

Cultural and religious coexistence between Muslims and Normans in Sicily

Mona Hussein, Ali Sahlan Al-Qahtani

Faculty of arts, University of Princess Noura

Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

ABSTRACT

Arab Muslims ruled this island more than two centuries and a half ago (212-484 AH / 828 to 1078 AD). And published in the boundaries thriving civilization had its positive repercussions on Europe Revival, And the evolution of the scientific life. Sicily became the center of the great centers of cultural exchange and the most important centers of translation that affected Europe great impact.

Effects of Arab civilization on the island lasted more than two hundred years of other, The civilized interaction between the Arabs and the Sicilians and the Europeans over five centuries in the wider cultural, Especially as the population of Sicily in the period of Arab rule nearing million six hundred thousand people among them six hundred thousand Muslims, which is densely populated when measured for the historical period of the Middle Ages .

After the Normans regained Sicily were keen to keep the Muslims to take advantage of their civilization and their scientific, administrative, financial, economic and political. As well military experience, for this the Norman kings issued currency and money in a bear both sides with. Quranic verse dignified :

"It is He Who has sent His Messenger with Guidance and the Religion of Truth that he may proclaim it over all religions, even though the Idolaters may detest [this]". (Tawba : 33).

Some of the kings of the Normans gave the Muslims a great deal of freedom in worship, gave them a thing of freedom in the application of canons . Normans kings do good to treatment of Muslims, Even said the Ibn Al-Atheer in full, for Roger II, who ruled from the year 506 AH to 549 AH Year: Roger II honors Muslims, near him, and to prevent them Frankish, Muslims loved him.

Some historians was considered the death of Roger II to the end of the era of religious tolerance in the alleged island, And the beginning of the persecution of Muslims. Giam first began pursues a policy of eliminating Muslims in Sicily, and completed after him the rest of

them. While some of them believe that if the two kings Giam first, and the second was Roger Like the first, second, and even described the era Giam second that he was set a good example for peace and tranquility and nirvana .

Roger was approaching Muslim ascetics, making some believe that a Muslim. If we look at the case knows that the man he loved peace and tranquility in his kingdom. So he wanted to win the hearts of all who live under his rule, and not to stir up the unrest motivated by religious pays island to dire consequences for the king of the Normans. Did not threaten this the calm such as beating on the religious chord, but it was not allowed for Muslims in the army, does not like to see the Christians convert to Islam.

Since the island ordered stabilized for the first Roger, was the policy of co-existence between Muslims and Crusaders. the contemporary historian says - Roger when he opened the Palermo (1072 m) promised to Muslims not to upset them something, and that does not hate anyone to toggle his religion.

The Arab influence has remained throughout the reign of the Normans, "Vroger II" (505-549 AH / 1111-1154 AD) was affected in all aspects of his court manifestations of the Fatimid state in Egypt, and when it comes outwas wearing a the mantle of luxurious written on it in Arabic script. It seems that the spirit of religious tolerance shown by the Normans marched along with religious fervor and military since the beginning. Since the island ordered stabilized Roger first, approach the policy of coexistence between Muslims and Crusaders . Souls settled in the era of Giam second, and prevailed in his era calm and stability, he was loved by his subjects Christians, so they called nickname (good) seems to his reign period of calm and peace for all of community groups in the interior, and manifested us the situation of Muslims in Sicily during the reign of William II and clear the credit is due to the traveler Ibn Jubair, who visited island of Sicily in the year 580 AH / 1185 AD during the reign of William II, and his story gives light important on the state of the Islamic Group at that stage of the island's history. It also casts us Ibn Jubayr some light on the survival of the Arab Islamic heritage in his palace in life Sicilian general, it tells that mark William II in Arabic (thankfully right praise), and that speaks Arabic and imitate in indulging in the bliss of the king and the order of its laws and put methods and divide the ranks of his men and grandiloquence King pomp and show his finery Muslim kings .

But his female slaves in his palace They were all Muslims, Christian women imitate Muslim women in plerm, One historian says in the description that: uniforms or Christian in this city uniforms Muslim women. It also praises Ibn Jubayr William II because it benefited

from the experiences of Muslims, have taken his country kind of Islamic diwans, which is known as the (Diwan fashioned) and Ibn Jubayr met with one of those models called Yahya boys model. Here we note that William II was influenced Islamic dye in the Kingship pomp of the Muslim rulers in the Arab Mashreq. Ibn Jubayr noted in plerm that Muslims draw remains of faith, they are living longer mosques, And reside prayer audible Adhan And to them residential quarters, and have the residential quarters, the markets inhabited their, They are traders in these markets... As for the number of mosques are many and the most of Lecturer for teachers of the Quran , In the city of Therma bin Jubair has been found That Muslims have a large number of mosques .

It has been the situation of Roger first after seizing the island that kept Muslim workers on their states first, then taking dismiss them one after the other, and give their place rulers of the Normans, or Sicilian Christians, leaving only a small number of Arabs, who labeled them devotion to him . Finally characterized many semblance of life in Sicily after falling into the hands of the Normans Christians dye Arab Islamic, even resembling their kings of Muslims in many manifestations of the king, including surnames, labels, logos, and the language of writing and speaking, and took the Muslim guards, ministers, and the veil, and other tasks that pillow for custodians, and narrative aspects of this very long, but we mentioned of models that predict the overall situation of the country at the time . Dr. Ihsan Abbas Almighty God's mercy interpreted the spirit of tolerance Badia by the Normans direction of Muslims after control of the the island, said the Islamic group was when it was seized by the Normans on the island, the fact cannot be easily erased or obscured, and the conquerors - the Normans - a tiny minority, they cannot impose themselves on aspects of life on the island by force, they were not Abstonha civilization on this world who was supplying him what civilization .

At the present time... Indigenous to Sicily is different in their physical appearance for the Italians, And retain some traditions which returns to the period of the Arab-Muslim presence, Vendetta , and diet for honor, And belonging to the family, Still about three hundred words of Arabic language found in Sicilian language.

Normans: in the Arab-Islamic references Their nickname " Alerdmanyen" , They are residents of the Scandinavian countries represented in Sweden, Norway, Finland, in addition to the population of Denmark, They are known in European history Balvikndz and mean-pirates - and they know the brutality and bloody, They did many cruises from home To northern Europe Across the North Sea

under many conditions, and encamped England, They created Dynasty lasted for a long time, and pitched Ireland, They discovered Iceland, Green land .and They attacked Andalusia several times, Morocco did not escape them, And crossed the Strait of Gibraltar, They raided the eastern coast of Andalusia And the South of France. And They settled in southern Italy, After that they entered into an alliance with the papacy in Rome against empires: German, Byzantine .

The papacy allowed them to grab the south of Italy from the Byzantines, And gave them the right to Sicily If grabbed Muslims and they went from their stronghold in the south of Italy, An occupied the island and pitched many cities in the north African coast and settled in Mahdia in Tunisia on the intermittent time periods.