

## **Ahmed Orabi revolte :**

Ahmed Orabi was born into a wealthy family in 1839, near Zagazig in the Sharqia Governorate. His privileges gave him access to higher education, allowing him to complete his studies in Al-Azhar University. To say the least, educational luxury and family welfare paid off when he became Lieutenant Colonel at an early age.

Early on in his career progression, he joined a secret faction within the Egyptian army. It was a cause to limit Turkish and Circassian officers making the highest ranks exclusively, while Egyptians were deprioritized. Khedive Tawfik, being disturbed with Orabi's growing popularity and reputation, felt threatened by the consequences and demanded for French and British assistance before matters escalated. This prompted a British naval demonstration through the Bay of Alexandria. Much to everyone's disbelief, the icon Ahmed Orabi was detained, court-martialed and sentenced to death

The Orabi Revolt, also known as the Urabi Revolt, was an Egyptian nationalist uprising against the khedive's rule and the influence of foreign powers in Egypt. It took place in 1881-1882 and was led by Ahmed Urabi Pasha, a colonel in the Egyptian army.

## **Mohamed Ali and his family**

Mohamed Ali and his family had a significant impact on the political landscape of Egypt in the 19th century. Mohamed Ali himself was an ambitious leader who modernized Egypt and implemented various reforms. His family members, particularly his descendants, continued his legacy and played important roles in shaping Egypt's politics.

Under the rule of Mohamed Ali's family, Egypt experienced significant modernization and reforms. They initiated various economic, military,

and administrative changes. For example, they introduced a modern army, established industries, improved infrastructure, and implemented educational reforms. These measures helped strengthen Egypt's position in the region and initiated a process of modernization.

After the death of Mohamed Ali, Ibrahim Pasha became his successors in Egypt, The successor of Ibrahim Pasha as the ruler of Egypt was his son, Abbas I from 1848 to 1854 , then Ismail Pasha from 1854 to 1863.

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### **What were the main causes of the Orabi Revolt?**

The main causes of the Orabi Revolt can be summarized as follows:

1. Socio-economic grievances: The Egyptian population, particularly the peasants and urban workers, faced harsh economic conditions. There was a growing disparity between the rich and the poor, with a small elite benefiting from Egypt's modernization efforts while the majority struggled to make a living.
2. Foreign influence and economic control: Egypt was heavily influenced by foreign powers, especially Britain and France, who had significant control over the country's economy. The foreign presence was seen as exploitative and detrimental to Egyptian interests.
3. Corruption and mismanagement: The Egyptian government was plagued by corruption and mismanagement, leading to widespread dissatisfaction among the population. Many Egyptians felt that their rulers were more interested in personal gain than the welfare of the nation.
4. Nationalism and anti-colonial sentiment: The Orabi Revolt was also fueled by a growing sense of nationalism and a desire to resist foreign

domination. Egyptians wanted to reclaim their independence and assert their own identity.

These factors, combined with a series of political and military events, eventually led to the outbreak of the Orabi Revolt. The revolt had a significant impact on Egypt's history, leading to a period of British occupation and further shaping the country's nationalist movement.

## **2. How did the Orabi Revolt impact Egypt?**

The Orabi Revolt, also known as the Urabi Revolt, was a significant event in Egypt's history that took place from 1879 to 1882. Led by Colonel Ahmed Urabi (Orabi), it was a nationalist uprising against the ruling Ottoman-backed Khedive and the influence of European powers in Egypt.

The Orabi Revolt had several impacts on Egypt:

1. **Nationalism and Independence:** The revolt was driven by a desire for Egyptian independence and self-governance. It sparked a sense of Egyptian nationalism and paved the way for future movements advocating for independence.
2. **Socioeconomic Reforms:** The revolt aimed to address the grievances of the Egyptian population, particularly the rural peasantry and urban workers. It called for land reforms, fair taxation, and improved working conditions. Although these reforms were not fully implemented during the revolt, they laid the groundwork for future social and economic changes in Egypt.
3. **Political Awakening:** The Orabi Revolt marked a turning point in Egypt's political landscape. It led to the formation of political parties and increased political awareness among Egyptians. It also highlighted the need for constitutional reforms and a more inclusive government.
4. **European Intervention:** The revolt posed a threat to the interests of European powers, particularly Britain and France, who had significant

economic and political influence in Egypt. In response, Britain and France intervened militarily and defeated the rebels in 1882. This intervention further entrenched foreign control over Egypt's affairs.

5. **Impact on Egyptian Society:** The Orabi Revolt brought together people from different social classes and backgrounds, fostering a sense of unity among Egyptians. It also highlighted the importance of education and intellectual discourse in shaping public opinion.

Overall, the Orabi Revolt had a lasting impact on Egypt's struggle for independence, political development, and socioeconomic reforms. It played a crucial role in shaping the country's modern history.

### **3. What was the outcome of the Orabi Revolt?**

The outcome of the Orabi Revolt was ultimately a failure for the rebels. In 1882, British forces intervened in Egypt to support the khedive and suppress the revolt. The British bombardment of Alexandria and subsequent military campaign resulted in the defeat of Urabi's forces.

As a result of the revolt's failure, British control over Egypt increased significantly. Egypt became a de facto British protectorate, with British officials overseeing key areas of governance and administration. This period of British influence lasted until 1952 when Egypt gained full independence.

The Orabi Revolt is considered a significant event in Egypt's struggle for independence and its impact on nationalist movements in the region. It highlighted the desire for self-determination and resistance against foreign domination.

### **4. Who supported and opposed the Orabi Revolt?**

Supporters of the Orabi Revolt included various groups within Egyptian society who were dissatisfied with the political and economic situation at the time. These included:

1. Army and military personnel: Many officers and soldiers in the Egyptian army supported Orabi due to grievances such as low pay, lack of promotions, and corruption within the military.
2. Peasants and farmers: The majority of Egypt's population was rural, and they faced issues such as high taxation, land dispossession, and exploitation. Orabi's promises of land reform and social justice appealed to them.
3. Middle-class professionals: Lawyers, journalists, and intellectuals who were frustrated with the limited political participation and lack of representation in the ruling elite also supported Orabi.

On the other hand, there were several groups that opposed the Orabi Revolt:

1. Khedive Tewfik and his administration: The khedive, who was the ruler of Egypt at the time, and his government were opposed to Orabi's uprising as it threatened their authority and the existing order.
2. European powers: European countries, especially Britain and France, had significant economic and political interests in Egypt. They supported the khedive and feared that Orabi's nationalist movement could jeopardize their influence in the region.
3. Egyptian aristocracy and landowners: The traditional ruling class in Egypt, including large landowners and influential families, opposed Orabi's revolt as they feared losing their privileges and landholdings.

It is important to note that the support and opposition to the Orabi Revolt were not uniform or absolute. There were individuals within each group who may have held different views or switched sides during the course of the uprising.

## **5. How did the international community respond to the Orabi Revolt?**

The international community responded to the Orabi Revolt in various ways:

1. **British Response:** The British government, concerned about protecting its interests in Egypt, sent military forces to support the Khedive and suppress the revolt. This eventually led to the British occupation of Egypt in 1882.
2. **Ottoman Response:** The Ottoman Empire, which had nominal control over Egypt at the time, initially supported the Khedive against the revolt. However, as the revolt gained momentum, the Ottoman Sultan decided to distance himself from the conflict and withdrew his support.
3. **European Powers:** European powers such as France and Germany expressed concern over the potential disruption of trade routes and stability in Egypt. They called for a peaceful resolution to the conflict but did not intervene militarily.
4. **United States:** The United States, under President Chester A. Arthur, adopted a policy of non-intervention and neutrality during the Orabi Revolt. They did not take any significant action or make any official statements regarding the conflict.

Overall, the international response to the Orabi Revolt was mixed. While some countries like Britain actively intervened to protect their interests, others expressed concerns but did not take direct military action. The outcome of the revolt ultimately led to British occupation and control over Egypt for several decades.