



THE ANCIENT SCRIPT OF AL FILAHA AL ANDALUSIA: THE BOOK OF AGRICULTURE, THE GOLDEN GLORY IN ISLAM THE MASTERPIECES OF IBN AWWAM AL ISBILIYA ANDALUSIA 7TH CENTURY HIJRIYAH/12 AD

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Abstract

This research examines the Al Filaha Manuscript, the masterpiece of Ibn Awwam al Isbiliya Andalusia. Goals achieved: present representative, revealing text edits Agriculture The Golden Age of Islam in the 7th Hijriyah / 12th Century AD in the text, and explain the possibility of moral values relevant to present and future life. The methodology used was philological research and data collection tools by observing and recording. The work steps of philological research include: determining research objectives, inventorying manuscripts, observing, describing manuscripts, transliterating manuscripts, editing and translating texts, as well as summarizing the contents of manuscripts and analyzing contents.

The currently under-study manuscript contains texts relevant to agricultural literature, which holds significant importance in the Islamic world. Altogether, the manuscript consists of 34 chapters. A total of 30 chapters explain agriculture, and the last 4 chapters explain animal husbandry farming. This manuscript also describes approximately 585 types of plants and how to plant 50 types of fruit trees. Divided into two parts, among others, The first part, Ibn al-Awwam, systematically explains how to choose land for agricultural land. In the second part, al-Filaha talks about animal husbandry. The content in the text is very relevant in today's life because moral values are relevant to present and future life.

Keyword: Al Filaha, Philology, Islam, Ancient Manuscripts, Agriculture,

INTRODUCTION



Figure 1 Al Filaha Ancient Manuscript

Andalusia became one of the centres of the agricultural revolution during the 12th century, which was a time of rapid development for the agricultural revolution in the Islamic world. The agricultural industry is flourishing thanks to favourable weather conditions and ample water supplies. The economy developed rapidly, and many agricultural experts emerged in Andalusia, including Ibn al-Awwam. Abu Zakariya Yahya ibn Muhammad ibn Ahmad al-Awwam al-Ishbili was a scientist. His full name is Abu Zakariya Yahya ibn Muhammad ibn Ahmad al-Awwam al-Ishbili. He is recognized as the foremost authority in the field of agriculture. The title at the end of his name means Seville because he was born in Seville in Southern Spain in the late 12th century. His birth and death dates are unknown because not much literature about his biography has been found. He is the only agronomist mentioned by the historian Ibn Khaldun in his *Muqaddimah*.

Textual evidence about Ibn Awwam shows that he farmed and conducted successful agricultural experiments in the Aljarafe area west of Seville. He dedicated his life solely to agricultural activities. His work, *Kitab al-Filaha*, is widely known by Andalusian agronomists. First published and translated into Spanish in 1802 by Banqueri and printed in Madrid, then into French in 1864-1867 by Clement-Mullet and printed in Paris, and into Urdu in 1927. According to Sarton in his book *Introduction to the History of Science*, the translation of *al-Filaha* into Spanish and French is incomplete but has recently been revised and republished. Without a doubt,

METHOD

The method comes from the Latin “methodos”, which is a combination of the basic words “meta”, which means through, following, after and “hodos”, which means way, way and direction (Kosasih, 2014). The method addresses work-related issues, specifically how one should go about their labour to understand the object that is the focus of the science at hand. In this sense, the term “methodology” refers to information concerning the many different ways of conducting one's work that the research object of the investigated science can develop. In this research project, a descriptive qualitative approach was taken to analyze the subject matter, a piece of writing. Philological research methods are utilized throughout the process.

DISCUSSION

In Arabic, agriculture, in a broad sense and includes an ideal concept, is represented by the term *al-filāḥah*. Meanwhile, the word *az-zira'ah* represents agriculture in a narrow sense, namely farming and is a process. The word *falah* comes from the word to grow vegetation out of the earth (agriculture). So, the words *filahah* and *falah* have a special meaning relationship. The word *filahah* means cultivation or tillage (cultivating the land). The culprit is called *al-Fallah*, which means husbandman, tiller, of the soil, peasant, or farmer. The word *filahah* comes from the basic word *falaha*, which means to cleave, split, plough, till or cultivate the land, and also means to thrive, prosper, be successful, lucky and happy.

Manuscript al-Filaha or book on agriculture This is one of the agricultural literature that is so important in the Islamic world. Altogether, the manuscript consists of 34 chapters. A total of 30 chapters explain agriculture, and the last 4 chapters explain animal husbandry. This manuscript also describes approximately 585 types of plants and how to plant 50 types of fruit trees. Divided into two parts, among others, The first part, Ibn al-Awwam, systematically explains how to choose land for agricultural land. It predicts soil fertility. Preparation of agricultural land also includes the availability of water sources. Therefore, he pays great attention to the field of hydrology as an integral part of the agricultural sector.

Going into more detail about the soil, it also describes the signs of healthy and damaged soil, how to determine the soil quality and how to find out quickly. Types of soil and how to handle them. How to find out the availability of groundwater and how to know the proximity to water sources. How to prepare and improve soil quality with livestock manure, how to make soil fertilizer, the benefits of livestock manure over time, how to use soil fertilizer, how to repair damaged soil, and understand the types and sources of soil fertilizer.

Understand the types of water and their quality, the type of water that is suitable for each type of plant, and water sources. Garden management techniques, planting trees in dry soil and providing irrigation, how to care for trees, branches and shoots. The technique of planting all kinds of grapes, oranges, lemons, figs and other fruits. Method of pruning branches and selecting them, also pruning shoots and selecting them.

Nursery/seeding techniques, plant multiplication, seed germination, transplantation/grafting and arrangement of soil/media and nursery spacing, handling of plant seeds and matters that need attention from each plant type's seeds.

With the introduction of air conditions, wind and growing season, every farmer needs to know what crops and when to plant them. The introduction of the season mainly concerns temperature and wind and the selection of plants suitable for each season and certain areas. Next, he goes into detail about the conditions (soil, water, wind, temperature, season) suitable for each type of plant, such as olive, pomegranate, carob, almond, cherry, chestnut, walnut, fig, primrose, jasmine, orange, orange, lemon, apple, peach, plum, date, grape, cinnamon, to sugar cane.

As additional references, this article compiles a variety of grafting techniques from the Romans, the Persians, and the Greeks, as well as various types of grafting techniques for all kinds of fruits. Furthermore, it also discusses the stages of plant growth, the needs of each plant at each growth stage and the time associated with each growth stage, the appropriate number/spacing of plants, fertilizing plants, fertilizing time, type and amount of plant fertilizers and plant maintenance. The stages of plant fertilization are also discussed in detail, including how to improve the quantity and quality of the fruit, the need for love in its care, methods of fertilization and irrigation/watering during the fertilization period. Volume One concludes by explaining the post-harvest handling of fruit, seeds and nuts.

In the second part, al-Filaha Script talks about animal husbandry. The discussion covers livestock care, such as sheep, camels, and poultry, how to prevent the spread of germs and much more. Ibn al-Awwam explains how to cure sick livestock. There is a special chapter on horses. In this chapter, Ibn al-Awwam describes caring for and raising horses. Instruction on how to ride a horse while armed or unarmed.



Figure 2; The Ancient Manuscript of al Filaha Agriculture

CONCLUSION

Based on the discussion above, agriculture has an important role in the history of Islamic civilization. The history of agriculture is part of the history of human culture. Agriculture emerges when a society can maintain food availability for itself. In the history of Islamic civilization, several historical records have been written regarding progress in agriculture during its heyday. Among them is written in the Kitab al-Filaha (Book on Agriculture) by a scholar from Andalusia or Spain, Ibnu al-Awwan, explaining many steps to start farming. In his book, the first part describes the selection of good agricultural land, land management before planting, making fertilizer and fertilizing methods, hydrology, irrigation (irrigation), pest eradication, harvesting methods and other matters in terms of agricultural science which became the forerunner of modern agriculture. The second part describes animal husbandry, includes livestock care and maintenance, and, more specifically, discusses horse and bee farming.

In the development of the agricultural sector, there are three stages. First, traditional agriculture with low productivity. Second, the stage of diversification of agricultural products, but capital and technology are still low. Third, the stage of modern agriculture, which has very high productivity. To get to the modern agricultural stage, we need to learn more from history, where Islam reached its peak

of glory in agriculture with the emergence of Muslim scholars who wrote books on agriculture whose books are references to modern agriculture today.

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