tool but part of a cultural process that reinforced discipline and fostered a sense of responsibility among employees. By implementing a fair and effective system, these mechanisms helped build a strong institutional culture focused on improving performance and adherence to standards, thereby enhancing stability and productivity within the administrative system.

Transformations in the Ottoman Administration in Algeria:

Studying the transformations in the Ottoman administration in Algeria reveals the changes that occurred in the administrative structure due to internal pressures and external challenges. Over time, the Ottoman administration in Algeria faced significant pressures from both inside and outside, leading to modifications in the administrative system. These changes included reorganizing the provinces, adjusting the roles of governors and rulers, and developing administrative methods to adapt to political and social changes. The challenges

that prompted these transformations resulted from internal conflicts, such as tribal disputes, as well as external threats that required a flexible administrative response capable of adapting to changing conditions (Al-Abidi, 2013, pp. 98-105).

The study of changes in the administrative structure due to internal pressures and external challenges highlights how the Ottoman administrative system in Algeria evolved over time. The Ottoman administration faced various pressures and challenges that impacted its structure and organization. These transformations included changes in the geographic distribution of power, adjustments in administrative policies to meet the needs of different provinces, and the development of new strategies to address military and political threats. These changes were a result of internal pressures such as local conflicts and external pressures like threats from European powers (Kılıç, 2006, pp. 89-97).

The study of transformations in the Ottoman administration shows how internal and external challenges led to significant changes in the administrative system. The Ottoman administration faced multiple pressures, including internal conflicts among tribes and problems resulting from military and political threats from European powers. These pressures led to modifications in the administrative structure, including the reorganization of provinces, adjustments to the roles of governors and rulers, and the development of new strategies to face increasing challenges (Albayrak, 2010, pp. 76-84).

Historical Perspective: Historically, the study of transformations in the Ottoman administration in Algeria illustrates how internal and external pressures contributed to shaping and modifying the administrative system over time. Facing increasing internal pressures, such as tribal disputes and local challenges, and external threats from European powers, the Ottoman administration had to reorganize provinces and adjust the roles of governors and rulers. This included developing new methods to adapt to political and social changes to ensure the stability of the administrative system and meet the needs of various provinces. These changes were crucial for addressing the military and political challenges faced by the empire.

Sociological Perspective: From a sociological perspective, the study highlights how transformations in the administrative system were not merely structural changes but also dynamic responses to complex social and cultural interactions. Internal pressures, such as

tribal conflicts, necessitated the development of flexible administrative strategies to handle these social challenges. At the same time, external threats from European powers drove the administration to a strategic adaptation involving changes in the distribution of power and administrative policies. These transformations reflect an ongoing interaction between central and local forces and highlight how administrative adjustments were essential for addressing changing social and political needs, thereby contributing to the stability of Ottoman rule in the face of increasing challenges.

## Challenges Faced by the Ottoman Administration:

The Ottoman administration in Algeria encountered a series of significant challenges that impacted its effectiveness. Among these challenges were difficulties in communication between Istanbul and local authorities, where long distances and ineffective communication methods affected the speed of the administration's response to crises and decisions. Additionally, there were challenges related to local and tribal rebellions that posed a threat to administrative stability. These rebellions, often a result of difficult economic and political conditions, forced the Ottoman administration to allocate additional resources and adapt to the local situation to ensure control and maintain order (Al-Rashidi, 2015, pp. 142-150).

The Ottoman administration faced major challenges, particularly difficulties in communication between Istanbul and local authorities in Algeria. The ineffectiveness of communication and transportation methods led to delays in orders and complications in managing local affairs. Furthermore, local and tribal rebellions threatened the stability of the Ottoman administration. These rebellions required rapid responses from the central administration, affecting its ability to manage the provinces effectively (Çelik, 2010, pp. 120-130).

The study of the challenges faced by the Ottoman administration highlights the difficulties that impacted its performance and effectiveness. Among these challenges, communication problems between central and local authorities were prominent, where the impact of long distances and ineffective communication methods affected decision-making speed and crisis response. Additionally, local and tribal rebellions threatened stability, necessitating the allocation of additional resources and the development of new strategies to ensure control and system stability (Yılmaz, 2012, pp. 110-118).

Historical Perspective: Historically, the Ottoman administration in Algeria faced a range of significant challenges that greatly impacted its effectiveness. Among these challenges were difficulties in communication between Istanbul and local authorities, characterized by long distances and ineffective communication, which hindered the administration's ability to respond quickly to crises and make necessary decisions. In addition, the administration faced local and tribal rebellions that directly threatened the stability of the administrative system. These rebellions were often a result of difficult economic and political conditions, forcing the Ottoman administration to allocate additional resources and adapt to the local situation to ensure control and maintain order.

Sociological Perspective: From a sociological perspective, the challenges faced by the Ottoman administration reflect the complex interaction between central and local forces. Communication difficulties between Istanbul and local authorities were not merely logistical issues but also expressed a social and cultural gap affecting administrative effectiveness. Local and tribal rebellions reflected social interactions resulting from economic and political crises and highlighted how these challenges impacted administrative stability. Adapting to these challenges required a dynamic response reflecting a deep understanding of local realities and conditions, demonstrating how social and cultural factors influence administrative effectiveness and the ability to maintain stability.

## Summary of Results:

The study examined the dynamics of power and administrative structures within the Ottoman system in Algeria, highlighting how authority was distributed between the central administration in Istanbul and local authorities in the provinces. It detailed key structures such as the Divan, the Dey, the Bey, and the Janissary Corps, along with performance monitoring mechanisms and the financial system. The study concluded that the Ottoman administrative system was complex, relying on a balance between military and administrative power. It also emphasized the importance of administrative adjustments made to address internal and external challenges and the impact of these challenges on the effectiveness of the Ottoman administration.

#### Recommendations:

Based on the study's results, it is recommended to further investigate the impact of the Ottoman administrative system on modern Algerian administrative practices. Research could explore how Ottoman administrative practices influenced current administrative structures and how modern systems could benefit from the lessons learned from the Ottoman administration. Additionally, a comparative study between historical and contemporary administrative systems could provide deeper insights into the evolution of public administration in Algeria.

#### **Conclusion:**

In conclusion, the study provides a detailed analysis of the dynamics of power and Ottoman administration in Algeria, offering valuable insights into how various administrative and political structures interacted during that period. By examining the relationship between central and local authority, the balance between military and civilian aspects, and the relationship between Ottoman authority and local elites, we gain a deeper understanding of the impact of these dynamics on Ottoman administration in Algeria. The research findings indicate that the success in managing Ottoman provinces relied heavily on the ability to adapt to changing challenges, whether internal or external, and on the effectiveness of the monitoring and control system. Future recommendations highlight the importance of continuing research into the impact of Ottoman administration on modern administrative systems in Algeria, helping to better understand the historical influences on contemporary administrative frameworks.

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