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Livestock production in the Central Maghreb during the intermediate era between contributing to internal economic mobility and external trade exchange

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Abstract	Article info
Livestock of all sorts in the field of the Islamic Maghreb in general and the central Maghreb in particular, formed an important and an effective manifestation in the economic activity of that field, through the intersections of the agricultural and industrial contribution in its	Received 02 August 2023 Accepted 01 January 2024
various forms as it is a basic and a vital source of raw materials for different industries and crafts and an engine for the manufacturing and agricultural industry, and one of the main components of trade exchanges with the various countries of the Mediterranean Basin or sub-Saharan Africa	Keyword: ✓ Central Maghreb ✓ livestock ✓ trade roads



1. Introduction

Like animal production throughout history, a focal and an expressive measure of the economic condition of societies, with abundance its was prosperity flourishing, and its lack of poverty and weakness, and the Middle Maghreb was classified as one of the vital areas in owning livestock and fish wealth because it is rich in natural and topographical ingredients that qualify it for that, and with which the type and quantity of animal production was associated. As studies and references are scarce in historical sources in this aspect, and there are no numerical statistics that the researcher relies on in analyzing and studying livestock and its areas of use except simple references in travel and geography books, or extracts from books of calamities and fatawa from which the state of livestock in the Central Maghreb is derived, to what extent did the natural conditions in the Central Maghreb contribute to the abundance of this wealth? What is the relationship of animal production with other economic activities? And what is its role in sending the commercial movement with it? To answer these problems, we relied on some sources of travel and geography books, in addition to studies, the most important of which are: Hawari Musa, animal husbandry in the countries of the Islamic Maghreb from the conquest to the fall of the Almohad state (1-7 AH / 7-13 AD), the book on economic and social conditions in the Central Maghreb between the third and fourth centuries AH by Jawdat Abd al-Karim Yusuf, and economic transformations in Maghreb from the beginning of the 6th century AH until the 10th century AH by Sakako Houria and other references Which took upon itself to enrich this poor side in terms of historical handling and analysis within the intermediate period

2. A reading in the natural effects of the central Maghreb field on animal production:

The natural and topographic aspect plays a focal role in the quantitative and qualitative presence of animals in any area the following are among other characteristics Central Maghreb owns:

2.1. The site:

Ibn Khaldoun limits the geographical area of the Central Maghreb to the region extending from the Moulouya River (. Abd al-Rahman bin Khaldoun, 2010, p. 76), which is the end of the Far Maghrib1, which consists Tlemcen and its coasts on the Romi Sea, from the country of Henin, Oran and Algiers, then eastward and includes the country of Asher and the country of Msila, then the Zab and its base in Biskra under the mountains of the Aures connected to its tuberculosis. It invades extreme Maghreb the southern side. Al-Arq intercepts, a rocky land called Al-Hamada by the Arabs. It extends to the country of Righ and the southern regions of the central Maghreb to the countries of Bouda and Tantit in the west. The southern border of the central Maghreb extends to the east until it reaches Ghadames, Fezzan and Wadan (salm, 2012, p. 52)

Depending on this description of the location of the Middle Maghreb during the intermediate perio which was distinguished historically and for political considerations by receding at times and expanding at other



times, to what extent did this location and geographical location contribute to animal production in the Central Maghreb?

The Middle Maghreb constructed a link, whether between the two countries of Morocco, which were called in the intermediate period in Ifriqiya or the Near East Maghreb and the Far Maghreb in the West at the Maghreb level, and a western wing connected to the East region that Arabian includes the Peninsula. Mesopotamia and the Levant, the cradle of successive civilizations and what represented of leadership and economic superiority in all its manifestations, as well as the North Bank, which is Europe across the Mediterranean basin. Various preceded the Islamic conquest, as it is mentioned as an example, but not limited to, that camels were transported through trade to the countries of the Maghreb from the East since the second century AD (Jawdat Abd al-Karim Youssef, 1992, p. 68).

2.2 Topography:

The surface of the central Maghreb is dominated by the characteristic of diversity, so the feature of height prevails in its northern part, and flatness in its southern part, as the mountain ranges and plateaus dominate the northern part almost completely, and these chains affected the drawing of the basic lines and the distribution of natural and human manifestations (Al-Shami Salah al-Din Ali, 1996, p. 99). Iferiqia, the Bona Plain from the east, and the Souk Ahras Mountains from the south. The Plain Atlas Mountains border the Metija Plain from the south, which is no more than 30 km wide, while its length exceeds 100 km. It is separated by a mountainous area in Miliana from the Oran Plain (Ali abdelkader, 1962, p. 36) 'as for the interior, it is high, with a height ranging from 500 m to 1000 m. It takes the form of plateaus known as the upper plateaus. It is interspersed with some depressions, basins and cliffs with internal drainage confined between the hilly and desert atlas series (Jean-François Traun and others, 1997, p. 46)

Concerning the south, the Middle Maghreb, like other areas of central Maghreb in general, is part of the Sahara African desert, which is characterized by flatness with the presence of low basins embracing oases (Sarah Hassan Mneimneh, 1999, p. 47), and volcanic mountain masses that range in height to more than 2918 m with peaks of wanderings in the far southeast of central Maghreb (Ali abdelkader, 1962, p. 49).

The terrain diversity between the north and south of the Middle Maghreb contributed to weaving a suitable environment for the breeding of livestock in it, by providing areas for grazing, especially in the plateau region, which is known as the steppes rich in pastures.

2.3 Climate:

One of the most important factors for the promotion of agriculture, grazing and livestock husbandry is that the north of the Kingdom was receiving a large amount of rain, especially along the next atlas, resulting in the formation of dense forests rich in many tree and plant varieties, decreasing in the upper plateaus where the continental atmosphere is cold winter and hot summer, and then increasing Heat and rain in the desert atlas and semi-desert areas. This climate diversity between the rainy North, the less rainy plateaus and the dry



semi-Saharan South has created a kind of ecological diversity that has in turn led to plant and animal diversity, and has had a positive impact onto Kingdom's agricultural and animal diversity

The Central Maghreb is divided into three important climatic regions, the first of which is the Mediterranean region on the ranges overlooking the Mediterranean Sea or the so-called coastal strip, which is one of the temperate climatic regions, dry in summer and rainy in winter. Almost completely dry throughout the year (. Naeem Al-Zaher, 1999, p. 90).

The economic life in the Maghreb countries is closely linked to the climate, because it affects various human activities, including animal husbandry and distribution on the surface of the earth, and thus the spread of animal species (Houari Moussa, 2009, p. 29).

2.4 Water Resources:

Water sources differentiated in the central Maghreb during the Middle Ages. Travel literature and geography books indicate that the cities of our central Maghreb have various sources of water. The city is from the Chlef Valley, which flows near it. Ibn Hawqal says: "...as it had luck from the Chlef River..." (Ibn Hawqal, 2009, p. 89), and it is not excluded that it relies on the springs surrounding the Zakar Valley, according to what al-Hasan al-Wazzan described in Africa. Mount Zakar surrounding it ,It is full of eyes. (Al-Hassan bin Muhammad Al-Wazzan, 1983, pp. 34-35). Water sources also varied in the region of Mitiga, and the texts indicate that it has abundant water resources, including the Great River, as mentioned by Salih bin Qaria... and from there to Farzuna, which is a city on a vast river with groves and orchards, and it is said that it is Mitiga..." (Qaria, 2007, p. 255) This river was described by Ibn Hawqal, saying: "... it flows into a meadow for them to have running water on it and a branch of the river enters the floors with many (Ibn Hawqal, 2009, p. 228) or chards and agitation after the name of Rustagha, and it is wide and full of wheat... Al-Hassan Al-Wazzan spoke about the river near The islands of Bani Mazghana, which he counted as one of the rich cities, mentioned its importance in providing the city's inhabitants drinking water and its uses in other fields, including watering the orchards. Fruits Near the city to the east is a river on which mills are set up and supplies the inhabitants with water for drinking and other purposes, and in the suburbs are very beautiful plains, especially the plain of Metijah, which is forty-five miles long and thirty-six miles wide, where good wheat grows in abundance... (Al-Hassan bin Muhammad Al-Wazzan, 1983, p. 37) This is in beside the region's availability of other water sources in the form of Al-Ayoun Al-Sihah and Al-Hassan Al-Wazzan adds another source of the region's water sources, which are the many water tables. Plenty of water steams and orchards (Qaria, 2007, p. 256)...

2.5 The most important sea fishing ports in the central Maghreb:

2.5.1Elkharez:

Al-Bakri describes it by saying: "Beads Marsa is a city that was surrounded by the sea except for a narrow path that the sea may cut off in winter. It has a fortified wall and a reed, and there are many Arabs around it, and the architecture of its people is for it." (Al-Bakri, 2012, p. 141) The city and its





anchorage, according to the descriptions of geographers, are of much importance in the entire western basin of the Mediterranean.

2.5.2Bejaia:

Al-Bakri described the city and the port in a correct description, though the latter did not put it in the part dedicated to describing cities in the general framework for describing the paths in the Maghreb, but rather contained it in the list of anchors in these countries, where he says: Then the anchorage of the city of Bejaia, the first of its people, populated with the people of Andalusia (Al-Bakri, 2012, p. 268), and in its east, a large river that loaded ships enter, and it is a safe winter anchorage. From Alexandria on the outskirts of Egypt, Yemen, India, China and others (Anonymous, 1997, pp. 129-130)

2.5.3Marsa Algiers Beni Mazghni:

The most famous marinas in the central Maghreb; it is a safe anchorage that ships come from Ifriqiya, Andalusia, and other countries, and it is four days away from the city of Bejaia." (Ibn Hawqal, 2009, p. 76)

2.5.4 Marsa Aldajaj:

Al-Bakri describes it and mentions that the city of Marsa al-Dajjaan was surrounded by the sea from three sides, and a wall was struck from the West Bank to the East Bank, and from there it enters into it and its markets. The city is inhabited by Andalusians and tribes from the Kutama, (Al-Bakri, 2012, pp. 149-150)

2.5.5 Marsa Henein:

Al-Bakri describes it as "a good anchorage intended. It is the most fortified fort with orchards and various kinds of fruits." It developed at the beginning of the 6th century AH, becoming a city, a fortress, and a marina at the same time. An elaborate

wall, markets, buying and selling, and outside it are many crops and connected buildings. Thirty miles separate it from Tlemcen (Abi Abdullah Al-Sharif Al-Idrisi, 2002, p. 259)

2.5.6 *Tennis port* :

Tennis has flourished since the Andalusians re-crowded it in the second half of the third century AH, and it became a center for landing and taking off at sea, which increased the prosperity of Tennis commercially, and its location on a river on which all quarters were established, so boats departed from it, according to al-Hamiri's description, to all the neighboring cities. (Sahar Al-Sayed Salem, 2006, pp. 147-148)

2.5.7Al Marsa Alkabir:

It is among the most important anchors of the Middle Maghreb, and Ibn Hawqal describes it as: "extremely safe and protected from every wind" (Al-Bakri, 2012, p. 170)

And other important fishing ports in the countries of the central Maghreb

3. Livestock in the Middle Maghreb during the Intermediate Period - through travel and geography books:

Books of travelers and geography constituted an essential and an important source for referring to animal production of all sorts and its distribution in the field of the Middle Maghreb, since the Islamic conquest, which is the era that dates the beginning of the Middle Ages in that field, and among these types:

3.1 Sheep and cattle:

Sheep and livestock are considered among the most animals that were raised in the field of the Middle Maghreb before the Islamic conquest, as the Berber Bedouin tribes, especially from the Zanata branch (Elias



Hajj Issa, 2020, p. 178), constituted the most important owner for them exploiting the region of the western high plateaus in particular or the steppe, then the Crescent Arab migration and the changes it brought about in the raising of livestock in the central Maghreb, and among the breeding of livestock and sheep in the central Maghreb and the beginning of Bouna. It is more than that of those who came close to it from the neighboring countries (Ibn Hawgal, 2009, p. 77), "Then the islands of Bani Mazghana," and it has a large desert and mountains in which there are many Berbers, and most of their wealth is cattle and sheep that roam in the mountains (Ibn Hawgal, 2009, p. 79).

As for Cherchell, there are many sheep, as well as Al-Masila, and there were various sheep and cows to be trampled with altogether, and their bulk was sold for easy prices, and they went out of their land to many horizons (Jawdat Abd al-Karim Youssef, 1992, p. 67). Concerning Oran, " Their yields of wheat and barley, and their livestock are many (Ibn Hawgal, 2009, p. 80)," then it was lost" feces and horses are all good, and for cows and sheep are very many (Abi Abdullah Al-Sharif Al-Idrisi, 2002, p. 166)". As for tlemcen, it had the largest owners of livestock and the forbidden woolen tissues, safasir, tied hanbals, and so on (. Muhammad bin Abi Bakr Al-Zuhri, 2015, p. 113). As for cows, their breeding was concentrated in the far north of central Morocco, where there is dense vegetation. Among the indications that confirm the abundance of cows in central Morocco, the Aures region, for example, is the historical narration that was preserved for us by sources, especially the Ibadites, including about the revolt of Abu Yazid Makhlad bin Kidad against the Fatimid rule, where he mentioned Al-Dargeni (d. 670 AH / 1240 AD) that Abu Yazid used five hundred bulls to break the siege that was imposed on him by the Fatimids in the Auras region Interest in breeding them increased during the era of the Zayani state, because their uses varied from agricultural use to trading in their skins, which were tanned and exported to Europe (Muhammad Ibn Araba, 2020, p. 333).

3.2 Horses and camels:

The countries of the Middle Maghreb were also famous for horse breeding, and the presence of the so-called Berber horse type, especially in the Aures Mountains, in which the Muslims captured horses at the time of the conquest and admired their hardness and strength (al-Marrakshi, 1984, p. 24), and the beginning of the city of Bona, which was less missed by the grazing horses for production, and among them also the city of one of the minerals of animals, cattle, sheep, mules and Brazil luxury. A known product that was one of the emancipated horses for its patience and service (al-Hemyari, 1984, p. 435).

For camels, there are few references to them, but the focus of this wealth was on the south of the Middle Maghreb owing to the appropriate natural privacy for them. Ibn Hawqal mentions in this, "The camels are many in their wilds and the inhabitants of their deserts, which are not approached in abundance by the camels of the Arabs (Ibn Hawqal, 2009, p. 98)." Camels were also present in the next region, especially in the activity of plowing agricultural lands, as well as transportation. Iben Faqih pointed in





his book " countries brief bookmoktasar kitab albuldan", that caravans used to walk on camels' backs between ifrigia and Tahart, a month's journey (al-Faqih, 1885., p. 79). Al-Oadi al-Nu'man mentioned in the Fatimid's seizing of the army of the majority state, "And on that day the camels were sold for twenty camels for a dinar, and the camel was sold for five onions, as for sheeps and luggage, they didn't bear to carry them (AL-Kadi Al-Numan, 1986, p. 109), a metaphor for abundance and their huge number, just as the crescent presence had its effect as well on the wealth of camels considering that they are the people of lodging, traveling and ewe.

Besides to these main activities in animal husbandry, there was also interest in beekeeping for the production of honey and birds of all kinds, in addition to another strategic wealth, which is fish wealth, and through some geographical compilations it was found that marine fishing was active in all the coasts of the Islamic West in general and the central Maghreb in particular for the population. It is neither sold nor bought, but they give it to whoever desires it. As for the village of Marsa al-Kharaz, Ibn Hawqal informs us that it has fish hunting as long as it does not see fat in a country like it, and it may prevent its part from eating what it catches, especially at the time of harvests (Nawal Belmadani, 2015, p. 181), in addition to marine fishing, there is fishing in rivers and lakes, where Al-Qazwini reveals to us that the Chlef River used to appear every year in the time of roses, in which a type of fish called Al-Shahboug appears, and it is a fish that is a cubit long and has good meat. Likewise, the city of Al-Masila was on a river in which there was a lot of water drawn on the face of earth, not deep, and it is sweet, and it contains small fish, and the people of Masila are proud of it, and the amount of this is from a span to what is less than it carries a lot of it to the castle of bani hammad (Nawal Belmadani, 2015, p. 184).

3.3 Fisheries:

Central Maghreb includes the most important economic factor that qualifies it for production of fisheries.This qualification is represented in the ports founded on the coast from east to west, which contributed to the activation of foreign trade through the exporting of various agricultural and industrial products. Fish, extends from the east from Bouna to Marsa Al Kharaz to Skikda to Jijel to the ports of Tennis, Dellys, Hanin, Oran and others (Moubarak, 2023, p. 182). Among these ports, we find Pune, as al-Bakri described it with the abundance of its whale, and we also find Jijel (Al-Bakri, 2012, p. 138), where geographers praised the abundance and diversity of its whale, and in this regard, Al-Idrisi confirms that it has many whales (Abi Abdullah Al-Sharif Al-Idrisi, 2002, p. 169), the unlimited number of goodness and destiny. Catching fish with nets and they obtain an adequate amount of it, which is not "sold or bought, but rather they give it to whoever desires it." This confirms its abundance on the coasts of central Maghreb. It is worth noting that the fish wealth was not limited to the coast of central Maghreb alone, but was also available in its rivers, at the top of which was the Chlef River, which provided a rare type of fish, and in this regard, Al-Qazwini (d. A type of fish called al-Shahbug, which is a fish the length of an arm's length, and



its meat is good, except that it is very thorny and remains for two months. fish whale, Al-Masila, which is distinguished by its small fish, it has good red roads, and no fish has ever been seen in the countries of the globe, and the people of Al-Masila are proud of it, and the volume of this fish is from an inch to less, and perhaps a lot of it was caught, so it was carried to the castle of Bani Hammad (Al-Oazwini, 1984, p. 148), and the land of the central Maghreb was famous for villages that practiced the craft of fishing, and this is what al-Idrisi has mentioned about the village of Hauz when he said: "There are people who are whale hunters." (Abi Abdullah Al-Sharif Al-Idrisi, 2002, p. 173)

4. The contribution of animal production to the economy of the Central Maghreb:

4.1 Contribution to agriculture:

4.1.1Agricultural fertilization:

The waste of various animals, especially cattle, cows, camels, and others, was used to fertilize agricultural lands in the Middle Maghreb. In fact, animal waste, which was called manure. has become commodity that is bought and sold in the markets (al-Wansharisi, 1981, pp. 314-315). Several methods were also used to obtain it, including the meeting of livestock breeders on land they want to fertilize and put their herds on it, and that is done in rotation (al-Wansharisi, 1981, p. 337), or the specialty of those who collect it from the stables in villages and urban areas, and it is prepared by mixing grass and hay in a hole and throwing it on it The ashes of baths or furnaces, then water is poured on it, or it is exposed to rain and stirred many times (Ibrahim Harakat, D.S.I.,, p. 74)

4.1.2 Plowing and irrigation:

Animals were used in plowing agricultural lands in the central Maghreb, and the latter differed in different regions and fields, where cows and mules were in the north, while in the desert plowing was done by camels, as they did not own cows, and in general Cows are the most used animals in plowing, so the care to multiply them was a concern for the prosperity of agriculture (Al-Hassan bin Muhammad Al-Wazzan, 1983, p. 97).

The country of Maghreb has known what is called the wheel, the wheel, the waterwheel, or the squeak, which is driven by the animals. This driving force for these water wheels has remained mostly animal, as the animals work to move those wheels to extract water in order to irrigate the crops, as that water was poured into a tank at all of them and raised from the tank with wheels. There were many animals that were used in the irrigation process, as camels, mules, cows, and bulls were used, which were also used in threshing operations for grain (al-Wansharisi, 1981, p. 560)

4.2 Participation in crafts and industries:4.2.1 Leather Industry and Tanning:

The animal diversity in the field of the Middle Maghreb formed a fertile mine and an important source for the raw material that goes into the leather industry, which is provided by the various animals that used to fill the widespread pastures. Also, Telemcen was famous for this raw material and bejeia which was best known by a region called Bab edabaghin (Skako, 2018, p. 79).

Leather was used in many industries, including the manufacture and decoration of saddles, which flourished, especially during the era of the Zirid Sanhaji state in the



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Middle Maghreb. Al-Mansur bin Belkin bin Ziri used to go out to the Eid prayer with a saddle crowned with pearls and sapphires. Sweetened saddles (Al-Qayrawan, 1993, p. 162).

It was also used in the manufacture of shoes and slippers, which depend mostly on the leather of goats and cows, as the owners of this craft were called Kharazin (Houari Moussa, 2009, p. 193), and among the examples of the flourishing of this industry in the Middle Maghreb is what the Rustamid state witnessed in the first century AH. It is not excluded that this industry and its environs are very active, such as my country Zewail, in the east of the country among which the fpamous zewail leather is in tanning, and here iben al Saghir tells that Abd Alrrahman iben Rustam was sitting on a mat with leather on it (Bahaz, 1994, p. 166). This industry has flourished a lot during that time of Almohads, where book biding and travel occurred, besides this industry of bagpipes, bowls and drums that the people of Tlemcen excelled in and developed greatly after the delegations of the Andalusian community to it (Houari Moussa, 2009, p. 163).

Leather was also exploited in the field of writing, as the countries of the Middle Maghreb were famous since an early period for their honey leather, which the Umayyad caliph Hisham bin Abd al-Malik (105 AH-125 AH) preferred over others.

4.2.2 The textile industry:

Because this industry is directly connected to the raw material provided by animals such as wool, hair and hair, the Berbers have excelled since ancient times in this industry to produce various types of clothing and other necessities of life related to man such as tents, blankets, etc. besides this activity, the molst vital crafts, the era of the first central Maghreb in the nucleus for intermediate age, the Rustamiya country, that was being practiced among both nomads and urbaniktes and in houses, especially women do it or designate maids to do it, as oum alkhatab did, that thirteen maids weave for her (Bahaz, 1994, p. 167). Hammad in the manufacture of woolen clothes, as she used to make garments that were worth thirty dinars or more, and they are garments that have no equal in novelty and delicacy, except for Al-Wajdiyya, which is made in Wajda, equal to the garment of Eid, from the work of the castle (Anonymous, 1997, p. 170).

And since the raw material is available in most areas of the Middle Maghreb, especially during the era of the Zayani state, it is noted that the importance of the Hanabel industry encouraged a number of the population to participate in this type of industry, which continued until after the fall of the Zayani state, Hanbal al wancharis, the carpets of qalaa Bani Rashid, hanbalm hayyak Al Medea and Tlemcen as well as the stores of Tlemcen, were among the commodities that were in great demand (Hassani, 2009, p. 92).

One of the most important textile products in the countries of the Middle Maghreb is also the "burnous", which was woven from white wool and colors were rarely used in it. It was known in the region since ancient times, as it appears in rock drawings dating back to the Numidian period, and it is a dress that distinguishes the Berbers from others. And it was perfected by the craftsmanship of my girl Tijana, and their



country had makers for that (Houari Moussa, 2009, p. 170).

4.2.3 Food industry:

The cheese and dairy industry is considered the focus of the food industries related to animal production. The dairy industry and its derivatives are linked to the craft of grazing and raising livestock. Livestock was available from cows, goats, sheep (sheep) and camel, in Bouna, Tehert, Algeria and Oran (Qwesim, 2021, p. 152). While both Ibn Hawqal and al-Idrisi mentioned that the mountains scattered around the city of Algeria built Mazghana and abundant ghee, as it is carried from them to Oran and others that Ghee, butter, cows, and sheep are cheap in it, as al-Hamiri spoke about the abundance of ghee in Constantine and about the abundance of milk and ghee beyond what is near Mostaganem, as al-Hasan al-Wazzan goes that the people of the desert extract milk from it and make butter and cheese from it (Houari Moussa, 2009, p. 174). Bee honey was also used in many industries, such as making vinegar and wine, which Marsa al-Kharaz was famous for (Ibn Hawqal, 2009, p. 77).

4.3 Participation in trade:

4.3.1 In domestic trade:

The Middle Maghreb, with its ideal and distinguished location, was a major point in the inter-trade exchange on a local basis, as its cities played a mediating role within the trade routes, and animals represented the most important commodities that are traded within the internal markets in the Middle Maghreb. Ibn Al-Saghir mentions that during the era of Imam Abd al-Rahman bin Rustam, sheep and camels were sold, and

they themselves were one of the minerals of animals and cattle, according to what Ibn Hawgal described, Al-Idrisi mentions that people gather in the market of Mazuna with various fruits, milk and ghee (Jawdat Abd al-Karim Youssef, 1992, p. 152). Ibn Hawqal spoke about the trade in sheep, wool, cattle from animals and other pastures in the city of Pune, and about the low prices of livestock and milk in the chicken marina, and the same author mentioned that ghee, butter, cows and sheep in Oran are cheap at an easy price. To the countries of Morocco and Andalusia because of their cheapness, and this indicates the cheapness of animal prices in most of the central Maghreb cities (Houari Moussa, 2009, p. 178).

Some markets within the internal trade of the Middle Maghreb have specialized in animal trade, or part of those markets have been devoted to this trade, including rural markets or markets in cities and major metropolises, including:

Among the markets is a market that is held near the city of Al-Batha near Relizane, and it is called the Bani Rashid market, which was held every Thursday. Both Al-Idrisi and Al-Hassan Al-Wazzan referred to this, and the Tarnanah market and the Riga market, as he says about Al-Idrisi's business, he used to buy and sell and meet needs, as well as Ibrahim's market. Neighboring families sell their agricultural products and animals, as well as the Medea market, which was held on Fridays, the Al-Barwakia market and Sunday in Sur Al-Ghazlan, the Monday market in Al-Bukhari Palace, as well as markets in Tehert and Tlemcen, Also, within the major cities, in order to organize them, special yards were allocated for the sale of livestock, including





spaciousness of sheep and the spaciousness of camels or camels, as the livestock merchants in the lands of the Zayani state were exposed to loyalists and importers before they reached the market to buy livestock from them and when they entered the market they imposed the prices wanted and this phenomenon continued until the periods close to our era (Hassani, 2009, pp. 46–47).

The prices of animal commodities ranged between cheapness and high prices according to the political and natural circumstances and conditions, as the camel was sold for about nine dinars, and when the Shiite Abu Abdullah defeated the soldiers of Setif and Mazata, the camel was sold for a dinar and five onions, and this was due to its abundance because of the spoils he obtained, while Al-Darjini mentions that camels were sold during the reign of the Fatimid Moez, according to twenty dinars for each camel (Rashid Bourouiba, 1977, p. 147).

4.3.2 Contributing to foreign trade:

Animal commodities were among the products exported abroad from the area of the Middle Maghreb, which is a link and a connecting route, whether to the East or Africa south of the Sahara to Sudan, or to Europe across the Mediterranean basin. Come on camels (Abi Abdullah Al-Sharif Al-Idrisi, 2002, p. 296). Therefore, the residents of the region, along with the people of Sidrata, which was the incubator of the Rustamids after the fall of their state south and Arilan, cared about raising this animal, and the price of a camel in its markets reached twenty-four (Mazhoudi, 1988, p. 163). Examples of foreign trade exchange between the Maghreb and other countries include:

4.3.2.1 Maghreb countries:

Geographical sources are abundant in the commercial boom and prosperity that was between the Maghreb cities, especially the era of political stability between its countries, as the diversified wealth between the agricultural, industrial and animal products had a clear impact on activating the commercial movement, as Tehart was famous for raising cattle and sheep, and perhaps it was transferred from it to the rest of the cities of Morocco. Bouneh is engaged in the trade of cattle, including all livestock, animals, and grazing animals, as they are exported to the neighboring regions, especially to the most famous markets. The chicken marina and Oran were also distinguished by the abundance of milk and livestock (Belhawari, 2008, p. 8).

4.3.2.2 The Islamic East:

Travelers and geographers do not specifically refer to the Middle Maghreb's exports to the Islamic East, although they are no different from the commodities that they said arrived in the East from the countries of the Islamic Maghreb, whether these goods were of local production or imported, the merchants of the Middle Maghreb carried them to the East with other merchants. From it and the rains, and they have the precious horses, the luxurious mules, the camels, the sheep, and what they have of the cattle of the cows and all the cheap animals (Jawdat Abd al-Karim Youssef, 1992, p. 220). Iben hawqal confirms when describing the commodities of animal origin and exported to the east saying ." The fine woolen garments to the cloaks of wool and what is made from it and





rain. Food , drinks, meat and fats." (Belmadan, 2014, p. 260)

Likewise, the merchants exported horses. The increase of God the Third, when he sent a gift to the Abbasid caliph Al-Mustakfi, included horses, which was a proof for the demand of easterners for this animal, and since the Maghreb is famous for its breeding m their exports included it (Jawdat Abd al-Karim Youssef, 1992, p. 221)

4.3.2.3Europe:

Through its coastal cities and commercial Middle Maghreb ports, the weaved commercial relations with the northern bank Mediterranean. which of the distinguished in times of peace and war, especially with the Italian emirates and Andalusia. Si Henin, if al-Hasan al-Wazzan described it as Henin, a small port guarded by two towers surrounded by high walls, through which wool and leather were exported to Mallorca, France, Normandy, Italy, and from there to England (Mustafa Alawi, 2016, p. 11)

And from the central Maghreb, sheep were carried to the countries of Andalusia, and Ibn Al-Khatib wants that Al-Mansur Ibn Abi Amer left his stables in the city of Cordoba in the Saifa, from which he died in his lockup in the year 392 AH, one thousand hostile horses that were soft to cross were dispensed with, and he ordered them to be established. It is clear that most of these horses that Zirri Iben Attia used to gift to Alhadjib almansour, which arrived in Andalusia through trade (Houari Moussa, 2009, pp. 179-180)

4.3.2.4 Sudan:

The Rustamid period was classified among the most connected historical stages between the Middle Maghreb and the country of Sudan in sub-Saharan Africa, due to the cultural, cultural, economic and commercial exchanges it witnessed through two main paths: Tehrt, Sijilmasa, August Ghana, and the second path, which is Tehrt and two men, Tadamkeh Coco. And gold and slave (Bahaz, 1994, pp. 212-214)

Horses were among the most important animal products exported to Sudan. Horses used to arrive with caravans to the country of Sudan, which witnessed a great demand for the acquisition of Moroccan horses, so that one horse was worth fifteen slaves, and the number may have reached twenty slaves (Jawdat Abd al-Karim Youssef, 1992, p. 249), As for camels, merchants used to take them with them and sell them in the countries of Sudan, where their prices varied according to their type. Some of them were used for riding, and these are the finest types. Ibn Battuta bought two camels for riding for thirty mithqals in the eighth century AH (Latifa, 1987, p. 246)

5. CONCLUSION

It is clear from the foregoing that the Middle Maghreb possessed natural qualifications that enabled it to possess animal wealth, as a close relationship existed between agricultural and animal production, as there were appropriate conditions for the success and expansion of its breeding, including the prosperity of the agricultural side, the spread of pastures, the nature of the country with its pastures, and the nature of society. That era is a transformative process for animal production, so the leather, weaving and tanning industry appeared, which reflected positively on the economic life in the central Maghreb in the emergence of the so-called people of crafts.





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There were areas specializing in breeding a certain type of animal in the north and south of central Maghreb, so these animals gained local and foreign fame in several Maghreb horses, among the finest horses that were popular in the Levant, Andalusia and Europe. The grazing craft also became active as a natural result of the availability of livestock. Animals played a pivotal role in transporting the trade movement known to the Middle Maghreb towards the East, and the Sudan south of the Sahara in particular.

The topographical and climatic diversity in the countries of the central Maghreb, from its north to its south, contributed to the creation of a great variety of livestock, which was evident throughout its history until the intermediate period. Central Maghreb, after that camels in the desert, but the political conditions that the region went through had a basic role in controlling the volume of animal production besides famines and epidemics, as well as drought, which also has a share in controlling the size of that wealth

The practice of grazing and raising livestock is not a modern profession, but rather is rooted in the history of North Africa, and dates back to the second millennium BC in Tebessa, then in Tassili through rock drawings. Arab geographers approved that the Middle Maghreb and North Africa in general used to practice grazing in most regions of the country, north and south, especially the Bedouins and the inhabitants of Al-Kour and Al-Rasaiq, where livestock construed their assets, and the main source of their livelihood and wealth after agriculture, in addition to what these animals give to their

owners, meat, dairy, leather and wool. It was used to carry luggage, riding, and other purposes such as plowing, threshing, war, horsemanship, etc. In the fourth century AH, Tahart was one of the minerals of animals, cattle, sheep, and mules.

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