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The Political Role of Musa bin Nushair in the Expansion of Islamic Area During the Umayyah Dynasty 85-95 H / 705-715 Ad (Historical Study)

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ABSTRACT

This research is based on the role of Musa bin Nushair in the expansion of Islamic territory during the Umayyad Dynasty in 85-95 H/ 705-715 AD. The main problem in this research is how Musa bin Nushair attempted to expand Islamic territory to North Africa and Andalusia. This type of research is historical research with a character study that uses descriptive qualitative data analysis and relies on four stages of activity, namely heuristics or data collection through library research methods, source criticism, interpretation and historiography. The approaches used are political approaches, religious approaches and sociological approaches, then the data sources used are secondary data sources taken from books, journals, theses, encyclopedias and other sources. Based on research results, it shows that Musa bin Nushair, when he was Governor of North Africa, succeeded in strengthening the pillars of Islam in the region and made his people love Islam. Then Musa bin Nushair and his troops consisting of Arabs and Berber tribes in North Africa conquered Andalusia, which at that time was led by the dictator king, Roderick. They succeeded in conquering Andalusia and the hearts of its inhabitants. When the people of North Africa and Andalusia controlled Islam, they lived in safety and peace.

Keywords : Political, Musa Bin Nushair, North Africa, Andalusia.



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INTRODUCTION

The Umayyad Dynasty was the first dynasty in Islamic history. The Umayyah dynasty was founded in 41 AH/ 661 AD, when Hasan bin Ali bin Abi Talib relinquished his power to Mu'awiyah bin Abi Sufyan, the first caliph of the Umayyah dynasty. The rule of the Umayyad Dynasty lasted for 90 years (41-132 AH/ 661-750 AD), Damascus was used as the center of government and the focus of its government was in the area of expanding its territory (Henny Yusaila, 2021). The Umayyad Dynasty was able to expand its territory and spread the teachings of Islam, so that Islam was embraced by people in the West and East. The Umayyad Dynasty's greatest achievement, which remains in history, was its conquests that encompassed several regions on various continents at that time, including Transoxiana and Sindh (present-day Pakistan) in Asia, the northern African continent, and the Iberian Peninsula in Europe. The Umayyad Caliphs succeeded in uniting society under the auspices of Islam and living in a state of peace and prosperity (Khairo Ummatin, 2021).

This territorial expansion was driven by the spirit of preaching and Islamization, which later became the driving force, protector, and supporter of the civilization of the conquered territories. Islamic fighters demonstrated themselves as virtuous leaders, thus winning the hearts of the native population and converting them to Islam. The peak of the Umayyad Dynasty's territorial expansion occurred during the reign of Caliph Al-Walid ibn Abdul Malik (Walid I), the sixth caliph. During his reign, the entire North African region was united under the auspices of Islam, and the Iberian Peninsula was conquered by Muslim forces. This was the greatest achievement during the reign of Al-Walid I, thus his era was called the era of widespread victory. The achievements achieved during the reign of Al-Walid I were inseparable from the role of Islamic commanders who took part in the battlefield with the spirit of jihad

fisabilillah. One of the commanders who contributed to this territorial expansion was Musa ibn Nushair, who contributed to the expansion of territory in North Africa and Andalusia.

Musa bin Nushair was born in 19 H, his growth period was related to the beginning of the wave of conquest in Islam, from childhood he had heard the story of Muslim heroes, and when his father was given the task of leading the guard troops of Caliph Mu'awiyah and they lived in the environment of the Caliphs, Musa bin Nushair received many lessons related to political and war matters. Musa bin Nushair's track record in the political and military map of Islam began when he led the naval forces in the conquest of the island of Cyprus with Mu'awiyah bin Abi Sofyan in 28 H. Musa bin Nushair was once assigned as a kharaj officer (tax collector) in Basrah. Then Musa bin Nushair was assigned as commander and Governor for the North African region in 85 H replacing Hasan bin Nu'man. Musa shouldered two tasks, namely the task of managing and organizing the situation and the task of conquest. Thanks to the efforts of Musa bin Nushair, North Africa succeeded in becoming part of the Islamic region as a whole. Musa bin Nushair with his enthusiasm and courage was able to stop the fire of conflict in North Africa, secure Islamic bases, and succeeded in growing Islam in the hearts of the African people. Before Musa bin Nushair was sent to North Africa, several Islamic commanders had succeeded in entering and controlling the North African region, but the North African population, which was mostly Berber, always rebelled against the Islamic leaders in the area, even the population had apostatized more than once (Ashraf, M., Saeed, H., Saleem, Z., Rathore, H. A., Rasool, F., Tahir, E., Bhatti, T., Khalid, J., Bhatti, I., & Tariq, A. 2019).

Under the command of Musa ibn Nushair, this region was completely conquered and rebellions like those that occurred in the past were successfully suppressed. Musa ibn Nushair carried out his duties as governor wisely so that he was liked by the people of North Africa. In a short time they embraced Islam, Jamil Ahmad in his book entitled *One Hundred Leading Muslims* said: The patience and equality, chivalry and brotherhood, justice and tolerance, shown by the new ruler towards the conquered nations, truly captivated their hearts so that in a short time all the Berbers embraced Islam. The name Musa bin Nushair is also known in the expansion of the Islamic region to Andalusia with Tharif bin Malik and Thariq bin Ziyad in 92 H / 711 AD. Before Islam entered Andalusia, this region was controlled by the Gothic people, the King who ruled before the arrival of Islam was King Roderick. He proclaimed himself king after successfully overthrowing the power of Witiza. This event resulted in the emergence of a separatist movement in the land of Andalusia which continued until the arrival of Islam in Andalusia. Andalusia at that time adopted a class system, starting from the noble class, religious, middle class and lower class.

In 710 AD, Musa bin Nushair sent Tharif bin Malik with 500 soldiers to investigate the situation in Andalusia, then in 711 AD Musa bin Nushair prepared 7000 soldiers under the command of Thariq bin Ziyad to conquer Andalusia. The entry of Islam in Andalusia was a blessing for the Andalusian people and opened a new era for this country. Freedom of religion was recognized, tolerance and brotherhood were upheld, thus the people of Andalusia lived in a state of happiness and prosperity. The history of Islamic civilization in mainland Europe began with this conquest, then succeeded in achieving a glorious civilization that is eternal in history. Therefore, the author considers it important to examine Musa ibn Nushair, one of the Islamic heroes who played a role in the expansion of Islamic territory during the Umayyad Dynasty. His spirit and courage successfully influenced the development of Islam. He successfully conquered North Africa, a land of rebels, and its inhabitants submitted and obeyed under his rule. Andalusia, a land of oppression by its rulers, was transformed into a just and prosperous nation, and later became a center of civilization for other European nations.

RESEARCH METHODS

The research method used by the author in this study is the historical method, namely research that attempts to study, understand, and interpret past events, with the aim of achieving insight or conclusions about people or past events, which is done by critically examining and analyzing the problem being studied. This method is based on four stages of activity, namely: Heuristics, Source Criticism, Interpretation, and Historiography. The approaches used in this study are: Political Approach, Religious Approach, and Sociological Approach.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Biography Of Musa Bin Nushair

Musa bin Nushair, an Islamic commander known as the conqueror of the Western region, he was a superior commander, full of piety and piety. In his hands, North Africa succeeded in becoming a country with a strong Muslim position. From North Africa, Islam then crossed to Andalusia in 711 AD. His full name was Musa bin Nushair bin Abdurrahman bin Yazid. He was born in Kufr Metra (Syam) in 19 H/640 AD. Musa bin Nushair's growth period is related to the beginning of the wave of conquest in Islam. Musa bin Nushair grew up and developed in the Palace environment so that he knew many stories of Muslim heroes and received lessons related to political science and war. His father, Nushair bin Abdurrahman bin Yazid, was one of Mu'awiyah's trusted men. He received an important position in the government, namely the personal bodyguard of Mu'awiyah bin Abu Sufyan. Musa bin Nushair came from an Arab ethnic group affiliated with the Bakr bin Wail Ar-Rabi'ah tribe. This tribe was quite famous among the Arabs, because it had been involved in the Basous war, a war that took place 40 years before the arrival of Islam between the Bakr and Taghlib tribes.

Since a young age, Musa bin Nushair's brave soul and leadership talent were already visible, so Mu'awiyah bin Abi Sufyan assigned Musa as the commander of the troops in the conquest of Cyprus in 28 H. The Battle of Cyprus marked the beginning of the emergence of commander Musa bin Nushair in the political and military map of the Umayyad Dynasty. During the reign of the Umayyad Dynasty, Musa bin Nushair received an important position in the government. Regarding Musa bin Nushair's position in the government, Muhammad Mahmud Al-Qadhi in his book entitled 10 Heroes of the Spread of Islam said: Musa bin Nushair's star shone brightly in the sky of the Umayyad state and had a high position in the souls of all family members. In 65 H Musa served as a personal advisor to the Governor of Egypt Abdul Aziz bin Marwan, then in 73 H he was assigned as a kharaj officer in Basrah during the era of Governor Basyr bin Marwan and was appointed as Governor and commander of the war for the North African region in 85 H / 705 AD. In 91 H / 711 AD Musa bin Nushair expanded the territory to Andalusia. The expansion of the territory to Andalusia was the dream of the Muslims since the leadership of Uthman bin Affan, but the Muslims did not succeed in entering Andalusia except during the time Musa bin Nushair served as Governor of North Africa. Musa bin Nushair died in 97 H / 716 AD in Wadil Qubra at the age of nearly 80 years. The body of Musa bin Nushair was buried in Mecca because at that time they were on their way to perform the Hajj pilgrimage with Caliph Sulaiman bin Abdul Malik.

North Africa Before Islam

North Africa is a region located in the Nile River Valley, in the northeastern part of the African continent. North Africa includes Algeria, Tunisia, Morocco, and Libya. In Arabic terminology, the regions included in North Africa include al-Misir (modern-day Egypt), Libya, Cyrene, Tripolitania, and Tunisia; the Arabs named this entire region Africa. Algeria and Morocco, on the other hand, were called al-Maghrib. North Africa now encompasses the countries of Libya, Algeria, Morocco, Tunisia, and the islands north of Mauritania. North Africa is bordered by the Mediterranean Sea and the Strait of Gibraltar to the north, the Sahara Desert to the south, the Atlantic Ocean to the west, and the Indian Ocean and the Red Sea to the east. In the 6th century BC, the Phoenicians successfully controlled North Africa from Morocco to Libya. Then, the Romans arrived and destroyed Carthage in the 5th century BC, ending Phoenician rule in the region and transferring control to the Romans. The Romans ruled North Africa for a long time, until the empire experienced conflict and division in the mid-5th century AD (Goergen, C. 2021).

This event provided an opportunity for the Vandals to seize Tripoli, a prosperous province of the Roman Empire. The Vandals ruled North Africa for approximately a century until Byzantium (Eastern Rome) rose and reclaimed power from the Vandals in 533 CE. Therefore, Byzantium became the last ruler of North Africa before the arrival of Islam. They were known as a cruel, oppressive, and bloody superpower. North African political life was heavily influenced by the Byzantine political legacy that developed at that time. The influence of colonial imperialism and inter-ethnic conflict cannot be ignored. Byzantine rulers levied arbitrary taxes. These taxes ranged from a per capita tax, to a tax on clothing, household goods, and even a tax on the dead. This tax system was truly burdensome for the people at the time. The political style implemented was a centralized form of power, with the establishment of a governorate structure within the region. They tended to play a political role in power

through intimidation and lived under colonial conditions, with corrupt governments, rampant bribery, and suppressed social justice. The Roman Empire, centered in Rome, used Africa as a defensive zone to defend Egypt in case of attack.

Before the Muslim conquest of North Africa, the region, particularly its coastal areas, was under Roman rule. These coastal areas were governed by Roman military units stationed there. Meanwhile, the Sahara desert and the agricultural areas extending to the Atlantic coast in the west and the Sudan in the south, according to Ibn Khaldun, were independent states. They were led by kings, leaders, and emirs from among the Berber people themselves. Neither the Romans nor other Europeans were able to take over leadership. The social life of the Muslim North African people adhered to a tribal, nomadic, and patriarchal system. They adhered to the Watsani faith, much like the Arabs of the Jahiliyyah period. North Africans also believed in magic. Society was divided into several tribes, not united despite being of the same ethnic group.

In religious life, the population of North Africa before Islam was predominantly Christian. Christianity developed after Europeans arrived in North Africa. When Europeans colonized North Africa, they prohibited people from openly performing religious rituals and urged people to embrace Christianity. Disputes over religious understanding often occurred in North Africa at that time, bishops were neglected, and priests were treated harshly. New religious sects continued to emerge, such as the Jacobite sect and the sect brought by Heraclius. These new sects made Christianity confusing and difficult for the people to understand. North Africa before Islam was a region in decay, both politically, socially, and religiously. This condition was caused by the colonial mentality of the rulers at that time who prioritized personal interests. Therefore, the people of North Africa developed hatred of the Byzantines and anti-news or foreigners. This was evident in the early days of the Muslims' entry into the region, where they often resisted due to the negative experiences they had endured during centuries of successive European rule.

North Africa During the Islamic Era

The Islamic conquest of North Africa was first carried out by Amr ibn al-As at the end of the reign of Umar ibn al-Khattab. Amr ibn al-As successfully conquered Barqah and Tripolitania (Libya). This success led to a large number of North Africans converting to Islam. However, the Romans were dissatisfied with this situation and carried out propaganda inciting the Berbers. The Romans spread the slander that Muslims would expel the Berbers from Africa, leading to various Berber rebellions and even apostasy from those who had converted to Islam. North Africa, from its first Islamic conquest, was a region of unrest, until it was led by Musa ibn Nusayr, a superior commander whose troops were undefeated. When Islam arrived in North Africa, the region was under the rule of the Roman Empire, a colonial empire that controlled various countries and diverse human groups.

After Islam arrived in North Africa, the region was heavily influenced by Arab and Islamic culture, particularly in linguistic terms. The spread of Islam by Muslim rulers made Arabic the official language used by Muslim communities in various regions, such as North Africa. Conquest in Islam was not merely for political expansion, but also for preaching. Islam spread rapidly across various regions and was accompanied by changes that brought progress to the conquered areas. Islam is a religion that excels in tolerance; its leaders are characterized by compassion and rule with justice. Islam embraces the ideology of liberation, especially in terms of religious choice. This freedom of choice is what differentiates Islam from the religions brought by the Romans, allowing the population to accept Islam well. Muslim politics is based on an elastic and flexible attitude. The hallmarks of the Muslim system of government are guaranteeing security and conducting affairs properly, to realize the welfare and goodness of society.

Conditions in Andalusia Before the Arrival of Islam

Before the Islamic conquest, Andalusia was ruled by the Phoenicians, Carthaginians, Romans, Vandals, and then by the Visigoths for approximately two centuries. The Visigothic Kingdom adopted a system of deliberative elections to determine its king. This election was based on the decisions of the nobility and church figures. The nobility and church figures wielded strong influence in the government. One year before the Islamic conquest of Andalusia, Roderick staged a coup against the Visigothic kingdom and deposed King Witiza, thus Roderick became the new king of Andalusia in 710 AD. So when the Muslims conquered Andalusia, the country was led by Roderick. His reign lasted only one

year and was unstable. Andalusia entered its worst phase, due to a coup d'état carried out by Roderick. Archila, Witiza's heir, and Roderick struggled to seize the leadership seat. Political divisions ensued, with society divided, some supporting Roderick as king and others supporting Archila. During Roderick's reign, Andalusia experienced various upheavals and social breakdowns. This was the result of a broken social and power system. The rulers controlled the country's wealth and property, while the people lived in poverty and destitution. The Visigothic rulers ruled with great cruelty. The lower classes were burdened with very heavy taxes. Politically, Andalusia before the arrival of the Muslims was in a state of disunity, with a broken government system, and oppressive leaders. The Andalusian population experienced social decay.

The rulers implemented policies for personal satisfaction, while the people lived in misery and suffering, a condition very different from the conditions in Islamic regions at that time. Ameer Ali in a quote from Imaduddin said: While Africa (West and East) enjoyed comfort in terms of material, togetherness, justice, and prosperity, its neighbors in the Spanish Peninsula were in a miserable state under the rule of the Visigothic ruler's sage. In addition to these depraved policies, the condition of women was also threatened, they were threatened with rape or taken to the palace to become the King's concubines or concubines for the King's subordinate officials. As a result of this inhumane oppression, the people of Andalusia lived in fear. From a social perspective, the people of Andalusia were a corrupt society. They adhered to a class system according to their social background.

Andalusia is known as a region inhabited by a large Christian majority from the Visigothic Kingdom, renowned for its strong military system. This kingdom held a long-standing sway over Andalusia, influencing various aspects, including politics and economics. Every level of society, except the Jews, was Catholic, a religion mandated by Church leaders. They prohibited the spread of other religions in Andalusia. Jews were forced to convert to Christianity. Those who resisted were brutally tortured and killed. The Visigothic rulers' intolerance and various forms of persecution against adherents of other religions in their territory led many to betrayal by siding with the Muslims.

Conditions in Andalusia During the Islamic Era

Since the Muslims entered Andalusia in 711 CE, the Andalusian people welcomed them warmly. This was due to internal factors in Andalusia at the time, namely the division and breakdown of the government system. Islam was a blessing for the Andalusian people, who were oppressed by the cruelty of the Visigothic rulers. They discovered that Islam was a perfect and comprehensive religion that regulated all human affairs, including systems and legislation in politics, law, trade, agriculture, and social transactions. When Islam took control, the capital of Andalusia was moved to Cordoba. Under Islamic rule, caste system in Andalusia was abolished, and rulers and subjects had equal rights. The people were granted religious freedom, and they lived peacefully under Islamic rule.

The history of Islamic civilization in mainland Europe began with this conquest, and they subsequently achieved a glorious civilization that will last forever. The arrival of Islam in Andalusia was a blessing for the country. Islam, which triumphed for approximately eight centuries (92-797 H/711-1492 AD), successfully transformed Andalusia into a civilized land. Abdussyafi Muhammad Abdul Latif said: When Andalusia was ruled by Islam, it became the only place that illuminated Europe in its pitch-dark medieval times.

The Conquest of North Africa

The Muslim conquest of North Africa began at the end of the reign of Caliph Umar ibn al-Khattab. This conquest began with Amr ibn al-As's military campaign against Egypt, which was then under Byzantine occupation. The conquest of Egypt occurred at the end of 18 AH and took three years to complete. Amr ibn al-As then moved towards the western Egyptian border in the Barqah and Tripolitania regions, both of which are part of North Africa. This conquest marked the first step for the Muslims to enter North Africa. Regarding the conquest of North Africa, there are two factors that motivated the Muslims' desire to conquer it:

1. The North African region includes the western border of Egypt.
2. North Africa was a region controlled by Byzantium.

As historically depicted, Byzantium was the sworn enemy of the Muslims and posed a threat to the existence of Islam in Egypt. Therefore, Amr ibn al-As conquered the western border regions of Egypt, namely Barqah and Tripoli. These two regions were successfully controlled by Islam in 22 AH,

but this rule was short-lived, as the Byzantines recaptured them and mobilized their populations to fight the Muslims. The conquest of North Africa, from its initial conquest to its becoming an integral part of the Umayyad Dynasty, took approximately 60 years (22-85 AH / 644-704 CE). Starting from the time of Caliph Umar bin al-Khattab, commander Amru bin al-Ash succeeded in occupying Barqah and Tripoli, then during the time of Mu'awiyah bin Abu Sufyan he sent Mu'awiyah bin Hudajj to conquer Ifriqiyyah but he failed, the next conquest was led by commander Uqbah bin Nafi'. He achieved a major victory in conquest and succeeded in occupying Ifriqiyyah, inviting its residents to embrace Islam and building a city called Qayrawan as a defense base for the Muslims.

The various victories achieved by the Muslims apparently provoked resentment from the Byzantines, they incited the people of North Africa and spread slander that the Muslims would expel them from the land of North Africa so that various rebellion movements emerged in North Africa, both rebellions from the Berbers and from the Byzantines. The rebellion of the Berbers and the Byzantines resulted in the murder of Uqbah bin Nafi' then he was replaced by Hassan bin Nu'man al-Gassani. Then during the leadership of Caliph al-Walid bin Abdul Malik a commander was appointed who was tasked with organizing and managing the situation in North Africa, as well as perfecting the conquest of the region. He was Musa bin Nusayr, a commander who was then able to bring North Africa to become part of Islam completely, under his leadership the Berbers submitted and obeyed until they became part of the Muslim army in the next conquest.

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Musa ibn Nusayr's primary mission was to strengthen the pillars of Islam in North Africa. To succeed, he first sought to understand the reasons why the people of that region were constantly rebelling. Musa ibn Nusayr discovered that his predecessors had conquered North Africa quickly and intruded too far, neglecting to provide a secure base for the areas they conquered. The region's inhabitants also had not yet properly studied or understood Islam. Musa ibn Nusayr carried out his conquests calmly and cautiously, advancing one step at a time while maintaining the security of the territories he left behind. While conquering, he also taught and understood Islam to the Berbers by assigning groups of preachers to teach Islam in each region they conquered. Musa ibn Nusayr conducted an operation to clear the Roman army and its collaborators. This operation began with securing the Ifriqiyyah region. Musa believed that if Ifriqiyyah was successfully conquered, the conquest of the entire North African region would be guaranteed. He then sent Abdullah al-Khasayni to the fortress of Zaghwan and its surroundings, Abdurrahman ibn Musa ibn Nusayr to the outskirts of Qairawan, and Marwan ibn Musa ibn Nusayr to secure other areas in North Africa. The next target was Algeria. Musa ibn Nusayr then sent 1,000 cavalry under the command of Iyasy ibn Akhil to attack the Hawwarah and Zannatah tribes. These two tribes were among the strongest Berber tribes that rebelled. Eventually, the two tribes asked for peace. Meanwhile, the Katamah tribe, a tribe living in the Dar'ah valley, first met Musa and asked for peace. Then Musa and his troops headed for the Senhaja tribe. Musa appointed Iyad bin Uqbah bin Nafi' as commander of the troops to crush the dissidents from this tribe (Bendien, E., Kruijthoff, D. J., van der Kooi, C., Glas, G., & Abma, T. 2023).

Musa ibn Nusayr also sent his son Marwan and a number of troops to carry out a mission to clear the enemy's enclave in Saus al-Aqsa, located on the coast of the Atlantic Ocean, and sent Zur'ah ibn Abu Madrak to confront the Mashamidah tribe. Musa ibn Nusayr assigned seventeen thousand Arabs among the Mashamidah tribes to teach them the Qur'an and Islamic law. After successfully conquering the regions of Algeria and Morocco, Musa ibn Nusayr then moved to Thanja (Tangier) and succeeded in conquering it. To lead the Thanja region, Musa ibn Nusayr appointed Tariq ibn Ziyad as leader for the region. To teach Islam to the people of Thanja, Musa ibn Nusayr left seventeen thousand Arabs and twelve thousand Berbers as teachers of the Qur'an and religious knowledge. Musa and his

army conquered all of North Africa except for one city, Sabtah (Cueta), which was controlled by Julian. This city was well-protected, surrounded by walls, towers, and high fortifications. After successfully conquering all of North Africa, it turned out that there were still maritime dangers that Musa and his Muslim army could not avoid, because the Romans still had ambitions to control North Africa. They continued to fight the Muslims and shake the existence of Islam by providing assistance to their Berber spies. To close this gap, Musa decided to start building an Islamic fleet to guard the borders of the Islamic state from the Mediterranean Sea. Musa ibn Nushair enlivened Tunisia and expanded the shipbuilding factory, then built a canal connecting the port of Raus and the city of Raus for the anchorage of Muslim ships.

Musa ibn Nusayr directed the Muslim naval forces from Tunisia to pursue the Romans at their military bases on the islands of Majorca and Menorca, located near Spain. The Muslim fleets succeeded in conquering these islands. They also succeeded in capturing the island of Quishura, located opposite Africa. Thus, Musa ibn Nusayr's efforts to establish and strengthen the pillars of Islam in North Africa, he succeeded in controlling this region while it was still burning with conflict. In approximately six years, Allah completed the conquest of North Africa through Musa ibn Nusayr. The Muslims' kind treatment of the North African population had a significant impact on the spread of Islam. People flocked to Islam and competed to raise the flag of Islam. Thus, North Africa was transformed into an Islamic land.

The Conquest of Andalusia

Musa ibn Nusayr was ambitious in his wars and conquests, and in every conquest he led, his troops were always victorious. His greatest success was the conquest of North Africa. From North Africa, the Muslims then advanced to Andalusia. The conquest of North Africa could be said to be the first step for the Muslims in conquering Andalusia. The conquest of Andalusia was a long-standing Muslim idea. Since the time of Caliph Uthman ibn Affan, Muslim armies had entered this region several times, but they were unable to control it. When Al-Walid I became Caliph, he appointed Musa ibn Nusayr as Governor of North Africa. Musa ibn Nusayr's ambition was to conquer the region bordering North Africa by sea: Andalusia. This conquest took place in 89 AH/711 CE. Regarding the background to the conquest of Andalusia, several factors motivated the Muslims to conquer it, namely:

- a) The Muslims and the Spanish Christians were engaged in a war. The North African coast had been attacked several times by the Andalusian people. They conspired and assisted Byzantium in attacking the Muslim forces.
- b) Julian's request, the Gothic ruler of Septum. The power struggle between the heirs of Witiza and Roderick resulted in the division of Andalusian society, the cruelty and greed of the rulers, and intolerance in religious life. Therefore, Julian, as a representative of the Andalusian community, asked for help from the Muslims to save and liberate the Andalusian people from the exploitation and humiliation of the Gothic rulers.

Islam entered Andalusia through conquest, namely Islamization using political channels. The arrival of Islam in Andalusia was linked to the focus of the Umayyad Dynasty in Damascus, namely the expansion of its territory or the policy of expansion. The conquest of Andalusia occurred in 710-714 CE, precisely after the Muslims under the command of Musa ibn Nusayr successfully conquered North Africa. Musa ibn Nusayr then intended to cross the Strait of Gibraltar to spread Islam to Europe. To enter Andalusia, the Muslims needed preparation and information about the conditions in Andalusia at that time. Therefore, Musa ibn Nusayr sent Tharif ibn Malik and 500 soldiers as a reconnaissance force. Tharif ibn Malik and his troops set out for Andalusia in the month of Ramadan in 91 AH/710 CE in four large boats. They landed on the Andalusian coast parallel to Tangier, where they later named Tharif Island (Ben-Zeev, D., Meller, S., Snyder, J., Attah, D. A., Albright, L., Le, H., Asafo, S. M., Collins, P. Y., & Ofori-Atta, A. 2021).

After an investigation carried out by Tharif bin Malik, Musa bin Nushair prepared 7,000 troops consisting of Arab and Barbarian soldiers. This army was led by Tariq bin Ziyad. They departed in the month of Rajab 92 H/711 AD, Tariq and his troops stopped at a mountain which is now known as Jabal Tariq or Gibraltar. Then Tariq bin Ziyad headed for Jazirah Al-Khadhra (Green Island), where the Muslim troops fought with Christian troops from Southern Andalusia. Tariq bin Ziyad first offered three options that had been exemplified by the Prophet Muhammad and his companions, namely the offer to convert to Islam, pay the jizyah and go to war. The Christian protector of Andalusia chose to

go to war, so a battle broke out between the two armies. In this battle the Muslim troops managed to achieve victory. The Muslims carried out conquest after conquest until they succeeded in taking control of Cartagena. The Muslims then headed to the Barbate Valley, where they fought against Roderick and his army. The Muslim army at that time numbered around 12,000 troops, while Roderick's army numbered 100,000. On 28 Ramadan 92 H / July 19, 711 AD, a battle took place between the Muslim army and Roderick's army. This battle lasted for eight days, and the Muslim army remained the victorious leader. Muslim expansion continued to important cities, such as Cordova, Granada, Malaga, Tudmir, Jaen, and Toledo. Upon arriving in Toledo, Tariq found the place empty. Its inhabitants had fled to the city of Lamaya. Then Tariq bin Ziyad led his army to Castille and Leon, they succeeded in driving out the remnants of the Visigoth army to Astariqah. However, Tariq bin Ziyad's achievements made Musa bin Nushair anxious, he worried about the safety of the Muslim army that had penetrated far into the capital of Andalusia while the security of other cities was not guaranteed. So Musa bin Nushair sent a letter to Thariq to rest and wait for him in Toledo.

Musa ibn Nushair set out for Toledo in the month of Ramadan in the year 93 AH with 18,000 troops. Musa ibn Nushair took a different route from Tariq ibn Ziyad, by entering Andalusia from the West. The route taken by Musa ibn Nushair was a route to a region that had not yet been conquered by Tariq ibn Ziyad. He did this in an effort to protect Tariq ibn Ziyad's troops, because at that time Tariq's troops had entered far into the capital of Andalusia, while there were still many cities in Andalusia whose security was not guaranteed and they had not yet been conquered. On the way to Toledo, Musa ibn Nushair conquered several regions, such as Syadzunah, Cormuna, Sevilla and Maridah. He also sent Abdul Aziz ibn Musa ibn Nushair to conquer the western region of Andalusia, which is now known as Portugal. Abdul Aziz ibn Musa ibn Nushair managed to reach Lisbon and conquer the cities in the northern part.

Then Musa ibn Nushair rushed to Toledo to join the Muslim army commanded by Tariq ibn Ziyad. They devised a plan to complete the conquest of Andalusia, then directed their troops towards the Aragon region. From Aragon they then conquered Zaragoza, Taragona, Barcelona and other cities. After conquering these cities, the two then divided their forces. Musa ibn Nushair led his troops to move north through the Pyrenees mountains, Septimania, Carcasona, Narbona, the Rhone valley and the city of Lyon in France. Meanwhile, Tariq ibn Ziyad, he moved towards the West of Andalusia to attack the remnants of the Visigoth army in Galicia. The conquest of Andalusia lasted for four years, namely from 91-95 AH / 710-714 AD, the Muslim army managed to control almost the entire Andalusian region, except for one city in northwest Andalusia, the city of Shakrah. This city was inhabited by a large group of Christians who became the forerunners of the rise of Christian power in Andalusia several centuries later and made Islam once again foreign in the country.

CONCLUSION

Musa ibn Nusayr's full name was Musa ibn Nusayr ibn Abdurrahman ibn Zaid. He was born during the reign of Caliph Umar ibn al-Khattab in 19 AH/640 CE in Kufr Metra (Sham), and died in 97 AH/716 CE in Wadil Qubra at the age of nearly 80. He was an Islamic warlord who contributed to the conquest of North Africa and Andalusia. Musa ibn Nusayr's family was of Arab descent affiliated with the Bakr ibn Wail al-Rabi'ah clan. Musa ibn Nusayr held a prominent position in the Umayyad Dynasty. In 65 AH, Musa served as a personal advisor to the Governor of Egypt, Abdul Aziz ibn Marwan. Then, in 73 AH, he was assigned as a kharaj officer in Basrah and was appointed Governor of North Africa in 85 AH. Before Musa bin Nushair, several Islamic commanders had been sent to North Africa, such as Uqbah bin Nafi', Abul Muhajir Dinar, Zuhair bin Qais and Hassan bin Nu'man, but North Africa remained the center of rebellion until later Musa bin Nushair was sent as commander and governor of North Africa. With his hands this region was able to be conquered perfectly. After achieving success in the conquest of North Africa, Musa bin Nusair then prepared an army to conquer Andalusia.

The conquest of Andalusia occurred in two stages, the first was the investigation stage, in 710 AD Musa sent Tharif bin Malik along with 500 troops to investigate the Andalusia region. Second, the conquest stage by sending Thariq bin Ziyad with 7000 troops in 711 AD. The conquest commanded by Thariq bin Ziyad was a great success, they were able to control the capital of Andalusia, namely Toledo and several other important cities. North Africa and Andalusia before Islam were regions facing dire conditions. North Africa was ruled by Byzantium, a colonial superpower. North Africans lived in a divided tribal society. Andalusia, meanwhile, was ruled by the Visigoths. They adhered to a class

system that resulted in a society ruled by the rule of the jungle. Religious freedom was suppressed, and the rulers imposed Christianity on the people and prohibited the practice of other religions. The Visigoths ruled with extreme cruelty, leaving the people in poverty. The arrival of Islam in these two regions was a blessing, bringing security, peace, and prosperity to their people. Islam brought peace, attracting people to embrace it.

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