

The strategic dimension of the recovery of the Penon Forteresse at the emergence of the port of Algiers in the Ottoman period.

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Abstract:

The battle carried out by Kheir-Eddine Barberousse, or what is known as the decisive battle to retrieve the fortress of the building in 1529 AD, was considered as a base towards launching in building a sophisticated seaport, immediately after the recapture of the island of (Stofla) and the destruction of the fortress of Penon Which formed a thorn in the throat of the residents of the city of Algeria, Kheir –Eddine decided to build a pavement in the form of a link between the island and the city, taking advantage of the rocky protests and islands scattered as natural pillars on which the rock blocks formed for the sidewalk are based, and because the achievement is considered a distinct imprint in the field of marine engineering at the time, so he has the right to him The name of the owner of the achievement bears the pavement of Kheir-Eddine, and with it the first building block for the project of the port of Algeria, which assumed its true position in defending the shores of North Africa.

Keywords: Kheir-Eddine Barberousse, Port, the city of Algeria, the Penon.

1. INTRODUCTION

The sixteenth century AH witnessed a birth (10 AH-16 AD) radical transformations in the international map, as the world was divided by its result into two Christian camps led by Spain and Islamic East led by the Ottoman Empire, which led to many conflicts to extend influence by the Kingdom of

Spain over the neighboring countries in particular After the fall of the city of Granada in the year 1492 AD, this fall had a great impact on the Algerian country, which witnessed several Spanish campaigns that led to the occupation of the Mers El Kébir in 1505 AD, and then Oran fell in 1509 AD and then Béjaia in the year 1510 AD As for the city of Algeria his occupation took another turn, as it occupied the largest islands that precede the city by the Spaniards, where they built the fortress of the Penon later, and given the direct threat this fort to the city and its residents was bound to rely on a strategy to retrieve the fort and liberate the island, therefore In this research paper, we will try to introduce the strategic dimension to retrieve the Ilion fort and the impact of this liberation in the emergence of the port of Algeria in the Ottoman period, trying in all of the above answering the following problem: **To what extent was the retrieval of the building fortress a major reason in the emergence of the port of the city of Algeria in The Ottoman period?**

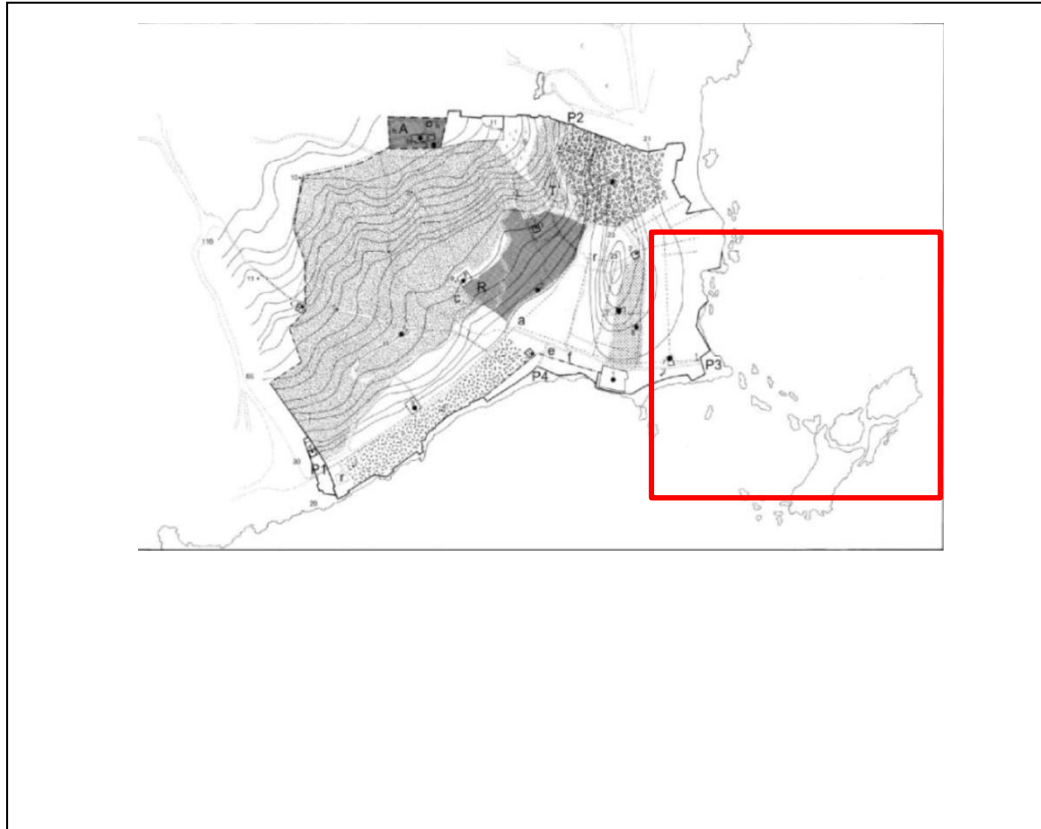
2. The importance of the marina in establishing the city of Algeria:

The natural marina of Algeria had the credit for the emergence of the city since the Phoenician period, where Icosim traders chose the important ports, by virtue of being first-class merchants, and it was a port, the Phoenician merchant, which has become Icosium under the Romans , exchanging protection with the port of Rusguniae (Tamenfoust), which is currently corresponding to at the end of the Gulf Winter and summer, and the 'Icosium' was a small fortified Roman site, equipped with a natural marine delegation, but this small fortified site was leaving by the Vandals and remained two and a half unprecedented(1).

When the city of Ashir was built, the Senhadji state had to build a maritime city to connect the new capital with the Islamic world across the sea, so at the commission of 'Ziri Ibn Mennad', Belkin built a city called((Djezir Beni Mezghenna)), after the rocky islands that were opposite the site of the city where a Berber tribe called Beni Mezghenna resided⁽²⁾.**Map 01**

⁽¹⁾ Laya (Y), le port d Alger, chambre de commerce, Alger, 1952, p 16

⁽²⁾ أحمد توفيق المدني، كتاب الجزائر، الجزائر، ص 206.

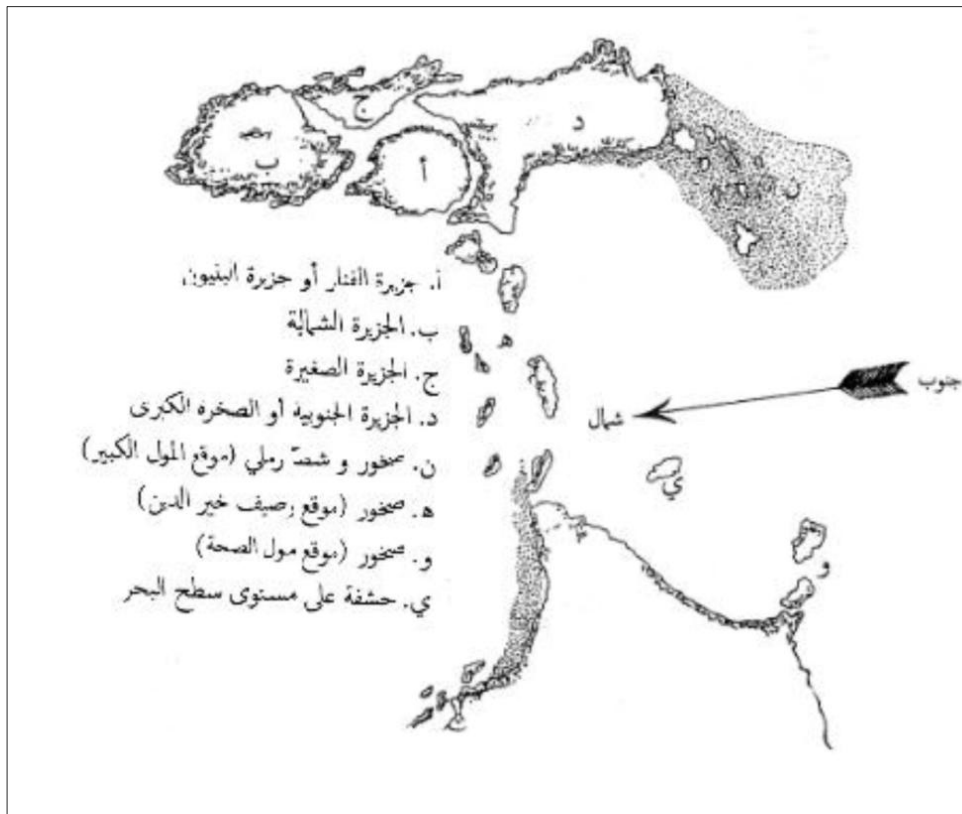


Map 01: The islands forming the marina of Algiers in the year 1510AD

Missoum Sakina

This city has been characterized by a square marina consisting of rocky piers and opening to the As "south, so this city has met the needs of the region for a protected place to dock its ships, and in this regard we find 'Al- Bakri 'In his book 'Al-ma-salik wa-a-Mamalik" (book of Roads and Kingdoms) he praises the marina of Algeria and says: 'The port of Algiers is secured in winter , where ships take shelter behind an island called Istofla 1094 AD'⁽¹⁾.**Map02**

⁽¹⁾أبي عبيد الله البكري، كتاب المسالك و الممالك، تحقيق و تقديم : إدريان فان أندري فيري، الدار العربية للكتاب، المؤسسة الوطنية للترجمة و التحقيق و الدراسات بيت الحكمة، ج 2، تونس، 1992، ص ص 756، 757.



Map02 : islns of Anchorge, Algiers, with their labels

Imbert

As Ibn Hawqal adds in his book “Sorat al-Ardh” (**The Image of Earth**): 'El Djezair Beni Mezghenna is a citadel surrounded by a wall overlooking the sea and endowed with an island floating on he sea' ⁽¹⁾.

The city of Algeria began to become famous since that era, as Bolo-ghine Ibn Ziri worked on its reconstruction, and its anchor was restored to its marine value, where a double-decker tower was built on the Great Rock for observation and guidance of ships that was topped by a lighthouse⁽²⁾.

El-Idrissi describes the prosperity of the city by saying that it is a city of Algeria on the bank of the sea, and its people drank from fresh springs on the

⁽¹⁾ ابن حوقل النصيبي ابي القاسم، كتاب صور الارض، منشورات دار مكتبة الحياة، بيروت، 1979م، ص 77، 78.

⁽²⁾ Berbrugger.(A). Algérie Histoire Pittoresques Monumentale, t 1, Paris, 1843, p 227.

sea and from wells, which are full and their trade is profitable, and their markets exist, and their industry is useful and have a large desert⁽³⁾.

But in the 6th century AH / 12 AD, a revolution of the Beni Ghania against the Almohad rule led to the destruction of the city of Algeria Bani Mezghana, and this was due to Marsa Algeria, which no longer contributed to the Mediterranean trade at that time, and the best evidence of this is that the geographer 'Abu El-Fida' did not mention anything about the city in his description of the Maghreb⁽¹⁾.

At the end of the fifteenth century, Algeria became a bewitch of Bejaia after it had been subject for a long time to Tlemcen, so its rule became a sheikhdom living under the authority of a council composed of city notables under the protection of the Thaalba tribe and ruled by Sheikh 'Salim Toumi'⁽²⁾.

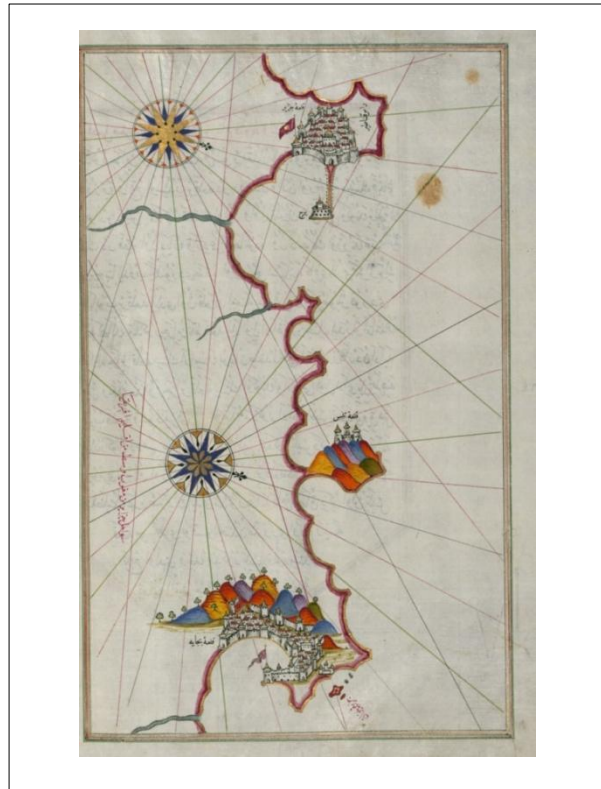
Piri Reis gave us a description of Morsi dating back to the late fifteenth century of the general conditions that were after the Spanish occupation of the island: **"The Arab sailors had established a monitoring tower on that island, and they made it a base for them and then seized the infidels of Spain on that tower, and they converted it into a fortified castle, They ship it with men and defender, and now every day battles take place between the people of Algeria and the Spanish soldiers holed up in that castle, and separates the Algerian castle from the island, a shallow strait that one can cut off, so whoever meant Algeria was anchored with his ship or boat in that island, which is located in the north of the castle"**⁽³⁾ Map 03.

⁽³⁾ ابي عبيد الله الشريف الادريسي، القارة الافريقية وجزيرة الاندلس، مقتبس من كتاب نزهة المشتاق تحقيق و تقديم اسماعيل العربي، ديوان المطبوعات الجامعية، الجزائر 1988م، ص 159.

⁽¹⁾ Laye(Y) , op. cit p. 18.

⁽²⁾ عبد القادر فكايير، آثار الإحتلال الإسباني على الجزائر خلال العهد العثماني 10-12هـ / 16. 18 م، أطروحة دكتوراه في التاريخ الحديث و المعاصر جامعة الجزائر، 2009، ص 35.

⁽³⁾ محمد دراج؛ الجزائر في المصادر العثمانية (دراسة للمصادر ونصوص نموذجية مترجمة من التركية إلى العربية)، ط1، دار الوراق للدراسات والنشر، الجزائر، 2007م، ص 56،57.



Map03 :The city of Aliers and its pier late15AD

Piri Reis

3. The impact of the fall of the city of Granada on the marina of the city of Algeria:

After the fall of Granada, large numbers of Andalusians sought refuge in Maghreb country . Many landed in the city of Algeria, where some of them built and armed boats and turned into pirates, so they began to raid in the name of Jihad on the islands of Mallorca, Menorca and Ibiza until reaching the Spanish coasts⁽¹⁾.

Their first action in strengthening the defenses of Port Algiers against escalating Spanish attacks was that they built, or rather restored and fortified a watchtower that was also used as a beacon to guide ships on the great rock opposite the city, known as the island of Stofla in the fifteenth century⁽²⁾.

⁽¹⁾ الحسن بن محمد الوزان الفاسي المعروف بليون الافريقي، وصف إفريقيا، ترجمة: محمد حجي و محمد الأخضر دار الغرب الإسلامي بيروت ، دت ، ص 39 .

⁽²⁾ Berbrugger (A), op. cit p. 27.

The fall of Granada in 1492 had a great impact on the marina of Algeria as well as the whole Algerian country after this incident launched Spanish campaigns towards the coastal cities of North Africa, soon submitted Melilla in 1497 AD, and was occupied by Mers El-Kébir in 1505 AD and then fell Oran in 1509 AD and then Bejaia in 1510 AD ⁽¹⁾.

3.1 The occupation of the island of Stofla and the reconstruction of the building fortress:

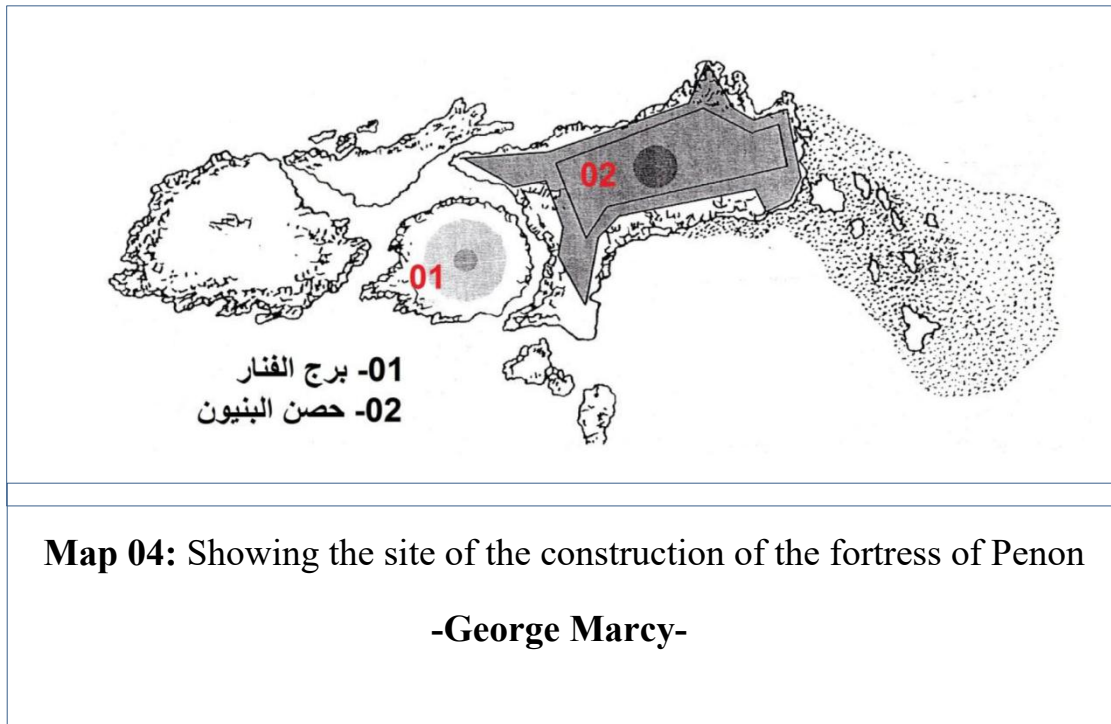
To avoid the fate that followed the aforementioned cities, the notables of the city of Algeria decided their loyalty to the Spaniards, and the result of this loyalty was that the ruler of Algeria, Salim Toumi , signed with Ghazi Algeria 'Pedro Navarro' a ten-year agreement. One of the results of this meeting was to complete the approval of the Spaniards of the rocky island that She was called Stofla⁽²⁾, and immediately after the conclusion of this agreement, Pedro Navarro hurried to send one of the military engineers, Martino de Reinterra, to supervise the construction of the castle and what should be noted is that the Andalusians have been built by a monitoring and shipbuilding tower on the island of Stofla.

The Spaniards kept this tower and made some amendments to it, and they also built another largest fortress with a tower on the large island located to the south, which was separated from the first island except for a naval, a few meters. It is interspersed with the strongholds of the city and the other two prominent sea views, as it contained many holes to throw so that a muddy castle, which was known as "**Penon de Argel** ⁽³⁾ ". **Map.04**

⁽¹⁾ **Haedo (D)**, topographie histoire d'algerie: la vie à alger au seizième Siècle, présenté par Abderrahmane rabahi, édition grand alger, 2007, p. 415.

⁽²⁾ **Chevallier(C)**, Les trente premières années de l'état d'Alger 1510 - 1541, O. P. U, Alger, 1986, p 18.

⁽³⁾ **Haedo(D)**, la Captivite d'Alger Trad, Oliner Volle, Alger, 1911 p 212.



3.2 The most important Tagzart that followed from the reconstruction of the fortress of Penon:

Several abuses have arranged from this castle, despite the fact that the city is not occupied by the garrison soldiers, so the people were tasted by the two things: the bitterness of the occupation of the island and what followed from a marine siege and the bitterness of paying the tribute and humiliation practiced by the Spaniards against them. But the Algerians took the opportunity after the death of the Spanish king 'Ferdinand' January 23, 1516 AD, and they renounced the treaty , so they refrained from paying the tribute and refraining from providing them with water from the eyes of the city, and when they did not have the resurrection and strength to confront the Spaniards, the notables of the city of Algeria decided to contact the Ottoman Mujahid 'Arroudj' And his two brothers 'Ishaq and Lakhdar', which is well –known Kheir-Ed-dine ⁽¹⁾.

For this reason, the notables of Algeria went to the stronghold of 'Barbarossa' in Jijel and appealed to them against the Spanish threat imposed on

⁽¹⁾ محمد دراج، تدمير، حصن البنيون وأثره في تثبيت الوجود العثماني في الجزائر، محاضرة أقيمت بالمركز الوطني للأرشيف بئر خادم الجزائر، 2010، ص 1.

them, which is the fortress of the Penon, so Arroudj responded to this request, but he did not succeed in liberating the penon after many unsuccessful attempts⁽¹⁾.

4. The liberation of the island and the demolition of the fortress of Penon:

After the killing of Arroudj in 1517 AD and the victory of the Algerians and Ottomans over the campaign of the commander 'Diego de Vera' and then the campaign of 'Charles Quint', in which Kheir-Ed-dine deserved a terrible defeat in the Spanish, the rulers of Algeria offered obedience and loyalty to Sultan Selim I 1512 AD - 1520 AD, who sent weapons and ammunition and provided him with artillery as well as sent two thousand Janissaries⁽²⁾.

As a result of his smart military policy, Kheir- Eddine realized that he must eliminate the thorny thorn in the heart of the city of Algeria, which is the fortress of the Penon or the Spanish castle, as the messenger in the marina of Algeria was forbidden to the sea, where they were forced to find in the small Gulf that was adjacent to the Bab Azzun⁽³⁾, and with the increasing number of ships, the need became urgent to a port in which they will be established in place A private port in the city of Algeria, especially after the growing Algerian naval force in this period⁽⁴⁾.

He chose in 1529 to strike the fortress of the Penon or the Spanish castle because it was suffering from supplies and lack of water that he brought from the Balearic Islands or Oran⁽⁵⁾.

5. The liberation of the Island ‘stofla’ and destroy the Penon fortress:

'Kheir- Eddine' began to bomb the castle on Friday 7 May 1529 AD, and his plan was to liberate the island of Stofla as follows:-He ordered the arming of 14 Galouta, and it was rumored that it would go to the Spanish coast and after its exit returned under the misdemeanor of the site in the "Tamenafoust" port, and on the day Friday, May 28, the "Kheir-Eddine" fleet at the sandy Shatt adjacent to the island on which the Spanish castle was built and began to land while the

⁽¹⁾ De Grammont(H), d Histoire d'Alger sous la domination turque 1515 - 1830, éditions Bouchéne, 2002, p 42.
⁽²⁾ (المليبي مبارك ، تاريخ الجزائر في القديم والحديث ، ج 3، مكتبة النهضة ، الجزائرية ، 1964 ص ص 52 53.

⁽³⁾ Haedo(D), topog..... op. cit p. 41.

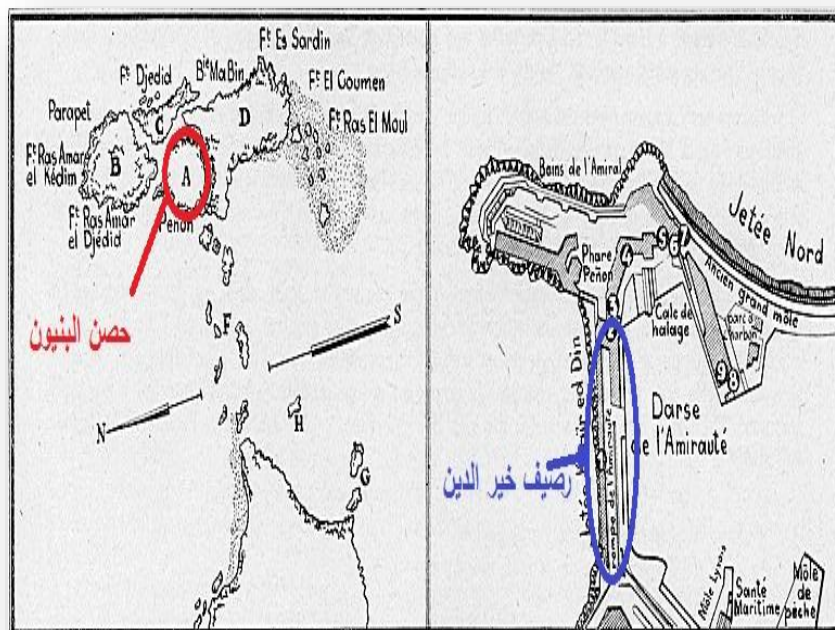
⁽⁴⁾ Laye (Y), op. cit p. 27.

⁽⁵⁾ محمد دراج ، تدمير حصن البنيون و اثرهالمرجع السابق، ص 2

rest of the Algerian ships came out to participate in the final attack. Thus, all the forty -five Algerian pieces participated in the Penon⁽¹⁾.

6. The strategy of Kheir-Eddine Barbarossa in establishing the port city of Algeria:

Through heavy bombardment, the Algerians were able to overthrow the citadel and recapture the island of Sastada. As soon as El-Penon was liberated, Khei-Eddine thought of a project to establish a port for the city to protect it from all the different raids⁽²⁾. **Plan01**



- The kheir-Eddine quay.
- Rock-formed the quay.
- Location of the Penon.

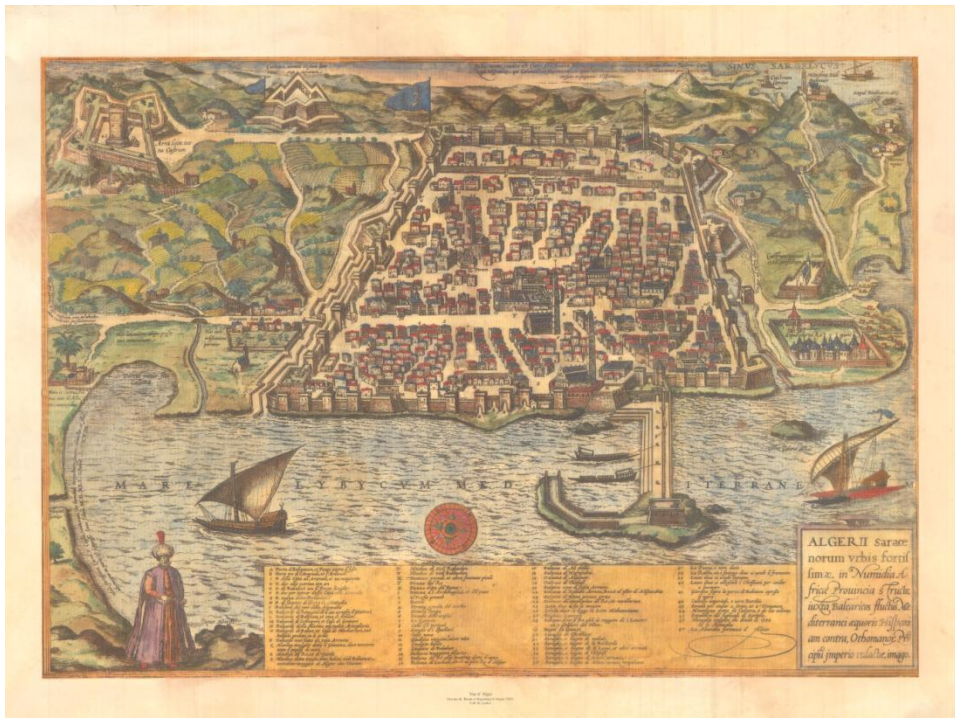
Plan 01: Builds the site of the fortress of Penon as well as the quay and the islands forming it for the National Maritime Public Museum.

The idea of building it was inspired by the Antiq Port in the Roman period through the link of a series of rocks separating the island of 'Joa Nafil' from the

⁽¹⁾ Haedo (D), topog....., op. cit p 125.

⁽²⁾ Lacoste (I), la Marine Algérienne sous les Turcs l'amirauté d'Alger a travers l' Histoire, I. M. 1930, p 474.

aforementioned city beach⁽¹⁾, so he linked the island of Setifla to righteousness by a bridge of rock This is by transferring the stones from the Roman stones from the sites of Rusgunia Tamenafoust' and Tipasa in addition to the Bab El-Oued caution⁽²⁾.**Picture 01**



Picture01 : a picture of the port of Algiers after the liberation of the Penon fortress.

Epalza, Mikel de- Vilar, Bautista Juan

Thus, a fortified port protected from the northwest winds gave a modern conception to the Algerian navy and enabled it to impose a navigational system in the western basin of the Mediterranean Sea within three centuries.**Picture 02**

⁽¹⁾ **Stephane(s)**, monuments antiques de l'Algérie, T I, ancienne librairie thorin et fils Albert fonte, Oing Éditeur, paris, 1901, p 12.

⁽²⁾ **Lacoste (l)**, op. cit p. 475.



Picture02: a picture of the port of Algiers and is most important fortification.

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7. Conclusion:

During the period of Ottoman rule, Algeria extended its control over the west bank of the Mediterranean, thanks to its port, which since its inception formed an integrated maritime system, and was a pioneering example compared to the level of development reached by countries at the time, which was reflected in the city of Algeria politically, economically and militarily, as it became one of the major cities that resemble the most powerful world capitals in that period in terms of geostrategic importance. The importance behind it is the strategic dimension played by the liberation of the fortress of Penon in the formation of a vital port, as it served as a bridge linking it with the other bank. And between it and urban points along the coastline.

The strategic dimension to retrieve the fortress of the Penon in the emergence of the port of the city of Algeria in the Ottoman period was represented with the establishment of a pavement of Kheir-Eddine, where the first nucleus of the modern Algerian navy increased with a strong military

system, and entered a new stage of construction and construction stages, and with it began to appear the features of the port of the city of Algeria in the modern period, Where the preoccupation of Algerian rulers was, and it had the best share in the field of construction, construction and fortification continuously, this situation and urban mobility were imposed by the logic of historical events as the first front facade of the city of Algeria, which endured the burden of repeated campaigns from the European Crusader countries.

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