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**The Hamadid State**

**Political aspect:**

The Hammadid state is the second state that was established in Algeria during the Islamic era, and the beginning of the emergence of this state occurred when Hammad bin Belkin took over the rule of eastern Algeria by the Zirid prince Badis bin Belkin. Hammad demonstrated great ability in the field of politics and military heroism, and was able to eliminate several revolts against the Zirid state, so he established the citadel in the year 398 AH/1007 AD.

Then he announced his separation from the Zirid state in the year 405 AH/1014 AD, and the pledge of allegiance to the Fatimids was broken and allegiance to the Abbasid Caliphate in Baghdad was declared. The seat of Hammad’s rule was in the citadel at times and Bashir at other times. During the reign of one of his grandsons, Al-Nasir bin Allanas, the seat of Beni Hammad’s rule became Bejaia, and that was in the year 460 AH/1068 AD. The system of government was a monarchy, and the rulers of Beni Hammad were called princes or kings, and the borders of the Hammadid state extended to include the Citadel of Beni Hammad, M’Sila, and Tabna.

**Economic aspect:**

Economic life became active during the reign of the Hammadid state. On the agricultural side, the lands were revived, trees were planted, and the Hammadi focused on growing grains, especially wheat and barley, especially in the areas of Constantine, Beni Hammad castle, Jijel, Bejaia, Tabna, Mitidja, Cherchel, Setif and other areas. They were also interested in growing vineyards in the areas of Tolga, Ngaous, Jijel, and Qolo. Biskra and Tolga were famous for their olives. As for fruits, the most important of them are dates, figs, almonds, apples, and walnuts.

As for industry, various types of minerals were extracted. We find iron in Bouna and Bejaia, silver, lead, and antimony in Majana, and copper in Jijel. In addition to these minerals, we find salt that was extracted from Biskra. As for shipbuilding, it existed in Bejaia.

As for trade, among its most important centers we mention Bejaia, Beni Hammad Castle, Constantine, Tihart, M’Sila and Algiers, and among the most important ports that were present between Bejaia and Bouna we mention the port of Kharouba, Ras Al Hamra, Marsa Al Qal and Jijel.

The Hammadids traded with the Zirids, selling wood to them and exporting coral to the Fatimid state. They had trade relations with Iraq, the Hijaz, the Levant, Yemen, India, China, and with the Almoravids.