

5. A prevalent practice noted in various documents is the encouragement of fasting during Ramadan by endowers. This reflects a religious conviction that highlights the virtuous competition of philanthropists in giving and charity during the blessed month Ramadan.
6. The documents reveal a wealth of information about individuals, families, scientists, writers, places, terminology, social customs, administrative and financial organizations, and security, providing crucial insight for historians, genealogists, and researchers interested in the scientific movement in Najd and specifically Ushaiqer.
7. The documents shed light on various tools utilized in Ushaiqer, including measurement tools, currencies, agricultural and irrigation equipment, cooking utensils, offering a glimpse into the societal lifestyle of that era.
8. The documented endowments vary in size (large, medium, small) and type (date palms, houses, machinery), and they underscore the participation of all segments of society according to their financial capabilities.

Concluding Remark on the Research:

This research contributes to the revival of the scientific and endowment heritage of Ushaiqer, a town situated northwest of Riyadh. It served as the primary intellectual center in Najd during the 10th-12th centuries AH, laying the scientific groundwork for the subsequent intellectual revival in the Najd region.

Sulaiman bin Ayaf bin Mohammed in the year (.....).» This volume contains 114 documents, including 67 documents within volumes 1 and 2, and 47 unique documents in volume 2. Sheikh Abdul Aziz bin Abdullah bin Amer transcribed 79 documents by his own handwriting.

Principal Recommendations and Conclusions:

Derived Benefits from Diwan of Al-Sawam Endowments in Ushaiger:

1. The abundance and diversity of endowments, coupled with the community's eagerness towards them, signify the society's awareness of the importance of social solidarity as a social value and vital necessity for community cohesion and continuity. It's a natural outcome of the prevalent scientific movement in Ushaiger that dates back before the 8th century AH, when Ushaiger was a leading scientific hub in Najd.
2. The multitude and variety of endowed properties contributed to substantial revenues for endowments, fostering local community development and fulfilling most of its basic needs.
3. Many documents indicate that endowers stipulated the suspension of all endowment expenses in the event of a widespread famine, channeling the entire surplus towards mitigating the famine's effects.
4. To ensure the enduring benefits of their endowments, endowers devised strategies to redirect the income of endowments meant for their descendants to support the impoverished and needy in cases of lineage extinction due to diseases or other circumstances.

endowment documents in Ushaqer, as many documents remain preserved among various families.

Copies of Diwan of Al-Sawam Endowments in Ushaqer:

Diwan of Al-Sawam Endowments in Ushaqer has more than one version. Among these versions, variations exist in the number of documents, their arrangement, and the orthography of certain words. Notably, the most renowned version is the «Al-Ayaf» version, which serves as a reference for this book. It's preserved by the heirs of Abdullah bin Abdul Aziz bin Ayaf, may Allah have mercy upon him. Most of the content was transferred from the handwriting of Sheikh Abdul Aziz bin Abdullah bin Amer. It consists of two volumes:

The first volume:

Contains 116 pages and features the inscription on the inner front cover, «This book belongs to the sons of Abdullah bin Sulaiman bin Ayaf, said by its scribe Ibrahim bin Saleh bin Isa.» The same inscription is present on the inner back cover without mentioning

the scribe's name. The pages size is 10.17 × 17 cm, and it contains 74 documents, including 67 documents within volumes 1 and 2 and seven unique documents in volume 1. Sheikh Abdul Aziz bin Abdullah bin Amer transcribed 54 documents by his own handwriting.

The second volume:

Contains 167 pages, divided into two groups. The first group comprises documents numbered 1-144, while the second section includes a single document representing the history of Mohammed bin Yusuf, numbered 1-23. The pages size is 12.5 × 17 cm, with an inscription on the inner front cover: «Property of Abdullah bin

Key Themes of the Scientific Material:

Diwan of the Endowments of Al-Sawam in Ushaiqer:

With the diversity and variety of endowments in Ushaiqer, some scholars of the region sought to enumerate and compile these endowments into a separate Diwan. This compilation contained relevant documents concerning properties, gardens, and assets under the guardianship of the Sawam in this town. The first to undertake this effort was Sheikh Mohammed bin Abdul Latif Al-Bahli (d. 1278 AH), who compiled a Diwan containing a comprehensive list of endowments in Ushaiqer. He stated in his preface:

«In the name of Allah, praise be to Allah, and peace and blessings upon Muhammad, the Messenger of Allah. Affirming goodness, God willing,

the endower and the listener are aware that the distinguished individuals of the town asked me to document for them a comprehensive list of the endowments within the town. I responded, seeking assistance from Allah, the All-Beneficent, the All-Supportive.»

This Diwan was authenticated by the judge of the Washam provinces, then by Sheikh Mohammed bin Abdul Latif Al Al-Sheikh in 1334 AH. Sheikh Abdul Aziz bin Abdullah bin Amer (d. 1356 AH) later supplemented this Diwan with newly discovered endowments beyond the initial compilation. Despite encompassing numerous and diverse documents (endowments, orchards, sales, donations, divisions, bequests), the Sawam endowments predominated, earning it the title: «Diwan of Al-Sawam Endowments in Ushaiqer.» It's worth noting that this Diwan did not encompass all the

- Highlighting the Developmental Impact of Ancient Endowments and their Contribution in Confronting Famines, Disasters, and Achieving Social Solidarity within Society.
- Introduction to the Scientific and Social Context of Ushaqir in the 10th-12th Centuries AH.

Keywords:

Waqf - Documents - Diwan – AlSawam – Ushaqir.

Importance of the Scientific Material:

Historical documents serve as testimony to history, offering a window into the past that portray authentic mental images of the era in all its social, economic, architectural, and political facets. They encompass a reservoir of historical and knowledge-rich narratives, reflecting accumulated experiences and wisdom of successive generations. As the foundation for building and strategizing the future derives from the outcomes of these experiences and historical trials, engaging with these documents for study, analysis, sifting, and unearthing their treasures becomes imperative. They provide a fertile ground for building the future.

Within this book lies a modest attempt to make historical documents more accessible to researchers, facilitating their study and analysis. I pray to God to benefit from them and find guardians who will thoroughly examine and deduce, preserving the heritage of the nation and arriving at genuine historical truths.

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General Introduction to the Author:

A dedicated researcher in the field of Waqf, with a portfolio of over 20 books, ranging from those pertaining to ancient Waqf documents to modern Waqf development. In addition, numerous articles have been published in the field of Waqf. He actively participates in board of directors of various associations and supervises the Waqf Twitter account [@al-waqf](#), as well as his website: <https://ebraheemalsmaeel.com>

Overall Objective of the Scientific Material:

- To introduce this historical document and elucidate the wealth of historical information and facts it contains, providing insights into the religious, economic, political, and social landscape of the Najdi community. It aids researchers in painting an accurate depiction of this society.