

**ISKANDRA PASHA WIKALA IN BOULAQ (965-966AH/ 1558-1559 AD)
“ AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL DOCUMENTARY STUDY”**

**Iskandar Pasha Wikala in Boulaq (965-966 AH/ 1558-1559 AD) "An
Archaeological Documentary Study"**

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Abstract

The present study covers a pattern of commercial institutions in Boulaq, Cairo, namely Iskandar Pasha Wikala based on the Endowment Document dated 24 Ramadan 965 AH/1558AD till the completion of building on 15 Rajab 966 AH/1559AD. The location of the wikala has been defined on Souk El-Hatab St. Its four boundaries, the origin of the land ownership, and the buildings that occupied the place when Iskandar Pasha bought it were defined, as well. Most of these buildings did the same commercial business due to the nature of the location in one of the most river commercial ports in Egypt. The Endowment Document showed that the wikala consisted of two floors. The ground floor contained collecting areas, shops, and a grain barn, whereas the upper floor contained resident and collecting areas. Moreover, the wikala had one façade, i.e., the north façade. Stones, baked bricks, gypsum, and wood were used in building the wikala. The study concluded a proposal of the architecture of the Wikala of two floors for trade and residence. Furthermore, the wikala was planned according to the traditional architectural pattern of wikalas in the Mamluk and Ottoman eras.

Keywords: Iskandar Pasha, Boulaq, Cairo, Wikala, Ottoman

Introduction

The present study explores a commercial institution in Cairo in the Ottoman era, namely [Iskandar Pasha Wikala](#). Commercial institutions, especially wikalas, were almost located in Boulaq because it was the borderline city and port of Cairo in the Ottoman era. Consequently, it was important to have this pattern of buildings (Pauty,1936-1937).

The problem of the study has been defined in identifying the institution, its location and land, date of establishment, and the Endowment Document of the founder to make a planning proposal of the wikala and its annexes. These aspects also define the most important commercial activities of the wikala.

Before studying this wikala, it is worth mentioning that no study tackled the wikala from the archaeological, architectural, and documentary aspects, to my knowledge. Only trivial remarks were made. For instance, Abdelraouf (1993) carried out a study entitled "Remaining Ottoman Wikalas in Cairo: An Architectural Documentary Study" and did not mention Iskandar Pasha Wikala, but in the list of wikalas in the 10th H./16th century. The study of Mousa (1993) entitled "Wikalas and Islamic Houses in the Ottoman Era" did not mention Iskandar Pasha Wikala at all. Furthermore, the study of Salahuddin (1994) entitled "Documents of Iskandar Pasha in Egypt: Study, Publishing, and Editing" was limited to publishing the text of the document without carrying out an archaeological architectural study. The study of Taie (2007) entitled "Boulaq Locality the Borderline City of Cairo since Establishment till the Late Ottoman Era: An Archaeological Civilizational Study" defined the location and general formation of the wikala without description, architecture, or design of horizontal projection of the floors.

The researcher adopted the comparative analytical approach in the general formation and the most important architectural units of the wikala. The study aims to identify the architecture of a commercial institution in Boulaq, namely Iskandar Pasha Wikala based on its Endowment Document and the historical resources. It makes a proposal of the horizontal projection of the units based on its Endowment Document. It also highlights the outline, units, architectural elements, and functions of the wikala. It also compares the examined wikala to others in Cairo, in general, and Boulaq, in particular, in the Ottoman and Mamluk eras.

Location of the Wikala

The Endowment Document defined the location and quarter of the wikala, stating أنه وقف وحيس وتصدق واكد وحلل جميع البناء الكاين [بببببب] [بببببب] [بببببب] [بببببب] (Endowment Document of Iskandar Pasha, no. 918 Endowment, Lines 25-26), plate. (4). The text shows that the wikalais located in Boulaq. Etymologically, the word "Boulaq" consists of two parts Beau means Beautiful in French and Lac means lake. Its origin was reported as Belaq; an ancient Egyptian word meaning anchor. Boulaq was founded in 680AH/1281AD as an island in the Nile. In 713AH/1313AD, Al-Malik an-Nasir Nasir ad-Din Muhammad ibn Qalawun allowed building in it. Assabtia St. is to the north, whereas Istablat Altoroq St. is to the south. Sidi Alalemy St., Alwaa Alhaja St., Tal Nasr, and Wabour Alnour are to the east (Almaqrizi, 2004; Mubarak, 1888; Zaki, 1966; Maher, 1983; Altarabely, 2003).

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This wikala was located on [Souk El-Hatab St. in the location parallel to the National Press St. near the bank of the Nile \(Figs. 1-2\)](#). The documents of Boufaq Court used the term "ShoonAlhatab Line" on Alhataba locality and surrounding areas to include the neighborhood of Sidi Hasan near AlmohamadiaSouiqa and AlmahmendarWikala against Housh Sidi Hussein and the area towards AldsheshaAlmalkia near AlshounaWikala endowed by Alzarkash and around the near gunpowder laboratory of Sheikh Alfaseeh and Sheikh Elewafacing the store of lime towards the Nile coast and the area affiliated to Beram Pasha and the lane and wicket of Almawerdy (Taie, 2007). The registers of Boufaq Sharia Court reported that Iskandar Pasha Wikalawas located in the line of Hafiz Ahmed Pasha Quarter in Boufaq (Registers of Boufaq Court, S 15/ S357/ Q2193/994H; S37/S259/Q704/1045H). The location of Boufaq helped establish and run wikalas and commercial institutions in the Mamluk and Ottoman eras because of being near the Nile bank and a main harbor of Cairo for loading ships and unloading goods (Pauty, 1936-1937; Taie, 2007).

The four boundaries of the wikalawere: The northern boundary was the highway, the southern boundary was Barn ofBarqoq (Ibn Iyas, 2002; Alzarkaly, n.d.). The Barn of IdmerAlkhatery the Mamluk of SharafeldeenaWhad ibn Alkhatery, prince Masoud ibn Khater was transferred toAl-Malik an-Nasir Nasir ad-Din Muhammad ibn Qalawun who promoted him to a prince of the thousands. He was known for generosity and multiple marriages. He established a mosque in Boufaq in 737 AH/1337 AD. He died in the same year and was buried in his graveyard outside Bab al-Nasr (Almaqrizi, 2004; Mubarak, 1888). To the east, there was the endowment of FakhrAlkhoundat Baraka bint Abdullah, the mother of Sultan Shabaan and the wife of Hussein ibn an-Nasir Muhammad ibn Qalawun and the mother of Alashraf Sultan Shaban ibn Hussein. She was described as the most generous, pious, and beautiful lady in Egypt (Almaqrizi, 2004). To the west, there was MajazAlnaql (Ameen, 1990) leading to the grain barn of the wikala. The Endowment Document stats that "ويحصره ويشتمل عليه الآن حدود أربعة الحد الأول منها وهو القبلى ينتهى الى شونة برفوق بعضه وباقيه الى شون خربة تعرف بالخطيرى والحد الثانى وهو البحرى ينتهى الى الطريق العام والحد الثالث منها وهو الشرقى ينتهى الى مجاز النقل المشترك المذكورة أعلاه والحد الرابع منها وهو الغربى وينتهى الى مكان المستجد المعروف بوقف فخر الخوندات سيده المحجبات جامعة مفاخر والدة السلاطين (Al-Qalqashandi, 1888; Albasha, 1989)(Endowment Document of Iskandar Pasha, no. 918 Endowment, Lines 54-59), plates. (9-10).

Concerning the land ownership on which the wikala was built, the Endowment Document reported that the founder bought the land and its contents. Its remains included

a northern façade with two doors; the large leads to an open area surrounded by eleven incomplete collecting areas, and the small door leads to a staircase to the residential units of the wikala. Its design means it's an wikala. The Endowment Document states that" بها بابان مربعان أحدهما كبير والثاني صغير يعلو (Amin, Ibrahim, 1990). واجهة مبنية بالحجر الفص النحيت ذلك حرمادات حجرا ويتوصل من الباب الكبير الى فسحة سماوية بها أحد عشر حاصلا دايره من جهاتها الأربع لم (Endowment Document of Iskandar Pasha, no. 918 Endowment, Lines 28-30), plates. (4-5). The salt barn was near the old wikala to the south. Iskandar Pasha demolished it and built on the entire area an wikala, a quarter, and a grain barn. The Endowment Document states that "وألت اليه شونة الملح المجاورة لذلك من جهته القبليه الأيلولة الشرعية بالطريق الشرعي أزال ما بارض ذلك جميعه من الابنيه وصارت ارض ذلك كله بعد الهدم والتنظيف ساحة واحدة وشق بها الجدر وعمر وجدد وانشأ بذلك من ماله وصلب حاله ما سيذكر فيه (Endowment Document of Iskandar Pasha, no. 918 Endowment, Lines 31-32), plate. (5).

Founder and Date of Wikala

The founder was Iskandar Pasha ibn Abdullah. He was born in 895AH/1490AD. He was appointed a governor of Egypt by Sultan Suleiman Alqanony on 20 Rabi' al-Thani 963AH/1556AD until he was removed from the throne in Rajab 966AH/1559AD (Mubarak, 1888; Özcan, 2000). He established a mosque, almshouse, and sebil (fountain) on the line of Bab Alkharq, Cairo in 963AH/1556AD (Abulamaym, 2003). He endowed near twenty-seven shops and below shops. He also endowed a khan, quarter, and shops in Fuwa city, Kafrelsheikh. He endowed agricultural land in Bahnasa, Menoufia, Giza, and Manfalut (Mubarak, 1888). He died in 979AH/1571AD (Özcan, 2000).

The name and titles of the founder were mentioned in the Endowment Document that states "أمير الامراء (Albasha, 1989; Barakat, 2000) ... عن ذكر ما هو ان سيدنا ومولانا (Albasha, 1989) صاحب العز والمجد والأقدام (Albasha, 1989) ظهير الكبراء الفخام (Albasha, 1989) الكرام فارس ميادين الانتصاف (Abbreviated Dictionary, 1994) وجاوي (جامع) الفخر والسعد والاحتشام (Albasha, 1989) رافع اعلام (Albasha, 1989) مالك باذن الله تعالى ازمة الانعام والارغام (Al-Qalqashandi, 1888) والانتقام ملجأ أهل الايمان مولانا (Al-Qalqashandi, 1888) العدل والانتصاف دافع ظلام الظلم والاعتساف حسنه الزمان وما أضيفت (Al-Qalqashandi, 1888; Albasha, 1989) إسكندر باشا كافل المملكة الشريفة بالديار المصرية الى ذلك من الثغور الاسلامية لا زالت آيات جلاله في صحايف الأيام والشهور مسطوره ورايات اقباله على صفحات الأعوام والدهور منشوره بدوام عظمة قاهره وجلاله باهره مجموعا له بين خيري الدنيا والآخرة لما وقف سابقا جميع (Endowment Document of Iskandar Pasha, no. 918 Endowment, Lines 7-11), plates. (1-2).

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The ownership of the place was transferred to Iskandar Pasha on 24 Ramadan 965AH. The Endowment Document states that "المؤرخ بالرابع والعشرين من شهر رمضان المعظم سنة خمس وستين وتسعمائة" (Endowment Document of Iskandar Pasha, no. 918 Endowment, Line 18), plates. (2-3). Iskandar Pasha completed building the wikala on 15 Rajab 966AH/1559AD. The Endowment Document states that "15 رجب عام 966 هجرية" (Endowment Document of Iskandar Pasha, no. 918 Endowment, Testimonies), plate. (11). Consequently, the wikala and its annexes took about a year from the date of purchasing the land on 24 Ramadan 965AH/1558AD till the completion of building on 15 Rajab 966AH/1559AD.

Activity of the Wikala

The wikala was used once to sell linen. The documents of Boulaq Court reported that Asharafi Yahya ibn Emir Ali Gawesh and the head of linen brokers rented the wikala for a year for a sum of 2800 half fulus on 12 equal installments (registers of Boulaq Court S 43/ S 56/ Q 138/ 10 Rabi` al-Awwal 1053 AH). At other times, the ground of the wikala was rented for a year for 2 piasters a month (Abaza, 1999) about thirty halves of fulus (registers of Boulaq Court S 37/ S 259/ Q 704/ 1045 AH). The rewaq above the door of the wikala was rented for a year for 12 halves of fulus a month (registers of Boulaq Court S 15/ S 42/ Q 286/ 994 AH). It was used for storing rotten Pampas grass (Taie, 2007).

The founder- Iskandar Pasha- endowed the wikala on his mosque and almshouse in Bab Alkharq, Cairo. He gave himself the freedom of management throughout his life. Then, this freedom is transferred to the official of endowment. The Endowment Document states that "المؤرخ كتاب الوقف المذكور بالخامس عشر من جمادى الأولى الخامس من شهر سنة خمس وستين وتسعمائة الوقف الشرعى على الجامع والتكية المعمورين بذكر الله انشاء مولانا الواقف المشار اليه أعلاه الكائنين بالقاهرة المحروسة المعزية بخط باب الخرق وعلى جهات بر وقربات واجور ومثوبات معينة بكتاب الوقف المبرور وشرط لنفسه الكريمة حريها الله تعالى ورعاها وشكر في المصالح مسعاها شروطا حث عليها واكد في المصير اليها منها انه جعل النظر على ذلك والولاية عليه لنفسه الكريمة مدة حيوته رزقه الله تعالى أطول الاعمار وأطيبها ثم من بعده لمن عين له النظر بكتاب الوقف" (Endowment Document of Iskandar Pasha, no. 918 Endowment, Lines 15-18), plate. (3).

Building Materials of the Wikala

Various building materials were used in Iskandar Pasha Wikala in Boulaq. According to the Endowment Document, the most important materials were, as follows "thin lobed stone that was used as a key building material in the walls of the floors and annexes, as well as the different architectural elements, such as cantilevers, haramadant, basements, stairs, etc." (Endowment Document of Iskandar Pasha, no. 918 Endowment, Lines 34-

35), plate. (5) in Almasharstyle. Stone was used in this pattern of such commercial buildings in the Mamluk and Ottoman eras because of its hardness and strength. These features, i.e., hardness and strength, are required for securing the wikalas that contain goods and merchants.

Flintstone, in different sizes, was used in building the thresholds of major and minor doors (Endowment Document of Iskandar Pasha, no. 918 Endowment, Line 35), plate. (5). Wood was used in the doors of the wikala, including external entrances, entrances of the collecting areas, and residential rewaqs (Endowment Document of Iskandar Pasha, no. 918 Endowment, Lines 35, 37, 38, 41), plates. (5-6). Additionally, pure wood was used in the ceilings of the upper floor's collecting areas and bath chairs, whereas kadan tiles were used in the ground of the ceilings of the upper floor's collecting areas and bath chairs (Endowment Document of Iskandar Pasha, no. 918 Endowment, Line 45), plate. (8). Baked brick and gypsum were used in the majazi arches of the ground floor and the entrances of collecting areas (Endowment Document of Iskandar Pasha, no. 918 Endowment, Lines 39-40), plates. (7-8). The plate was applied on the walls of the collecting areas, rewaqs, and bath chairs (Endowment Document of Iskandar Pasha, no. 918 Endowment, Lines 40-41, 45, 51-52), plates. (8-9).

The architecture of the Wikala and the Quarter in the Endowment Document

Studying the Endowment Document of Iskandar Pasha Wikala in Boulaq shows that it comprised two floors (figs. 3-4). The ground floor contained collecting areas, shops, and a grain barn, whereas the upper floor contained resident and collecting areas (Endowment Document of Iskandar Pasha, no. 918 Endowment, Lines 32-34), plate. (5). Moreover, the wikala had one façade, i.e., the north façade. Its architecture was, as follows:

Main Façades of the Wikala

The wikala had one free façade, i.e., the north façade, overlooking the highway, whereas the other façades were locked. The endowment reported four boundaries of the wikala, as follows: The northern boundary was the highway, while the southern boundary was Barn of Barqoq and the Barn of Alkhatory. To the east, there was the endowment of FakhrAlkhoundat Baraka bint Abdullah, the mother of Sultan Shabaan. To the west, MajazAlnaql (transport passage) was leading to the grain barn of the wikala (Endowment Document of Iskandar Pasha, no. 918 Endowment, Lines 54-59), plates. (9-10).

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This façade extended from the east to the west and included the major and minor entrances to the wikala, the façade of two shops, the quarter, alharmadant, and the windows of the ten residential rewaqson the second floor, overlooking the road. It was built of thin lobed stones. Above the façade, there were harmadant or stone cantilevers almost bearing the windows of the upper floor dedicated for the rewaqs of the quarter, overlooking the highway. The Endowment Document states that "ويشتمل تفصيلا على واجهة بحرية مبنية بالحجر الفص النحيت يعلوها صحف وحرمدانات حجرا احمر طيا على طي يعلو ذلك ما وردة حجرا ابيض مكتفا وتحتة حجر" (Endowment Document of Iskandar Pasha, no. 918 Endowment, Lines 34-35), plate. (5).

The façade contained two entrances and two adjacent shops on the western side and two entrances because the second small door existed beside the common transport area on the east side. Both shops contained a threshold internally and umbrellas in front. The Endowment Document states that "وبالواجهة المذكورة حانوتان متجاوران يشتمل كل منهما على" (Endowment Document of Iskandar Pasha, no. 918 Endowment, Line 35), plate. (5).

Two entrances led to inside the wikala. One of them was major that was almost in the middle of the façade topped by a flat threshold of flintstone that was followed by a nafees, a relieving arch of mozararvoussoirs in Almashar style (Abdul Halim, 1984; Alhadad, 2006). Moreover, it had a lower threshold of flintstone. It was closed by a door of two wooden shutters. On both sides, there were two maksalas, which were almost for the officials of organizing entering, leaving, and guarding the wikala. Between the two maksalas, there was a slipperiness (zalaka) (Amin, Ibrahim, 1990) as a defense means in the defense buildings, including the doors of castles, fortifications, and cities. For instance, the slipperiness (zalaka) of Bab Zuweila in Cairo helped make the person who wanted to enter these gates uncomfortably. The slipperiness (zalaka) was run at night and cases of danger or attack (Almaqrizi, 2004). It is known that the wikalas had military architectural features to protect the merchants and goods against theft, looting, and burglary as shown in the thickness, height, and support of the walls using supports, towers, or recruiting guards. The Endowment Document states that "وبها ايضا بابان مربعان احدهما كبيرا والآخر صغيرا فاما الكبير منهما فانه باب الوكالة المذكورة يكتنفه مسطبتان متقابلتان يمنه ويسره فيما بينهما بزلاقة حجرا يعلوها عقد حجر بعته سفلي صوانا وعليا حجرا ابيض واحمر مكتفا ويغلق عليه زوجا باب خشبا" (Endowment Document of Iskandar Pasha, no. 918 Endowment, Lines 35-37), plate. (5).

The main entrance opened on a corridor covered with an intersectional stone vault with two opposite stones on the sides. Besides the stones, there was an entrance. The right (western) had a mazmala for water jars with a sink in the ground to get rid of the spoiled water. This mazmala was used to provide the merchants and visitors of the wikala with water. The left (eastern) entrance was used as a bookstore or putting the lighting tools a night. The corridor led to the wide quarter (Amin, Ibrahim,1990). The Endowment Document states that "يدخل منه الى مجاز معقود وعلوه عقد بالحجر مصلبا به مسطبتان متقابلتان يعلو كل منهما عقد يجاور المسطبة التي على يمينه الداخل بالمجاز المذكور مزملة معدة لوضع ازيار الماء العذب بسفلها بالوعة في تخوم الأرض يقابل المزملة المذكورة معالم كتبية ويتوصل من المجاز المذكور الى رحاب مربع" (Endowment Document of Iskandar Pasha, no. 918 Endowment, Lines 36-37), plate. (5).

The second (minor) entrance was to the left of the main entrance on the eastern side of the façade. It was a rectangular opening with upper and lower flat stone thresholds. It was closed with a wooden door of one shutter that led to a wide area with a staircase of three flights. The first flight contained stone steps leading to a landing that led to the second flight containing an arch of Kadan tiles to another landing. On the right and left of the second landing, two steps represented the third flight with two sides (Endowment Document of Iskandar Pasha, no. 918 Endowment, Lines 39-37), plates. (5-6).

The façade ended with the joint transport entrance (estetra) on the east side that overlooked the highway and closed with a one-shutter door. This entrance led to the grain barn after it led to the salt barn. The Endowment Document states that "بجوار الواجهة المذكورة باب يدخل منه الي النقل المشترك الذي كان يتوصل منه قديما الي شونة الملح وصار الآن يتوصل منه الي باب يغلق عليه فردة باب من الخشب يدخل منه الي شونه الغلال المذكورة أعلاه" (Endowment Document of Iskandar Pasha, no. 918 Endowment, Lines 53-54), plate. (10).

It could be concluded that the architect has succeeded in distributing the units at the façade. He made the main entrance in the middle and placed the small entrance on the eastern side to keep the merchants away from the movement of goods, animals, and buyers at the main entrance and the two shops. Thus, he could provide them with privacy and comfort.

The Wikala from inside

Iskandar Pasha Wikala comprised two floors, figs. (3-4), as follows:

The Ground Floor of the Wikala

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It consisted of a square yard whose ground was covered with thin lobed stones to provide a flat ground and bear loads and heavy goods entering and leaving the wikala. In the northern side of theyard, there was a passage with three collecting areas in the west and four ones in the east. The space around the yard comprised thirteen collecting areas in the south, east, and west. That is, the collecting areas surrounding the yard on the ground floor were twenty Fig. (3). Each collecting area was accessed through an arched entrance with a Rumi arch of brick and gypsum as defined by the Endowment Document. It was closed by one shutter-wooden door. Above the entrance opening, there was a small wooden window for lightning and ventilation. The ground was covered with tiles, whereas the walls were covered with white plate. The collecting areas were almost covered with cross-sectional or half-barrel basements to bear the large loads on the upper floor (Endowment Document of Iskandar Pasha, no. 918 Endowment, Lines 39-44), plates. (6-7).

In the front part of the western passage, there was a wall entrance arched with brick and gypsum. It contained a basin and a faucet as a mazmala to water the visitors of the wikala. In the front part of the southern side of the passage, the inarched door opening led to a landing to a fifteen-step stair on the upper floor of the wikala (Endowment Document of Iskandar Pasha, no. 918 Endowment, Lines 39-44), plates. (6-7).

This outline of the ground floor of the wikala makes us believe that there was a passage, rewaq, or shed around the square middle court, especially on the southern, western, and eastern sides. This thought is supported by the Endowment Document that reported a passage encircling the upper collecting areas, necessitating a shed below or decreasing the façade of the upper collecting areas and rewaqs less than those of the ground floor. Consequently, the areas of the upper collecting areas and benefits decrease. Thus, it is thought that there was a rewaq in the ground floor encircling the square area to be used as a shed in front of the entrances of the lower collecting areas (Endowment Document of Iskandar Pasha, no. 918 Endowment, Lines 44-45), plate. (8).

The First Floor of the Wikala

The first floor of the wikala comprised two sections. The south section contained ten collecting areas covered with a ceiling of pure wood. The ground was covered with kadan tile, while the walls were painted. In front of the entrances, a passage or a rewaq was encircling the open yard. To the right, a landing led to a toilet covered in the same manner as the collecting areas Fig. (4). The Endowment Document states that "يصعد من"

عليه الى مجاز منعطف به عشرة حواصل علوية وبراس السلم المذكور على يمينة الصاعد نقل لطيف يتوصل منه الى كرسى خلا برسم الراحة مسقف كل من الحواصل المذكورة نقيًا لوحًا وفسقية على مربعات مفروش ارضه بالبلاط " (Endowment Document of Iskandar Pasha, no. 918 Endowment, Lines 44-45), plate. (8).

The northern section contained the residential part (quarter) of fourteen fully equipped rewaqs, containing an iwan, a durqaa, a bath chair, and a corridor. The ceiling was pure wood, whereas the walls were painted. Ten rewaqs overlooked the highway: Ten to the right of the one ascending from the stair of the small door (west) and one to the left (east). The architect opened a window in each rewaq overlooking the highway. Only the eastern rewaq had two windows on the highway. Thus, it was wider and equaled double anyone of the others because it was dedicated to senior merchants to decrease traffic and benefit from pure air. The other four collecting areas overlooked the wikala: Two in the east and two in the west. Each two overlooked the passage with a door. They also overlooked the joint transport passage with a window of ventilation and lightning Fig. (4) (Endowment Document of Iskandar Pasha, no. 918 Endowment, Lines 48-52), plates. (9-8). The western rewaqs almost overlooked a passage or the rewaq of the upper floor through the window of ventilation and lightning because there was no street or passage on the west side and they were adjacent to the wall.

Grain Barn

This barn was in the south side of the wikala as one of its annexes. It replaced the salt barn. It was accessed through a one shutter- wooden door via the joint transport passage. It was next to Alkhateri and Barqoq Barn. The Endowment Document States that " بجوار " الواجهة المذكورة باب يدخل منه الي النقل المشترك الذى كان يتوصل منه قديما الي شونة الملح وصار الآن يتوصل منه الي باب يغلق عليه فردة باب من الخشب يدخل منه الي شونه الغلال المذكورة أعلاه ويحيط بذلك ويحصره ويشتمل عليه الآن حدود أربعة الحد الأول منها وهو القبلي ينتهى الي شونه برقوق بعضه وباقيه الي شون خربة (Endowment Document of Iskandar Pasha, no. 918 Endowment, Lines 53-54), Plate. (9).

The outline of the wikala followed the traditional pattern of wikalas in Egypt in the Mamluk and Ottoman eras that consisted of a yard, an open court, and collecting areas encircling the ground and first floors to store goods. In addition, rewaqs and residential units were dedicated to merchants with an independent entrance. The façade of the wikala had shops for exhibiting foods. Other examples include QaitbayWikalas in Al-Azhar (883 AH / 1478 AD) and Bab al-Nasr (885 AH / 1480 AD) Fig. (5) and the

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wikala of al-Ghuri in al-Azhar (909-910 AH / 1503-1504 AD) (Alsakhawy, n.d.; Mubarak, 1888; Alomary, 1976; Rezq, 2003).

This pattern spread in the Ottoman era with some modifications, especially decreasing the number of floors from five in the Mamluk era to two or three. The first floor contained collecting areas and residential units, but it contained collecting areas only in the Mamluk era. The wikalas became wider in the wikalas of Boufaq in the Mamluk era (Abdelraouf, 1993). Examples of wikalas in the Ottoman era included Jamal al-Din al-Dhababi Wikala (1014 AH / 1605 AD) Fig. (7), Bazraa Wikala (11 H / 17 G). al-Sukkariyah Wikala (948 AH / 1541 AD) Fig. (8), Kharnoub Wikala (975- 979 AH/ 1567-1571 AD) Fig. (9), Zulfiqar Katakhda Wikala known as Ibrahim Sarhan Wikala (1079 AH / 1668 AD) Fig. (10), and Aldokhan Aljadeda Wikala (1092AH/1681AD) Fig. (11) (Abdelraouf, 1993; Mousa, 1993).

Conclusion, Results, and Recommendations

The research examined Iskandar Pasha Wikala in Boufaq based on its Endowment Document. The Wikala consisted of two floors. The ground floor included collecting areas, shops, and a grain barn, while the upper floor included a quarter of residence and collecting areas. The wikala included only one façade; the northern façade.

The wikala was designed according to the traditional style of wikala architecture in the Mamluk and Ottoman eras, taking into account the reduction in the vertical extension in the wikalas building in Boufaq in the Ottoman era. For instance, the number of floors was reduced, and the upper first floor included housing units and storage areas. The architect increased the number of floors. The study concluded the following results:

- The study examined a demolished commercial establishment in the Boufaq neighborhood dating back to the Ottoman era, namely Iskandar Pasha Wikala.
- The study defined the exact history of Iskandar Pasha Wikala building from 24 Ramadan 965 AH / 1558 AD until the end of the building on Rajab 15, 966 AH/ 1559 AD.
- The study defined the location of Iskandar Pasha Wikala in Cairo in the Boufaq neighborhood, in general, or the four boundaries, in particular.
- The study concluded the architecture of Iskandar Pasha Wikala in Boufaq that comprised two floors whose units of which were devoted to trade and housing.
- The study showed that the wikala was planned according to the traditional style of wikala architecture in the Mamluk and Ottoman eras.

- The study found out that this wikala was the endowment of a mosque, an almshouse, and a Sabil of Iskandar Pasha at Bab al-Kharq.
- The study recommends paying attention to documenting and studying this type of buildings of a commercial nature, whether the remaining or the demolished ones.

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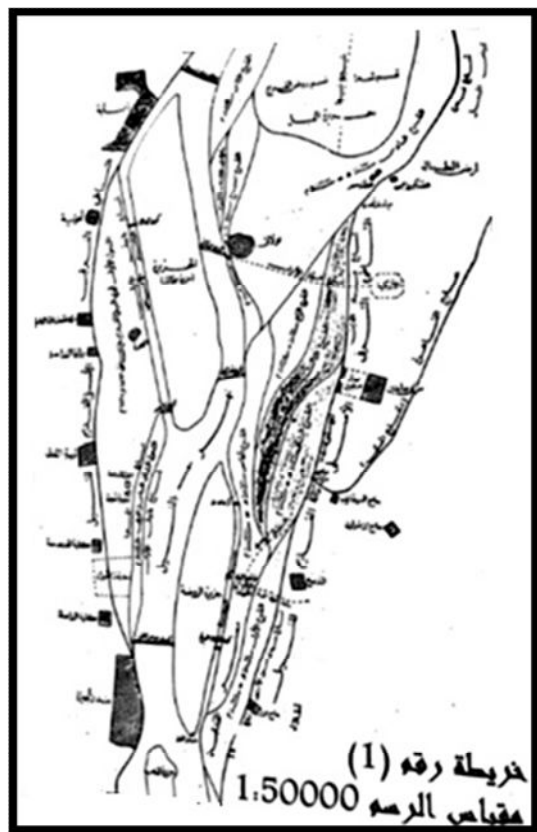


Figure (1): The subtractions of the Nile and the transformations d on the river course from the Islamic conquest, according to Muhammad Ramzi

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Figure (2): Souk El-Hatab Street, Cairo's Map of Islamic Antiquities, Egyptian Survey

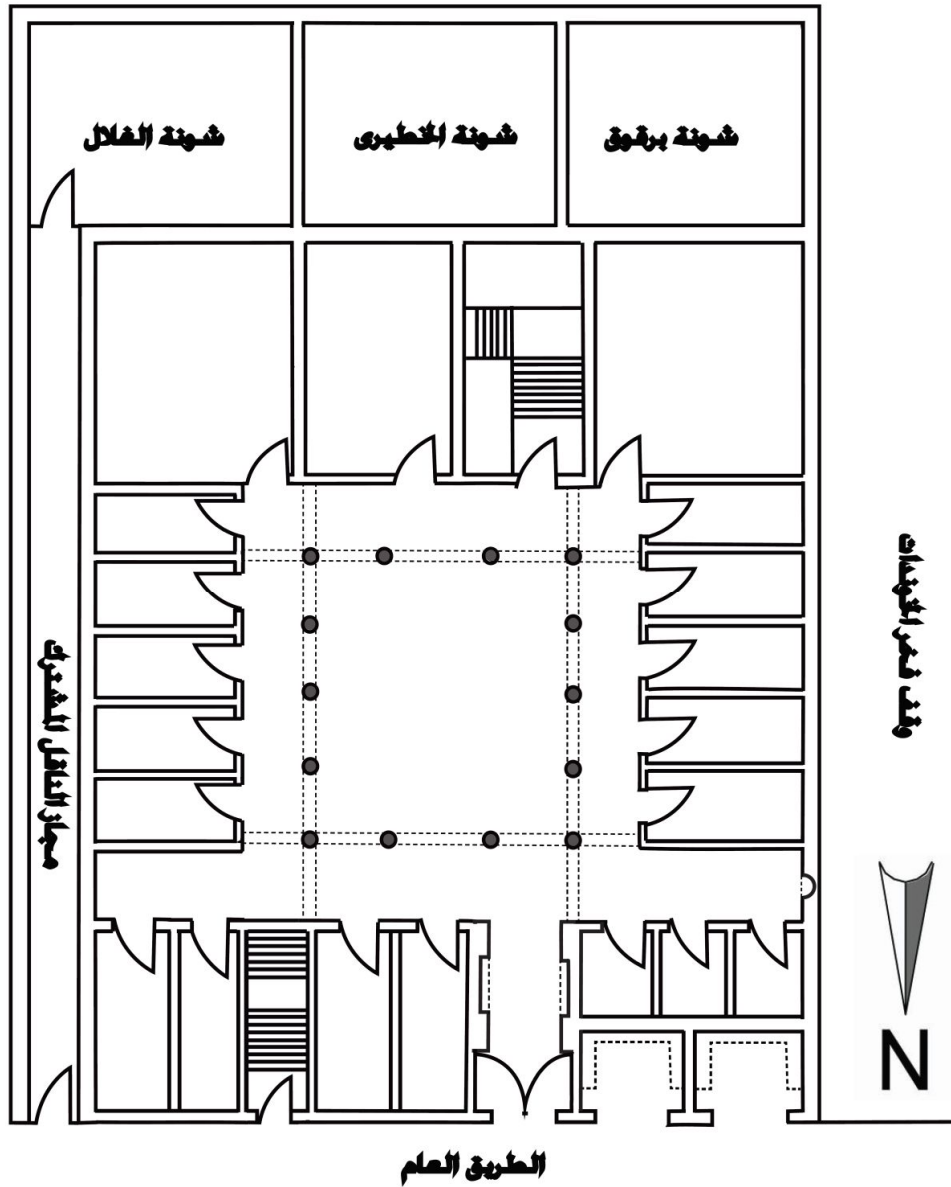


Figure (3) Re-envisioning the horizontal plan of the ground floor of Iskandar Pasha Wikala in Boulaq based on the Endowment Document (by the researcher)

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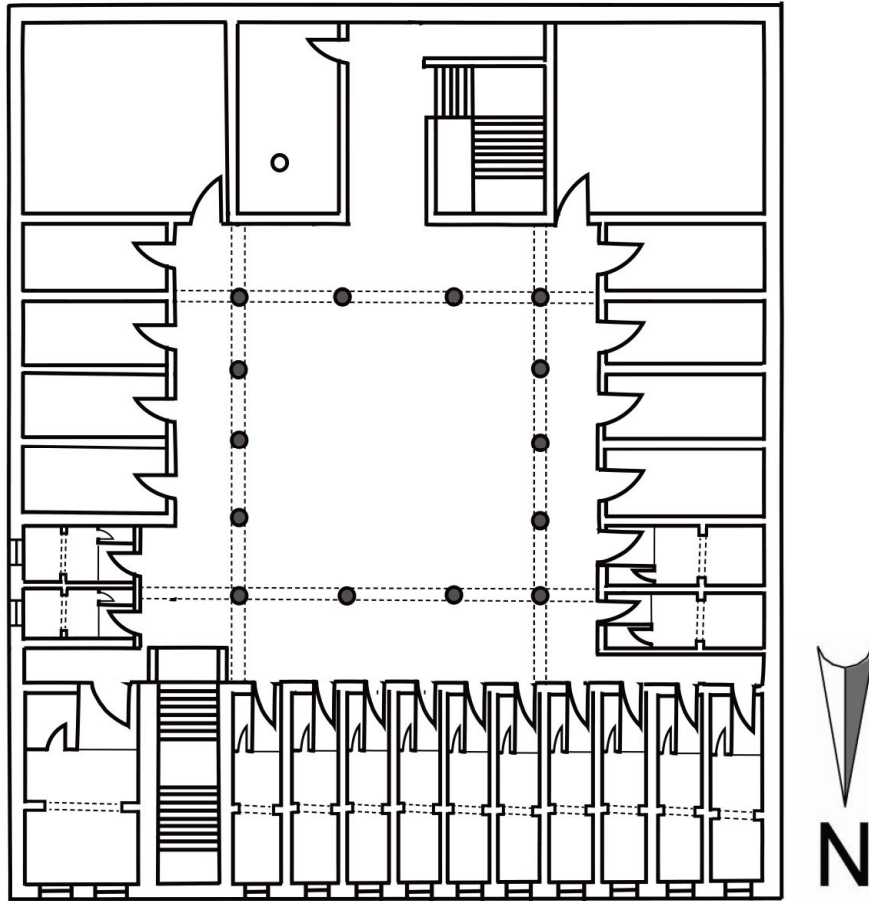


Figure (4) Re-envisioning the upper floor plan of of Iskandar Pasha Wikala in Boulaq basedon the Endowment Document (by the researcher)

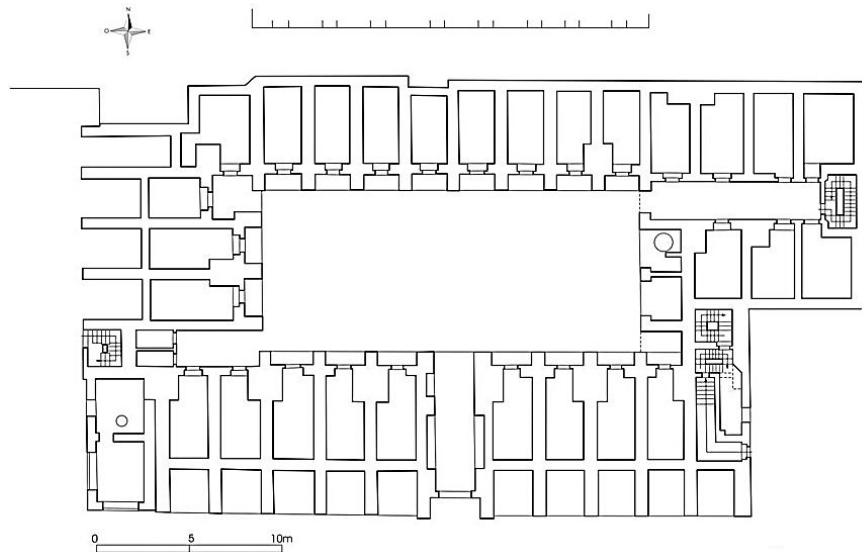


Figure (5) a horizontal projection of the ground floor of the Qaitbay Wikala in Bab Al-Nasr (quoted from the Islamic and Coptic Antiquities Registration Center)

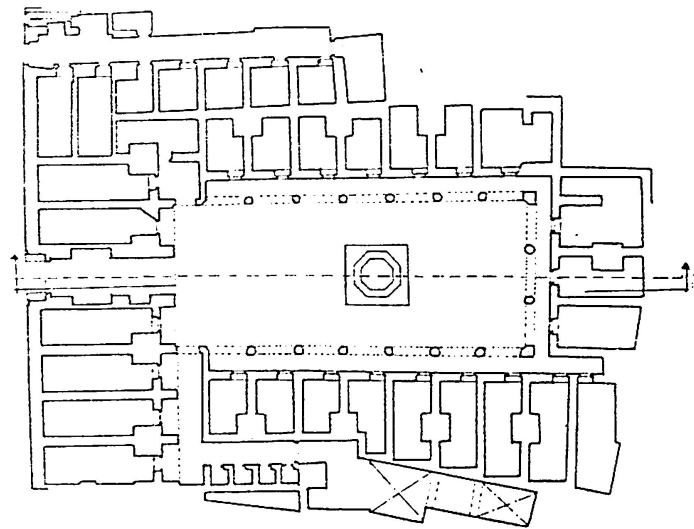


Figure (6) a horizontal projection of the ground floor of the Al-Ghuri Wikala in Al-Azhar (from the Islamic and Coptic Antiquities Registration Center)

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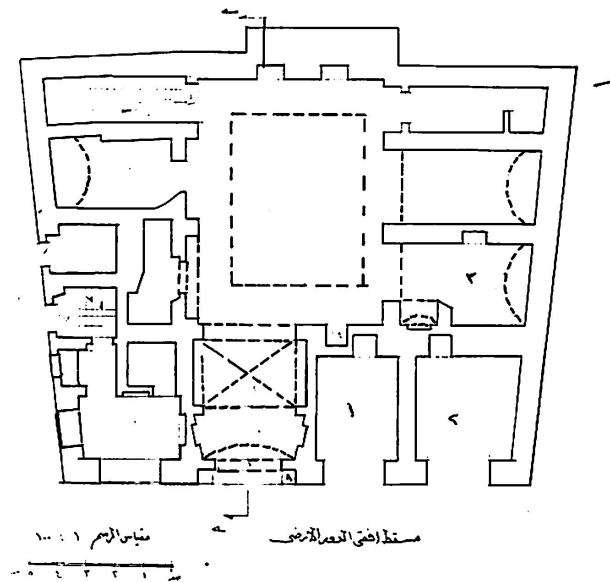


Figure (7) horizontal projection of the ground floor of the Jamal al-Din al-Dhahabi Wikala
(quoted by Rifaat Moussa)

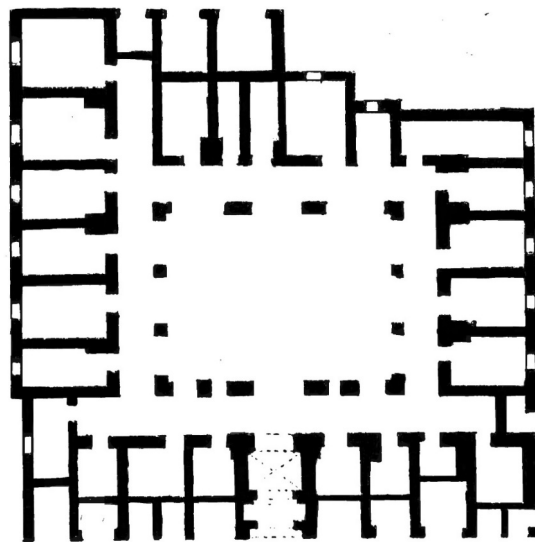


Figure (8) a horizontal projection of the ground floor of the wikala of Prince Zulfiqar
Katkhd, known as the wikala of Ibrahim Sarhan in Bulaq (quoting Imad Abdul Raouf)

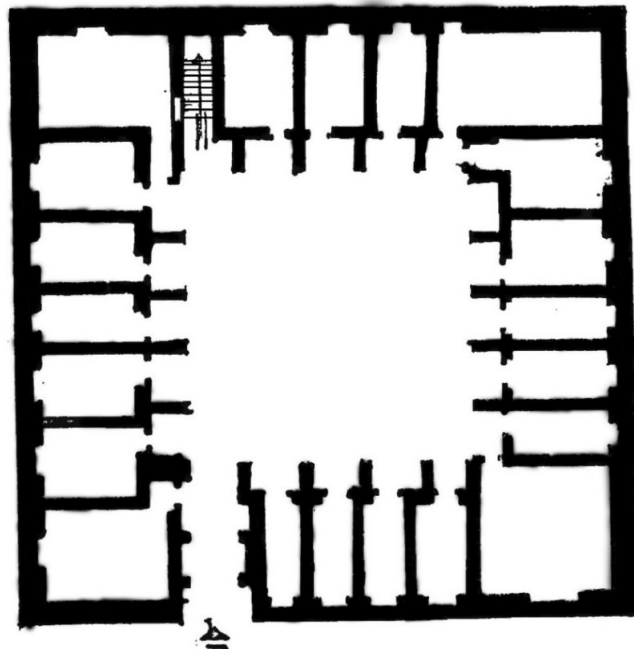


Figure (9) a horizontal projection of the ground floor of AldokhanAljadedeWikala in Boulaq (quoted from Imad Abdul-Raouf)

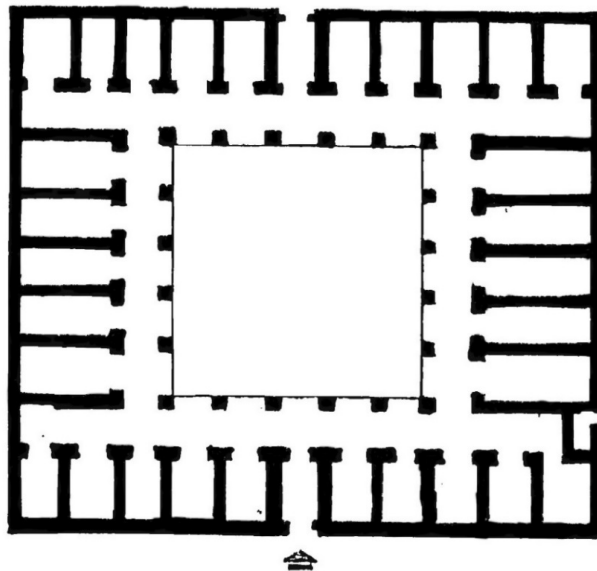


Figure (10) a horizontal projection of the ground floor of the SukkariyaWikala, Suleiman Pasha Endowment in Bulaq (Quoted from Hussam Azmy)

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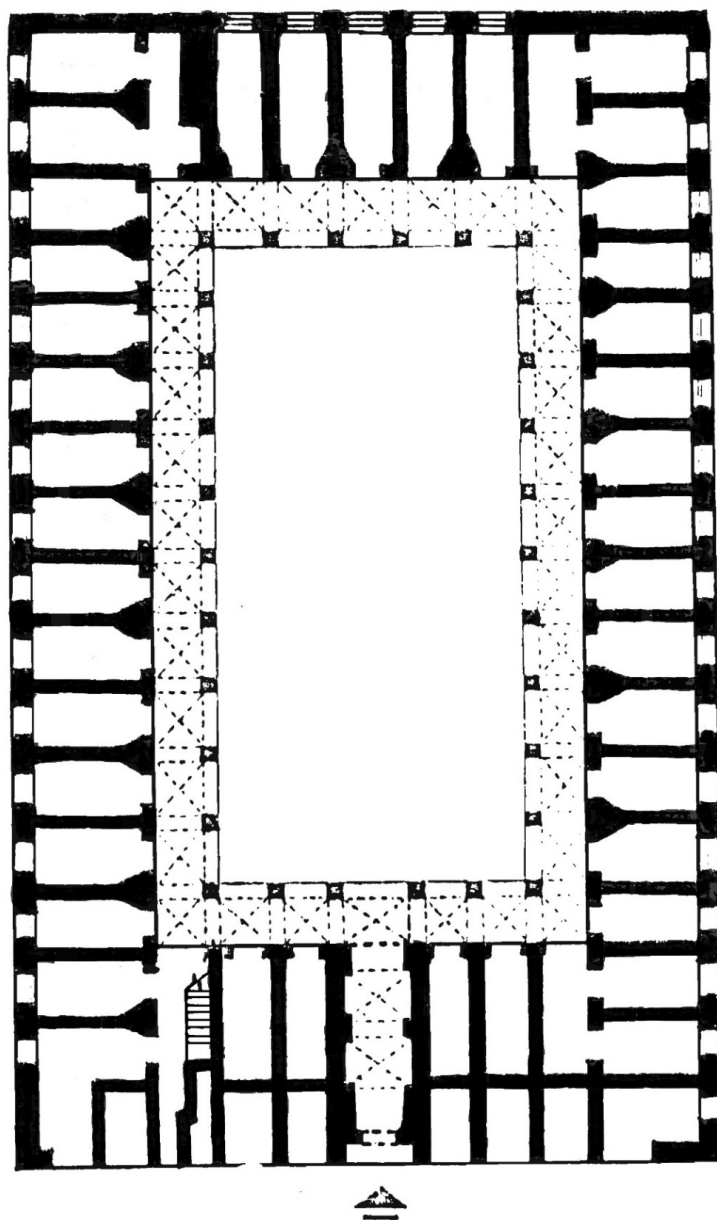


Figure (11) a horizontal projection of the ground floor of Al-Kharroub Wikala, the Sinan Pasha Endowment in Bulaq (Quoted from Imad Abdul-Raouf)

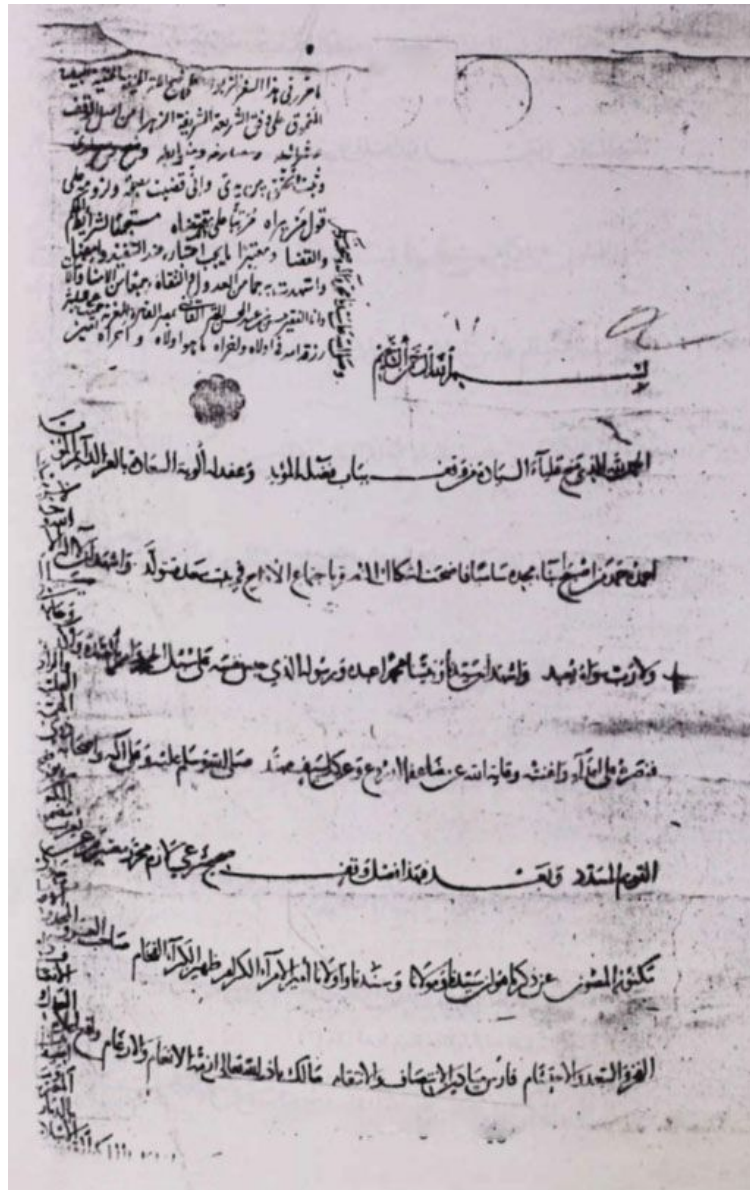


Plate (1) Iskandar Pasha Endowment Document, Document No. 918 Endowments (Quoted from Madiha Salah al-Din)

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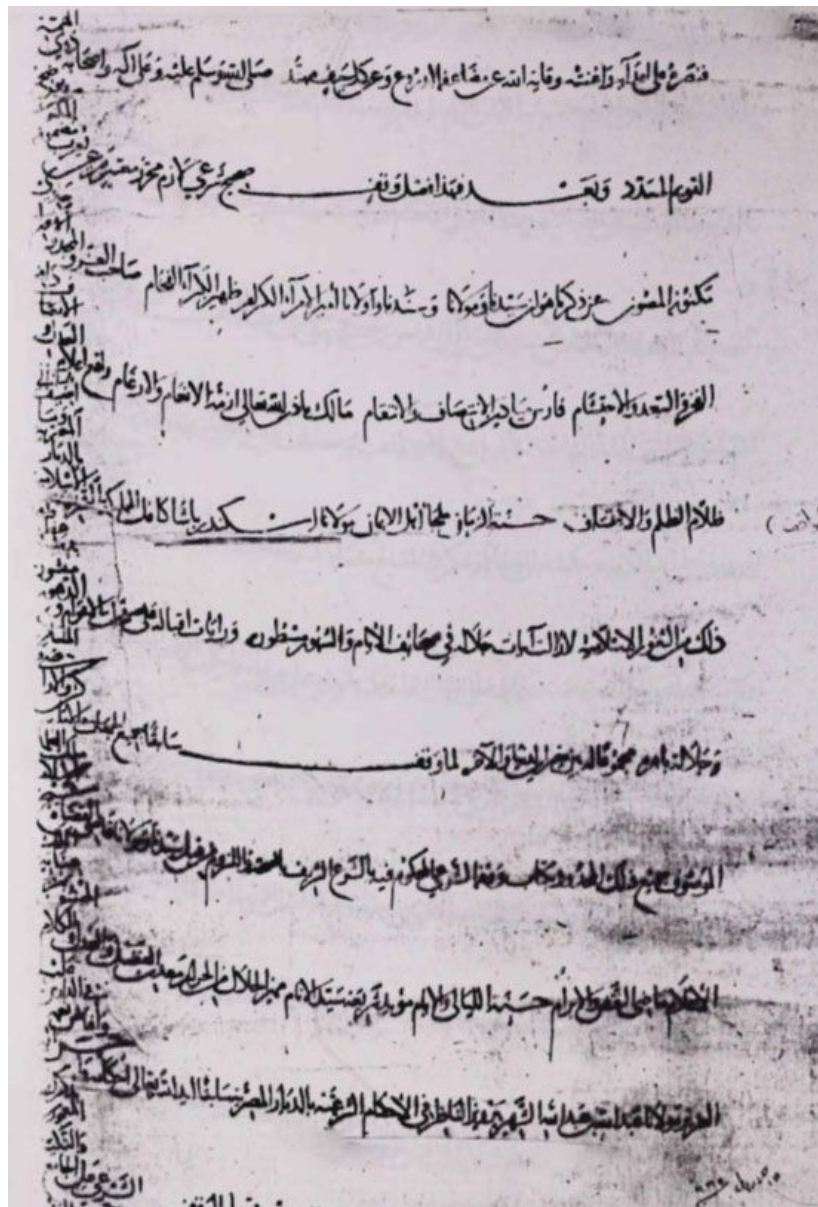


Plate (2) Iskandar Pasha Endowment Document, Document No. 918 Endowments
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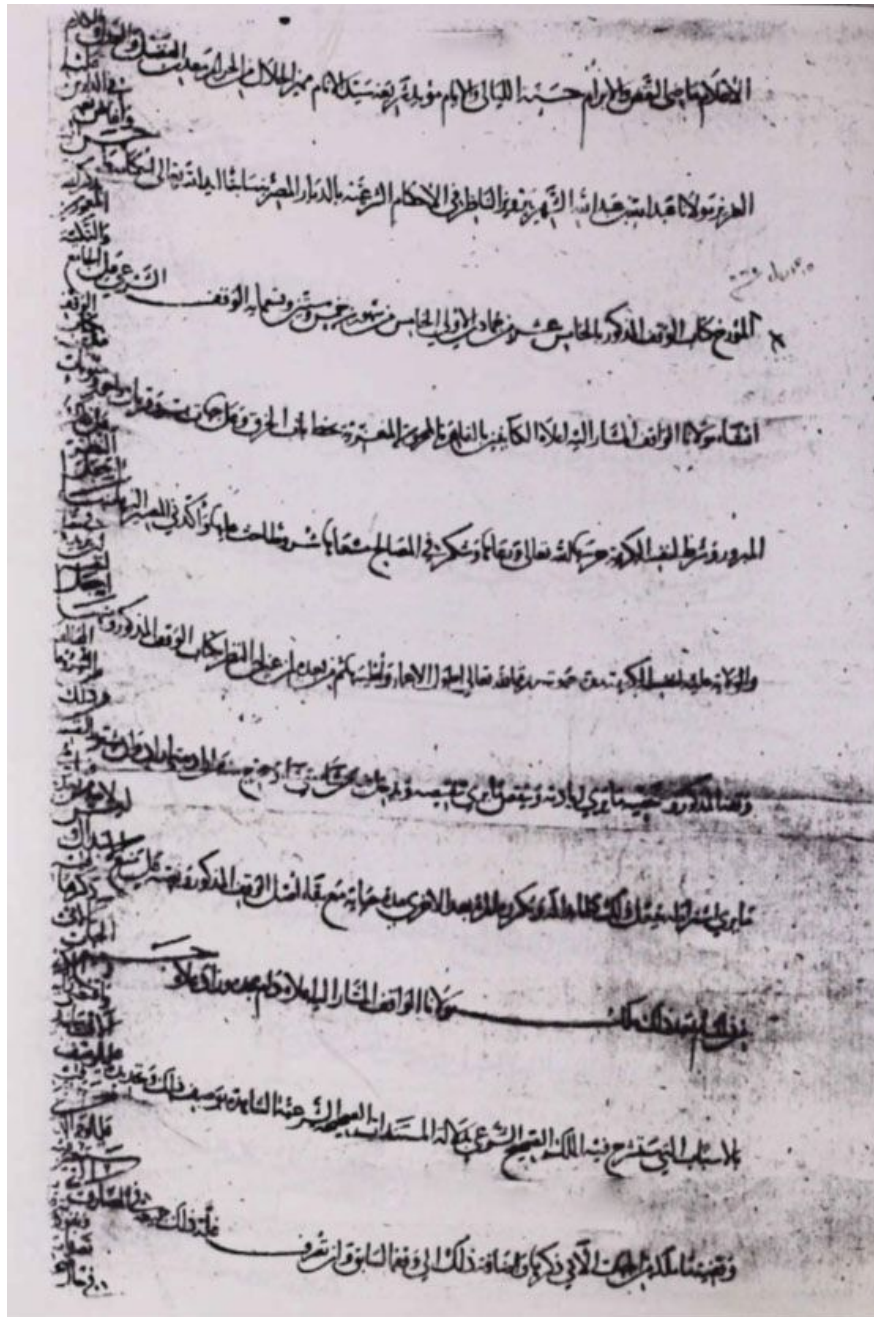


Plate (3) Iskandar Pasha Endowment Document, Document No. 918 Endowments (Quoted from Madiha Salah al-Din)

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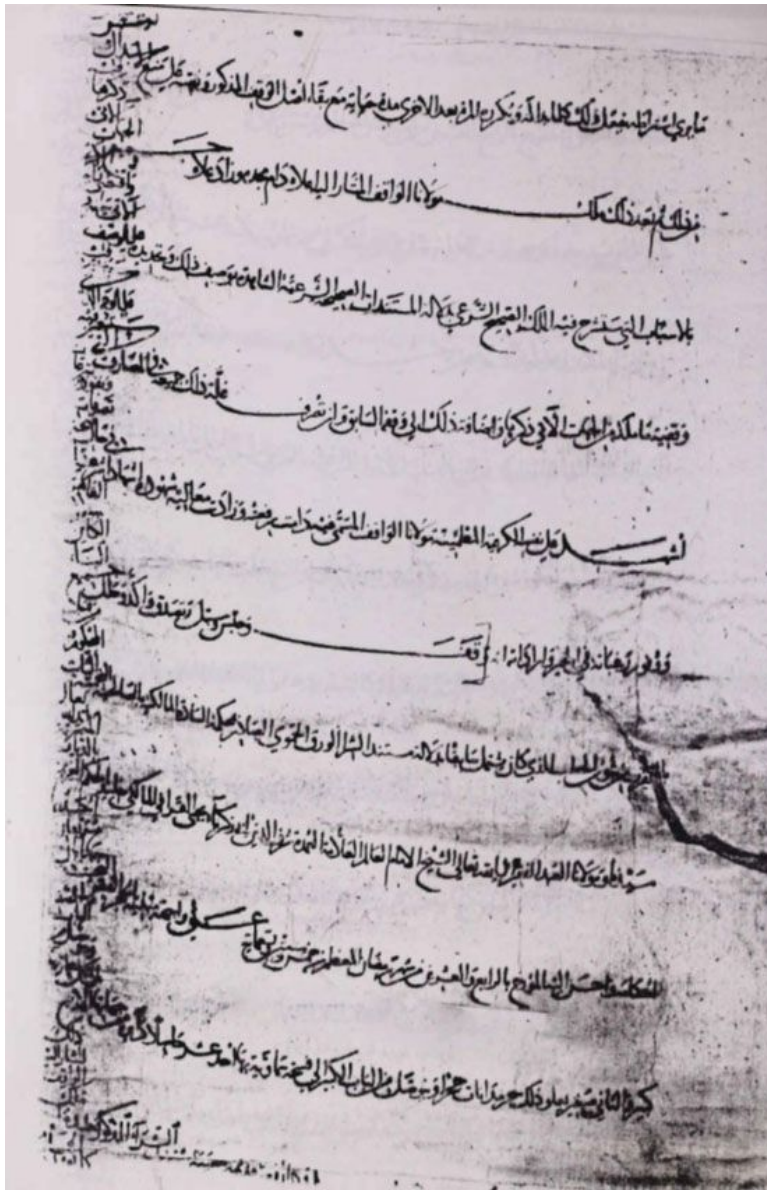


Plate (4) Iskandar Pasha Endowment Document, Document No. 918 Endowments
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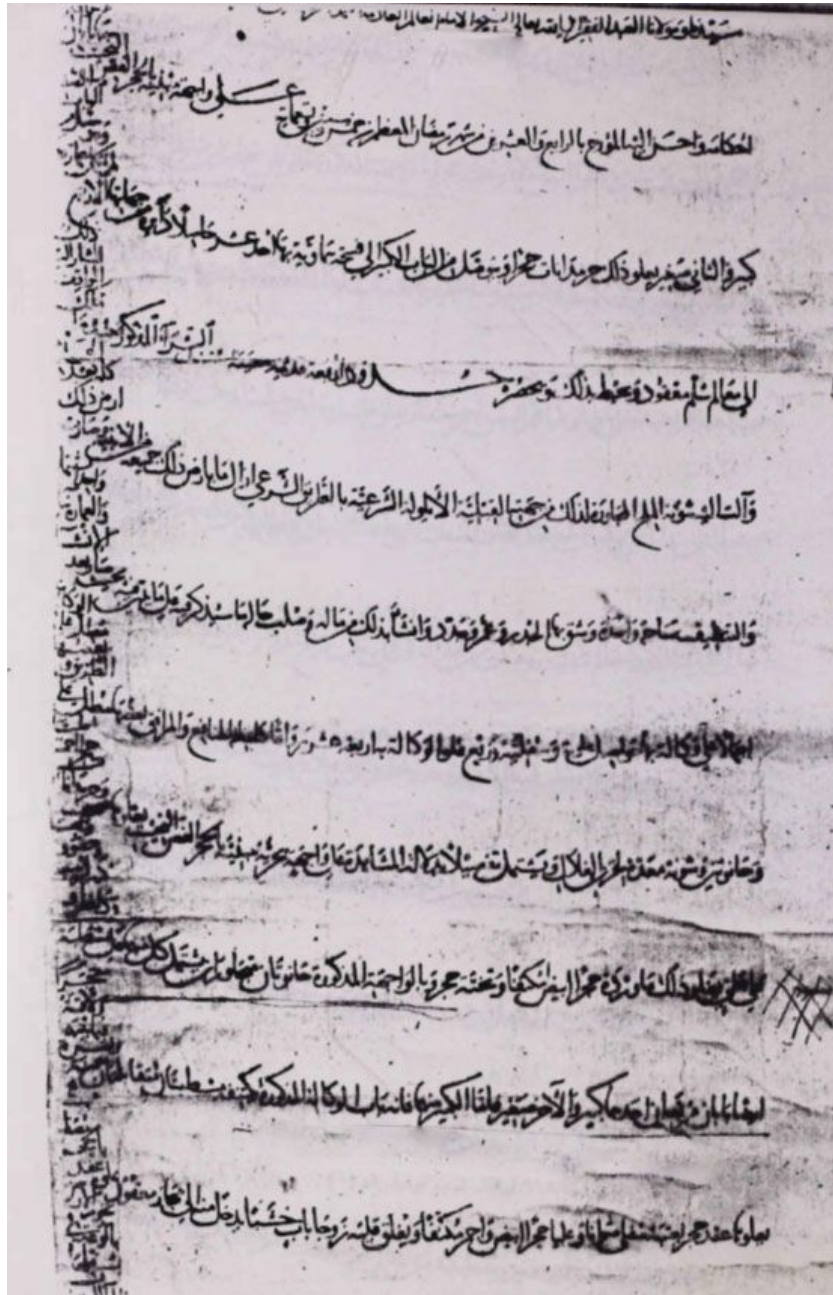


Plate (5) Iskandar Pasha Endowment Document, Document No. 918 Endowments (Quoted from Madiha Salah al-Din)

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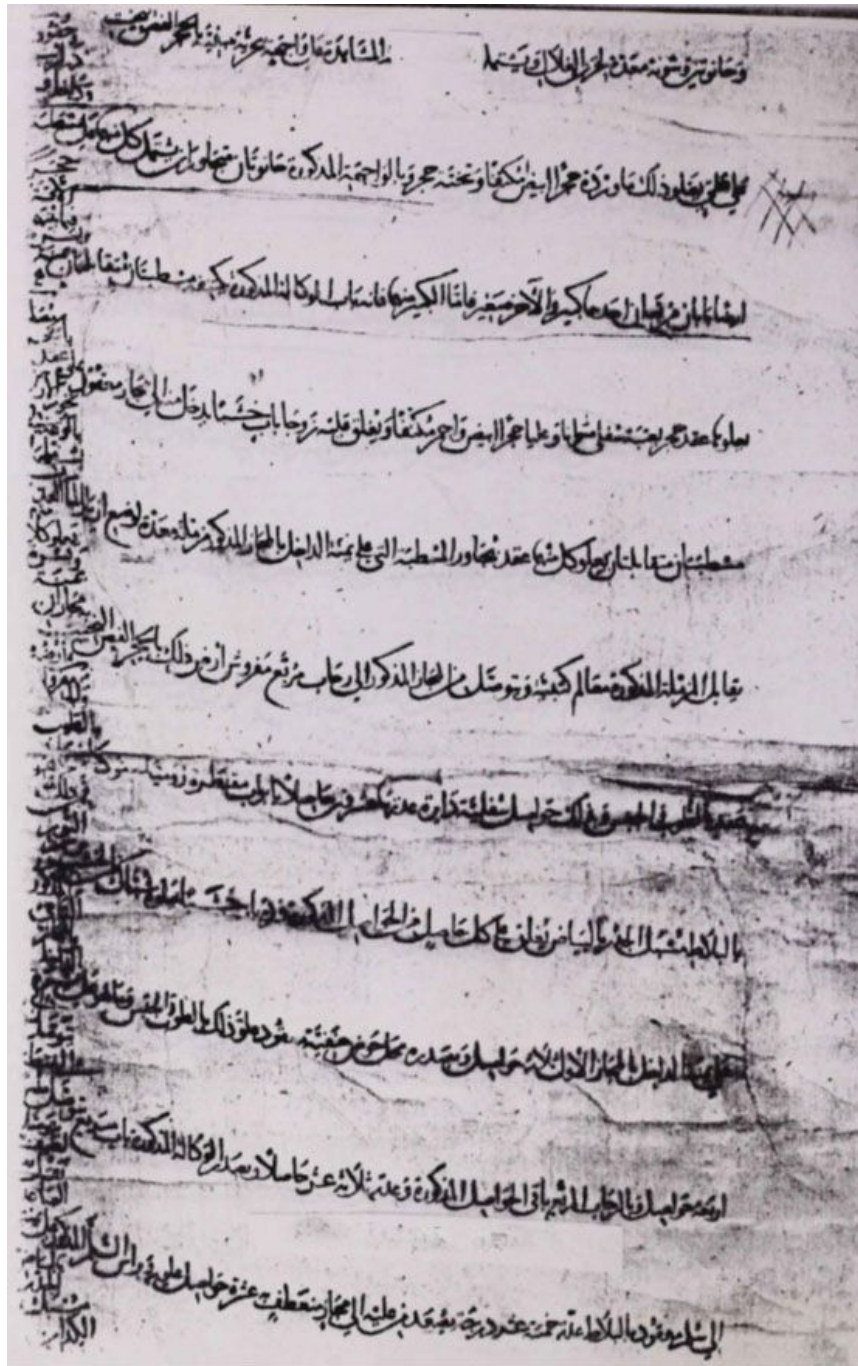


Plate (6) Iskandar Pasha Endowment Document, Document No. 918 Endowments (Quoted from Madiha Salah al-Din)

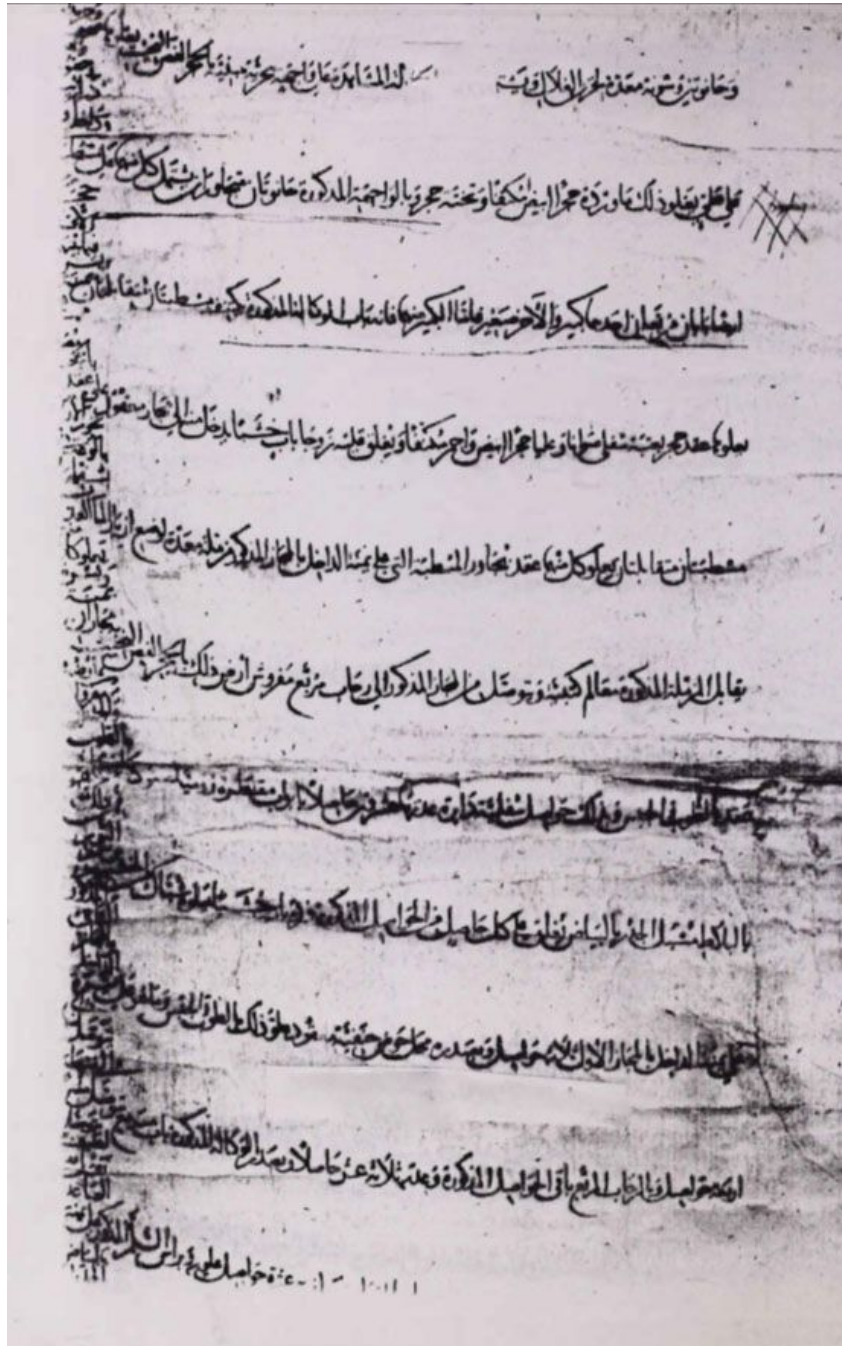


Plate (7) Iskandar Pasha Endowment Document, Document No. 918 Endowments (Quoted from Madiha Salah al-Din)

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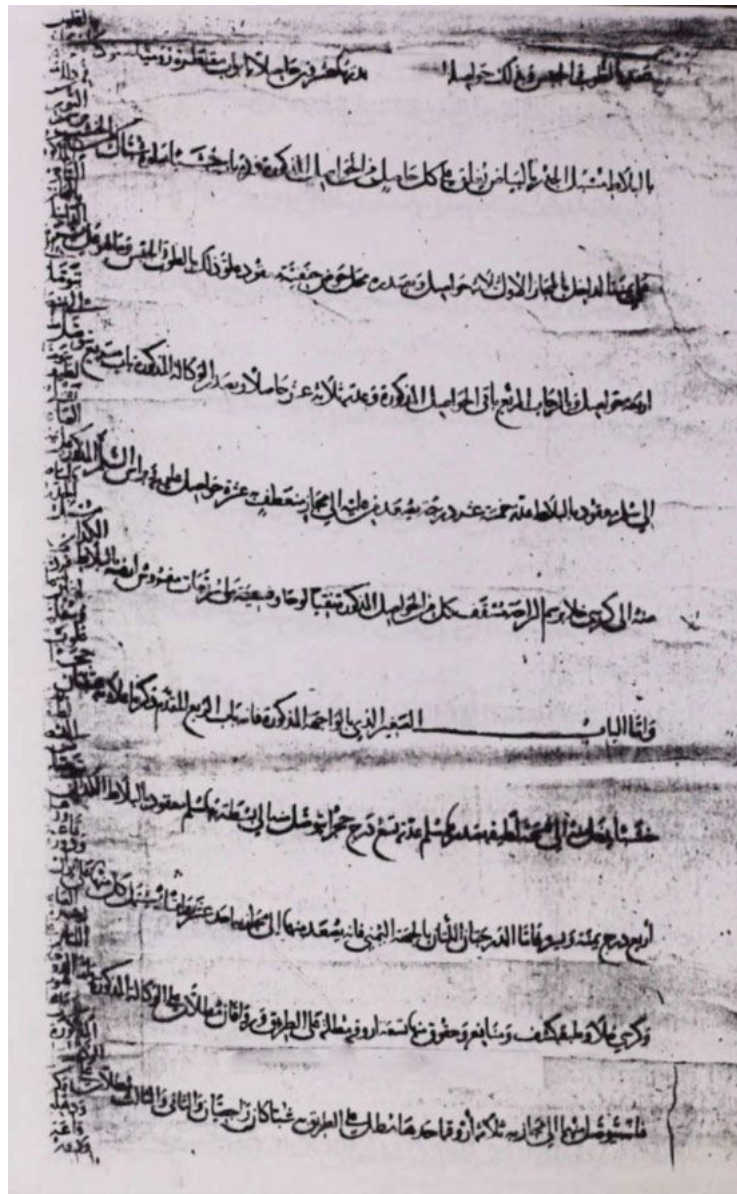


Plate (8) Iskandar Pasha Endowment Document, Document No. 918 Endowments (Quoted from Madiha Salah al-Din)



Plate (9) Iskandar Pasha Endowment Document, Document No. 918 Endowments (Quoted from Madiha Salah al-Din)

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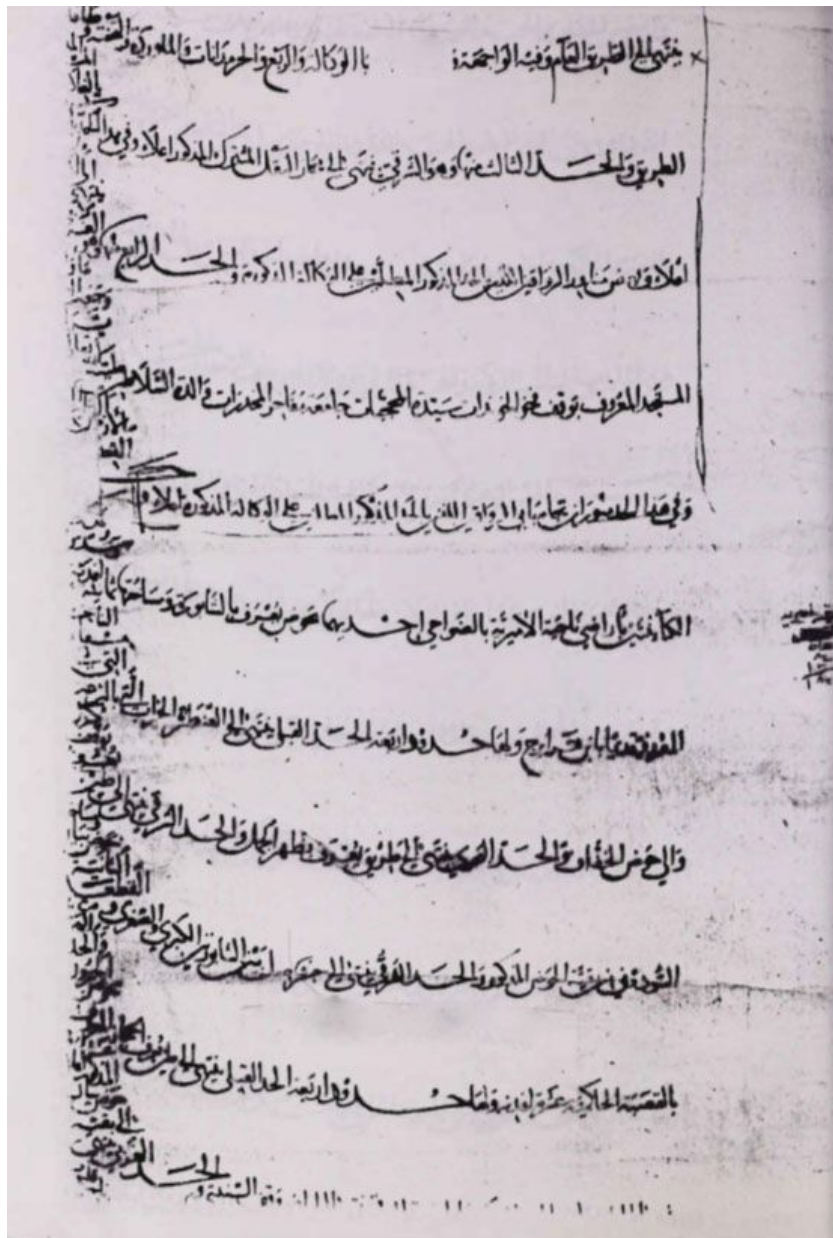


Plate (10) Iskandar Pasha Endowment Document, Document No. 918 Endowments
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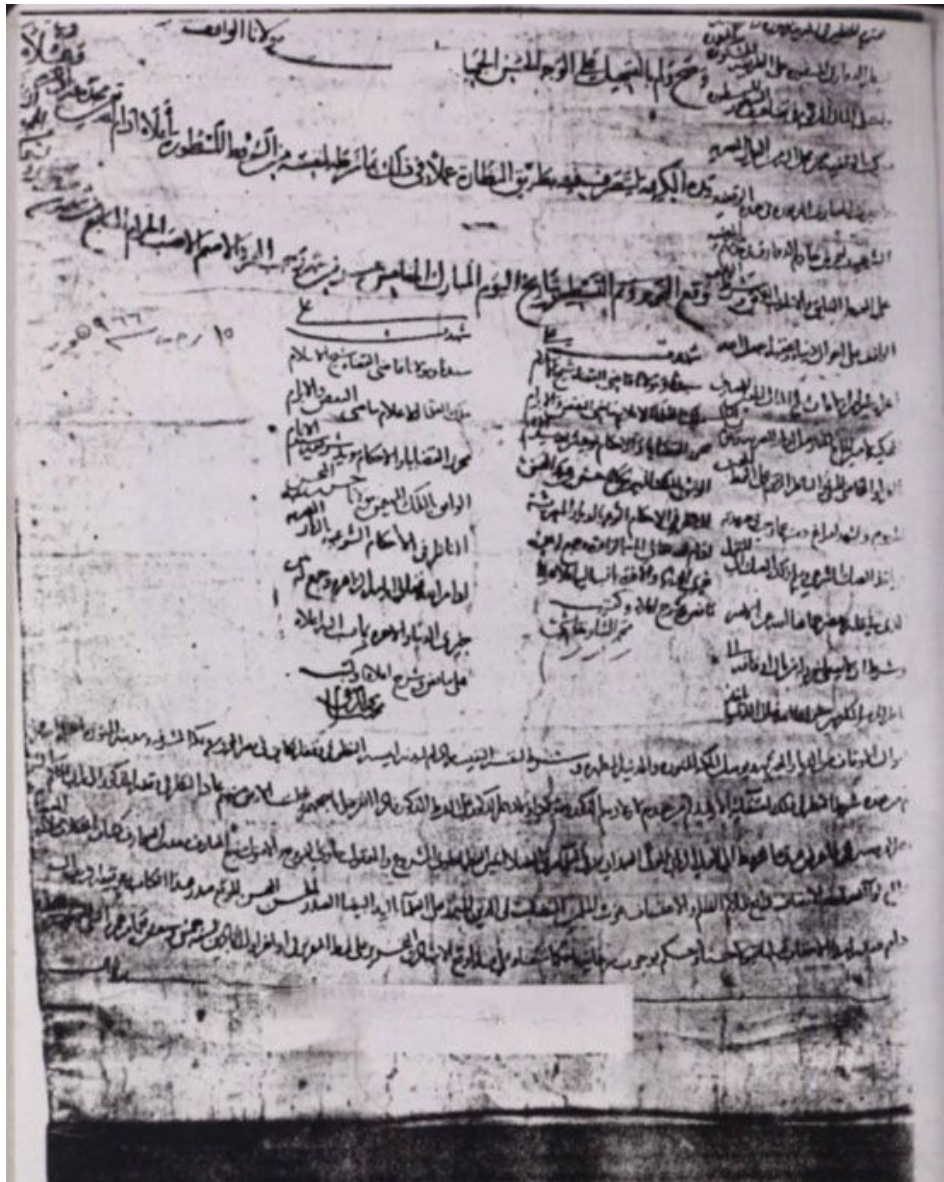


Plate (10) Iskanandar Pasha Endowment Document, Document No. 918 Endowments (Testimones) (Quoted from Madiha Salah al-Din)