CHAPTER SECOND:

Mohammad Ali Pasha as a Turkish Military Officer
Mohammad Ali Pasha is the name of a person in the history of Egypt who changed the fate of the country by making a revolution in all the fields. These fields included Education, Agriculture, industry, Trade and more importantly Military. By making advancements in all these fields he made Egypt an advanced state, even more superior to the Ottoman Empire of which Egypt was one of the provinces. It is said that some of its departments were so developed that their advancement may be compared to the European states. Mohammad Ali was a common man of Turkish origin who was born in Albania, and passed his early life there when it was under the direct control of the Ottoman Empire. Like other Eastern European states Albania was also conquered and taken under control by earlier Ottoman Sultans. With the establishment of the Ottoman rule there in Albania the Turkish settlement in Albania was started and within a short period a considerable number of Turks settled there. Some of the ancestors of Mohammad Ali also included among those settlers. In this way it may rightly be said that he was an Albanian by birth and Turk by origin.

The life of Mohammad Ali may be divided into three parts: first from his birth in 1769 until his appointment in the Ottoman military, second, his life as a military officer, and last, as a viceroy of Egypt until his death in 1849. In this chapter the period and life of Mohammad Ali Pasha as a military man will be discussed.
Mohammad Ali Pasha, who was born in 1769 in Kavalla Macedonia and died in 1849, was a Pasha (viceroy) of Egypt who founded a dynasty in Egypt on which he and his successors ruled from the beginning of the 19th century till the middle of 20th century. He played a very important role the emergence of Egypt as a “Modern state” His birth place Kavalla is a small port on the Aegean. At that time this place was a part of Turkish Empire. His parents had settled there, perhaps because the governor of the place was their relative. They lived there in a whitewashed timbered house constructed in a typical style. This house still is visited as the Greek government is taking care of its maintenance. It is a pace of great charm, surrounded by trees and greenery and outside it a statue of Mohammad Ali stands. During his whole life Mohammad Ali always remained deeply attached to this place of his birth. Later it was endowed with schools, hospitals, and other charitable institutions.

Mohammad Ali belonged to a low status family. He was the son of Ibrahim Agha who was the son of Uthman Agha whose father was Ibrahim Agha. These three generations of Mohammad Ali were having their military backgrounds. Many historians have described them as being of Albanian origin. Many believe that they might have been of Kurdish stock and come from a village namely Ilic, in Eastern Anatolia where they were horse traders. At same time the family had moved from some
unknown village to Umar Bekir and from there Uthman Agha and his father Ibrahim had moved, first to Konia and then to Kavalla.

Ibrahim Agha was an officer in the police department deputed in the town of Kavalla. Mohammad Ali grew up under the guidance of his father. At the same time Ibrahim Agha was a trader of tobacco and shipping merchant also. By the age of ten Mohammad Ali started taking interest in the tobacco business run by his father. By the time of his father’s death in 1790 he got married and was twenty years old. According to Afaf Lutfi Al-Sayyid Marsot, at the time of the death of his father he did not have a good relation with him. He, therefore, chose to live with his uncle Tussun. That was a common occurrence among extended families there, especially if the uncle had no son of his own. This statement seems to be incorrect because if Mohammad Ali had been on bad terms with his father he would not have named his first born son Ibrahim.

Due to the death of his father, his education was much affected. However, before his death he left Mohammad Ali under the patronage of the governor of the region. Mohammad Ali Pasha learnt the way to live in a more practical way. Along with fooding, lodging, and clothing he learnt there, how to offer prayer. Furthermore, he learnt riding, use of arms and weapons. In such condition he flourished and grew older. By the time he became young he started accompanying the parties that were sent out to
capture bandits. At the same time, he was deputed by the government to receive the revenue. These activities helped him to learn the rudiments of war the art of surprise and also the commanding manner.\(^5\)

After some time he got married to one of the governors’ relative Amina. There are different versions regarding his wives and children. According to Afaf Lutfi Al-Sayyid Marsot he had thirty children that included seventeen sons and thirteen daughters.\(^6\) Another scholar, Henry Dodwell is of the view that he had 95 children.\(^7\) His first child Ibrahim was born in 1787. After him another son namely Tussun was born in 1793. In 1795 his third son was born who was given the name Ismail Kamil. His last two daughters named Tevhid born in 1797 and Nazli born in 1799. Afaf further says that Amina was the only legal wife of Mohammad Ali Pasha during his life time.\(^8\) Apart from her, there were eight to ten women in his life who is supposed by the other as his concubines. Although Mohammad Ali was an affectionate head of his family and a man of loving and caring nature but he was a man of suspicious nature as well. Because of this nature Mohammad Ali set spies on his family and consulate members who used to inform Mohammad Ali about their every action.\(^9\)

Before his joining military as an officer, Mohammad Ali had an experience of a short period of tobacco trade it means he was a tobacco dealer merchant in the early part of his life. Such a mercantile experience
affected his commercial and agricultural policies during his rule in Egypt. He started his tobacco trade from the chief industries of Macedonia.

During his service as military man Mohammad Ali played an important role with skirmish against the disobedient peasants who refused to pay the taxes to the government. The refusal of the peasants to pay taxes gave him an opportunity to take command in his hand. To handle these peasants he was summoned by the government to Istanbul to take responsibility to command a corvette in Aegean Sea. The main reason behind this assignment was to chase the pirates and punish them. With this assignment he got much experience of naval force that benefited him in his life as an army man. With this his dream to become a soldier and work on the foot print of his father, came true. His distinguished qualities and skills in dealing of skirmishes brought him to light that too impressed his superiors who wanted to see him at the higher level of command.¹⁰

During this period another military event which caused familiarity and promotion, was happened in 1801. In this year a contingent from Kavalla joined the Ottoman force to travel to Egypt. The contingent reached there in Egypt on March 8th, 1801. During his travel to Egypt he had to face severe seaside's that made the whole army difficult to survive for about a week. It is said that the main reason of this bad condition in the sea was the mealtime wind blowing in the sea in the Bey of Abuqir. This caused severe causalities to the forces. Ali Agha the leader of the
contingent from Kavalla, at that time, suffering from sea-sickness, decided to go back to his home making Mohammad Ali the head of the contingent. In spite of bad weather, he showed his admirable abilities in facing skirmishes against the French force. This incident brought his name to the knowledge of Mohammad Ali Khusrow Pasha, the captain of Ottoman force. However, Mohammad Ali was appointed the commander of a thousand soldiers by Khusrow Pasha.

This is the reason why Jabarti refers him as the leader of the Ottoman soldiers termed as “Amir al- asakir al- Uthmaniyyah.” Another writer, namely Nicolas Turc had given him the title of Albanian major that is termed as “Bin-bashi Arnaut. In this way, because of his leadership qualities he was recognized as an able and efficient commander of the Ottoman Empire. Not only he was recognized as an efficient commander, but his ranks in the military also arose first until he got the position of the second-in-command of the whole contingent of Albania. This was a great achievement for him as he started the journey of his life as a soldier from Kavalla, his birth place and finally, he became the second commander of the Albanian contingent.11.

Though Mohammad Ali got the position of second-in commander on the basis of his qualities and talents, but in achieving this position there was another reason that also played an important role. Among the main reasons was the tribal character of the troops of Albanians who
spoke Turkish did like the Ottoman Janissaries. Similarly, in response of their disliking Janissaries also hate them and called them wild people, rabble and having no law and order. Because of this, they always treated them like their servants. About the rough behavior of Albanians, Jabrati said that they were more uncultured than the Ottomans. Even they did not follow religious practices like fasting in the month of Ramdhan. According to him it is also not clear that to what sector or order Albanians belonged? Their nature was so barbarian and their behavior was so harsh that they could kill anyone at anytime and seized others properties. It is worth mentioning that these Albanians used to perform these inhuman activities without any hesitation. Moreover they did never care of their superiors or officers, were the reason behind appointment of Mohammad Ali as a second- commander with the hope of being an Albanian it would be easy for him to lead these uncivilized troops of Albania. Secondly, his qualities also helped in his acknowledgment among the Ottoman officials. And his promotion itself proved his leadership skill as a military man. It is because of his qualities and circumstances that led him to occupy the top position in the Egyptian administration under the Ottomans.¹²

The struggle, in which Mohammad Ali got victory and established his rule in Egypt, started in 1801. This struggle started when the French army withdrew itself from Egypt in October 1801. This withdrawal
created a situation of struggle in the country for gaining power that may be called a situation of ‘Power vacuum’. It means, because of the evacuation of the French, there was no authority having administrative power of the country in its hands. Thus, in such condition different groups emerged who competed each other for the control of power. This competition took the form of struggle among these groups. These groups were on one side, faction of mamluks were under the leadership of Ibrahim Bey, Uthman Bardisi Bey, Mohammad Ali Bey and Hasan Bey; and on other side there was a group of officially appointed Ottoman governors namely Khusrow Pasha, Ali Pasha al-jaza, irli, and Khursheed Pasha who were main personalities among his companions. The group was of Albanian troops who were sent by the Ottoman government to fight against the French invaders. Earlier they were under the command of Tahir Bey but later on it was commanded by Mohammad Ali. In this struggle Mohammad Ali overcame and in urged as victorious. The period between 1802 to 1805 was a period of disturbances and different incidents happened and fighting held. The first among these incidents was the dissatisfaction shown by the Turkish, Albanian and others on the payment of arrears. This dissatisfaction resulted into a revolt against the Ottoman governor, Khusrow Pasha. After this revolt Tahir took the control of the city in his hand. But within a short span of time he was murdered and succeeded by Mohammad Ali. Before he fled to Damietta, Khusrow was
defeated by the allied force of the Mamluk and Albanians. With his defeat Khusrow was arrested and imprisoned in the Citadel of Cairo. It is said that this was the first time when Albanians and Mamluk fought unitedly against the Turks. Later, Khusrow Pasha fled from Egypt to Damietta.\textsuperscript{14}

When Mohammad Ali Pasha got the news about these events he moved with his 1500 men to remove Khusrow from governorship. Alexandria was the first place occupied by him where he came into conflict with the consuls of the European powers which had been established there at Alexandria. Later, British domination came to an end on the basis of the “Treaty of Amiens”, that was concluded on March 27\textsuperscript{th}, 1802 between England and France. In this treaty Britishers made French agree to leave Egypt. The British forces, complying the treaty, also started to withdraw from the country by the beginning of 1802. They left Alexandria in March 1803.

After the withdrawal of British forces from Egypt they started the Turko-Mamluk war there, that continued two years from 1802-04. When Britishers left the country the Turkish Pasha took a decision to start a war against the Mamluk who had strengthened their power in different parts of the country. The Turkish Pasha sent his forces to the Upper Egypt. This was the area which was dominated by Mamluk. As the Mamluk had an alliance with the Bedouin Sheikhs and had in its army a considerable
number of Bedouins, they not only defeated the Turks but also crushed them. It is said that 5000 Turks soldiers were killed by Mamluk army in this battle and was known as “Damanhur battle”. In this battle 60 Mamluks soldiers also lost their lives.

Throughout this period the military revolt was continued at Cairo where three Pashas succeeded one after other within a period of one month. In May, 1803 Mamluk and Albanian forces unitedly seized Cairo. In this way power again came in the hands of the allies of Albanian commander, Mohammad Ali and two Mamluk Beys. With this victory Mohammad Ali came to power. This increased his ambition to occupy the whole country. To meet out his ambition to control whole Egypt he made an alliance with the Mamluk to start a war against Khursheed Pasha, the Ottoman governor of Egypt. This war came to an end in January 1804 with the defeat of the Turks.

Along with this ‘Cairo uprising’ took place by the people of Cairo against the heavy taxes that were levied on them. This uprising was led by the Sheikhs of Al Azhar University. This was his meeting with Al-Azhar Sheikhs he promised to withdraw all the taxes. When Mohammad Ali favored the people, this made him popular among the people and with their support he reached at the top of the administration. The uprising started when Mamluk again regained their power in Egypt and started ruling there. Before it the Britishers who were busy in the war against
France decided to take advantage of the Mamluk victory. But at this moment Uthman Bardesi’s revolt changed the scene that not only destroyed the detachment of the British Mamluk agent Muhammad el-Alfy but also forced him to flee to desert. Muhammad el-Alfy was sent by them to Alexandria before this revolt. The people of Cairo were also not in favor of Osman Bardesi and revolted against him. This forced Bardisi to leave Cairo on March 12, 1804. To see the growing popularity of this movement Mohammad Ali pasha took a decision to favor the people’s movement. He not only favored the people of Cairo, but also led his Albanian troops against the Mamluk feudal lords. In this way, being impressed by the efforts made by Mohammad Ali Pasha, the Sheikhs of Al-Azhar elected him as “qa’im-ma’-qam” (Deputy Pasha). Khurshid Pasha, at that time, was working as the Turkish governor.¹⁵

Gradually, Mohammad Ali became more and more popular among the people of Cairo. They regarded him as their leaders. But sultan sent an order to Mohammad Ali to go back to home. This led to the disturbance in Cairo in the form of the protest. In the meantime Khurshid Pasha imposed heavy indemnities and started collecting taxes. As a result of this the people of Egypt again united to rebel against Khurshid Pasha and his Janissaries in May 1805. They got success in their protest by dethroning Khurshid Pasha from governorship. With this, Mohammad Ali was declared the ruler of Egypt by the Sheikhs in their meeting. This
incident and other forced Sultan Salim III to recognize Mohammad Ali as the Pasha of Egypt. The incidents that happened inside Turkey and outside made Sultan helpless to interfere in the Egyptian affairs. These incidents were the uprisings in the Balkan region against Turkish occupation, the defeat of the Turkish army by the rebellion and the opposition of Janissaries, Ulama and Darvishes against reorganization of new Turkish regiments (nizam-e-jadid) to combat with the Balkan rebellions. The taxes levied on the people of Turkey for the purpose was also one of the major of the opposition of these groups. The movement was also started by the Turks against the reforms introduced by the Sultan with the slogan. In this way, the effort, made by the Sultan to remove Mohammad Ali from the position of Egyptian ruler became unsuccessful.¹⁶ These incidents led to the dethroning and the killing of Sultan Salim III by Janissaries in 1807.¹⁷ With his death the position of Mohammad Ali as the Egyptian ruler became more strengthened.

With his appointment as the Pasha Mohammad Ali started making efforts to strengthen his power for the control of the entire Egyptian land; Sudan, Crete, Morea, Hijaz, Yemen, Syria and parts of Anatolia. Being a great conqueror, Mohammad Ali fought against wahhabis in 1818, who were controlling Makkah, Madinah, and nearby areas when he was asked by the Ottoman Sultan to suppress them. These wahhabis were not only against the Ottoman religious thought but also stood as challenge to the
Ottoman rule. Mohammad Ali complied the orders of Turkish sultan and started his great campaign against these wahhabis. Mohammad Ali, for the purpose, deputed his son Tusun Bey to fight against the wahhabis in 1811 with the aim to recover the holy cities from them. The fighting between the two, continued for seven years and finally, another of Mohammad Ali son namely Ibrahim succeeded in crushing the wahhabis and capturing Dariya, the home place of wahhabi ruler Ibn Sa'ud. After defeating the wahhabi movement another effort was made by Mohammad Ali to unite the whole Arab world under his control. Mohammad Ali also reconquered Egyptian Sudan in 1820 where he founded a new city, came to be known with the name of Khartum. In the meantime the Greeks stood in revolt against its Ottoman occupation. Mohammad Ali was again asked by the Sultan for help. Mohammad Ali again obeyed it and sent his son, Ibrahim with 10,000 soldiers to crush the Greek revolt. He, however, could not be succeeded in this mission due to the intervention of European powers. Moreover, his fleet was severely destroyed by these European powers. In 1831 he demanded the governorship of Syria in response of the promise, as claimed by Mohammad Ali that was made for the same by Sultan Mahmud II to Muhammad Ali. The Ottoman Sultan did not show his agreement in giving the Pashalik of Syria to Mohammad Ali. Consequently he sent his troops under his son Ibrahim to invade Syria. After controlling Syria the Egyptian troops reached Asia Minor in
1833 where at a place namely Konya the battle was fought between the Ottoman and Egyptian armies. The Egyptian pursued the Turks; and inflicted another defeat at Konya. Unfortunately, Russia intervened at this moment on the request of the Ottoman Sultan, who found him helpless after his defeat in the battle. With this Russian intervention Mohammad Ali was forced to agree on the Pashalik of Syria and Crete leaving other areas like Asia Minor. In this way Mohammad Ali became undisputed master of Syria, Egypt and Crete.

After conquering various areas like Hijaz, Sudan and Syria, Mohammad Ali plan was to lay a foundation of an “Arab Empire”. This plan was prepared by an Austrian diplomat Count Prokeesch Osten in May 1833, who had to face the British diplomat’s criticism for his plan for Arab countries including Egypt, the Sudan, Arabia, Syria, and Iraq. Mohammad Ali’s plan of ‘Arab Empire’ required an aid that he depended on French. It was because of the fact that there was a continuous rivalry between France and Britain. But the war of conquering Arab countries was not an end to him as the Ottoman Sultan was not happy with the occupation of Syria by Mohammad Ali, so, he again attempted to recover Syria in 1839. Although the Turkish forces were defeated by the Egyptian army but he was again compelled to stop his victorious force to march towards territories under the pressure of the European powers. Furthermore, he had to evacuate Syria under their pressure. These powers
were continuously watching the developments in this region and intervening in its affairs as per their interest. With this Mohammad Ali’s dream to establish an Arab Empire could not come true. This failure of Mohammad Ali enabled Britain to force him to give access to British merchants for their trade with Egypt on the basis of “Anglo-Ottoman commercial Treaty” of 1838.

With the trade with European countries and reforms made by Mohammad Ali in Egypt in all the fields it began in making Egypt a modern state. He, therefore, was known as the “Father of Modern Egypt”. Being a military man the earliest priority of Mohammad Ali was to make reforms in military field in order to make the army more strong and advanced. In this way, Mohammad Ali laid foundation of a new and modern Egyptian army. The first step that he took in this direction was to design and give new shape to its flags. For the purpose a festive ceremony was held after the training of solders appointment of officers and the preparation of regiment to dispatch to its destination. In this ceremony the banner was delivered by the Pasha who gave the following speech on this occasion. He said,

“This banner is the symbol of victory, pride, of life and of faith ...Make sure it does not fall while there is still a breath of life left in anyone of you. If it does fall-God forbid then let the stop on which it falls be the spot on which you die.”
The purpose to arrange this ceremony by Mohammad Ali was to create a strong army to secure his power, for which he created a regular army. In his new army Albanians were recruited instead of Egyptians. While during the campaign against Morea (1821-28) African soldiers were recruited in the Egyptian army. After this campaign he decided to recruit the native Egyptian known as ‘Fellaheen’ who got victories in their campaign in Syria. The Egyptian fellaheen were trained by the European military experts. These military experts were mainly from French and Italians. Among these experts one who became very popular was Seve. He was French officer known by the nickname of ‘Suleiman Pasha.’ The idea to recruit an army of fellaheen was given to Mohammad Ali by the military advisors, mainly Frenchman. And the methods to recruit these fellaheen were those which were adopted in France before and after Napoleon by the racoleurs. In this method they charged a particular fee from every one for the recruitment in the army. If anyone recruited in the army wanted to go back they could never do so. If anyone was to leave the army he was punished severely. This pattern of the France in recruitment of the soldiers was followed completely in Egypt under Mohammad Ali. According to the system adopted by Mohammad Ali, if any soldier escaped from the army service and if they were not arrested any other member of the family was punished. In case of none availability of any of the family members, the member of the
locality or the village who encouraged him in his escaped and gave shelters, was punished.\textsuperscript{25}

Egyptian campaign against Arabia, a large number of training camps were setup by Mohammad Ali at Aswan, where French and Italian instructors trained the large number of young Egyptians and Sudanese. And the first batches of cadets, trained at Aswan were among the Pasha’s own Mamluk. The Aswan site was selected distant from the center of things and the training officers had to have their troops under their command. But the major problem before them was that from which classes or groups of society the soldiers were to be recruited. So, Mohammad Ali decided to recruit Turks and Albanians in the modern army.\textsuperscript{26}

Another military reform of Mohammad Ali was the establishment of “Military school”. Among such schools included an infantry school on Damietta, a cavalry school in Giza and an artillery school in Tura. After the establishment of these military schools, an Academy of the general staff came into existence by Mohammad Ali.\textsuperscript{27} The role of this staff college during the mid eighteenth century was to help in raising the standard of competence of the Egyptian officers, crops. In this way, in October, 1826 the first staff college, “\textit{Madrasa-tul- Arkan}” was opened. Unfortunately, there was lack of fundamental education in these lower officers, remarked an inexperienced, this made the instructors’ task
extremely difficult. Planat, a military trainer and teacher at this college, found that they could not even understand the simplest definitions. Within two years after its opening the number of officers undergoing training at Madarsa-tul- Arkan reached 71. In this academy the training program was of four years’ duration.

Another difficulty in the training of officers in this academy was that none of the European instructors could speak Turkish and only one student of the first intake group could speak French. In spite of these difficulties the students there, were in the process of learning. Simultaneously they were learning French language. To impart the education these instructors used to write their lectures in a European language that was translated into Turkish language by the interpreters. After the translation had been checked by the instructor the interpreter read it to the class. Sometimes there seemed the curiosity among the students due to different causes. A major difficulty with the system was fact that the interpreters were unfamiliar with a great deal of the military terminologies used by the instructors in their lectures. Another difficulty in this system was that in many cases equivalent words or terms did either not exist or not find in the Turkish language. Due to this reason the meaning of key words in the lecture were often misinterpreted that led to mislead students. Soon after the Madrasa-tul- Arkan was opened, an
interpreter was employed to compile a Turkish dictionary of French military terminologies.28

Since Mohammad Ali’s Egyptian army was based on the Napoleon’s army pattern therefore French military regulations were translated into Arabic language. The Egyptian regular armies gradually grew during the rule of Mohammad Ali. In 1883 it had 36 infantry regiments’ 14 Guard regiments with a strength of 59,000 men, 15 cavalry regiments with 500 men in each regiment and five artillery regiments comprising of 2,000 soldiers. Along with these arrangements irregular units with the strength of 40,000 men were appointed in the Egyptian army 29 for the purpose of modernization of the Egyptian army. In these arrangements not only military schools and colleges were opened but a “war Department” (Nizarat al-harbiyya) was also established by Mohammad Ali Pasha. This department was known as the “war council” (diwan al –jihadiyya). The main responsibility of this council was to administer the organization of the armed forces. With this, its responsibility was also providing a support to the army by supplying armaments, munitions and other services.30

Mohammad Ali’s military reforms were not limited to the land force but he paid his attention towards the Egyptian navy as well. Like the Great Russian reformer, Peter I, Mohammad Ali took a decision to create a national Egyptian Fleet. As he made great reforms in his navy
Mohammad Ali often compared himself with Peter 1. Due to the Philhellenic unrest in France and the refusal of the British government to permit the construction of Egyptian warships in England forced Mohammad Ali to decide in the late 1820’s, to establish extensive shipbuilding factories at Alexandria. Another reason of this decision was that the Pasha was flagrantly overcharged by the owners of the factories in the purchase of foreign ships that is evident in the following report:

He had boats built at Marseilles, Bordeaux, Leghorn, Genoa and as for distant place as Archangel, not only was he made to pay a third more than they were worth, but they were also made from inferior materials….1, 700,000 francs were paid for the most recent ship, it would only have been worth 1,100,000 Francs built of good wood, it will be rotten within a few month and will have to be taken out of service. However Mohammad Ali should be praised for his building a strong navy. It is surprising and noteworthy that his navy surpassed any other fleet of the Islamic world in its modernity. These points are clearly illustrated in the following letter written by the Pasha to his son Ibrahim shortly prior to the Battle of Navarino:

“My son, we are, with God’s help, in possession of the most beautiful fleet that has even been seen in speed, good order and discipline are concerned it is no longer the fleet that you know a short time ago: it is now a brilliant fleet, completely modern, nobody in the Muslim world has up to now
possessed its equal. You will see... that the five ships which have been built in Genoa.... are vastly superior to the Tunisian frigate that you know. The frigate Muechid-i-Djihad (La Guerriere), which has arrived from Marseilles, does not cede anything in the point of view of sailing and construction, or in any other regard to the Austrian commander’s frigate. It is also said that the two frigates which will arrive and will be sent to you later are even better than the Murchidi-i-Djihad.”

Muhammad Ali’s high ambition for the navy is revealed in his following statement to General Boyer:

“I am very ambitious, especially for my navy, and if God lets me live another twenty years I hope that the civilized world will have added another maritime power (namely Egypt) which will not even be inferior to England whom consequently I shall not fear.”

This aspiration was momentarily crushed when the fleet, which had been accumulated at great expense, was almost totally destroyed at the battle of Navarino in October, 1827. Of the seventy-five ships of the Turco-Egyptian fleet that participated in the Battle (two battleships of 75 Guns, the reminder being frigates, corvettes, brigs and transport vessels: three frigates and a brig that were present were of the Algerian Navy), sixty were sunk; most of the reminder severely damaged and 9,000 men were killed.
Despite this immense setback, the Pasha quickly recovered his confidence. Preparation were again started with a short time after the battle for building warships in Alexandria. In 1829 another fleet namely Lefebvre de Cerisy was hired to organize the development and operation of this undertaking. Also, some French, Italian and Maltese shipbuilding artisans were hired to teach and supervise conscripted Egyptian workers. A shipyard, a foundry, a rope factory and other workshops necessary for the building and fitting of warships were constructed and equipped by him. Only the finer nautical instruments, brass nails and some cannons were imported. Due to the enthusiasm of Mohammad Ali in 1831 the first Egyptian built 110-Gun battleship was launched.\textsuperscript{32}

Mohammad Ali also purchased ships in Marseilles, Livorno and Trieste. Furthermore, after the destruction of the whole Egyptian fleet in the ‘Navarino Battle’ in 1892, a dockyard was built by Mohammad Ali at Alexandria. The first, one hundred cannonships were launched in January 1831; in this ship building industry highly skilled native workers were trained. In this Alexandrian dockyard almost all the 8,000 workers were Egyptian. It is said that at that time the Alexandrian dockyard’s work could compete with all the dockyards in the world. Besides this 15000 Egyptian seamen were trained there for service whose commanders were trained at the newly established naval college. About the Arabs abilities a European observer wrote, “They appear to be born sailors”.\textsuperscript{33} It is said
that by 1837 Mohammad Ali had eleven ships in his possession in which four ships were of one hundred or more guns, six frigates of sixty guns, four corvettes, seven brigs and three Steamers. For the purpose 18,000 seamen were placed of whom 800 were officers. About Egyptian navy power and position Dr. Bowring presented a report. “The report says the Egyptian navy is not distinguishable from that of a well disciplined European navy except in uniform”.  

The advancement of the Egyptian navy may be reorganized from the fact that whatever reforms Mohammad Ali Pasha brought in military field created an unrest among military personnel who had their own unique position in the social structure of Egypt. They were not ready to learn anything from Europeans based on the European system. Their claim was that they were defending Islam, as all reforms made by Mohammad Ali were contrary to the Islamic principles. This caused the severe jealousy with Mohammad Ali and that led to an attempt made for the assassination of Mohammad Ali Pasha.  

The revolt of 1824 against Mohammad Ali for his reforms is supposed to be greatest during his whole period of regime. This revolt took place in the region between Esneh and Thebes. That was led by ‘Ahmed bin Idris’ Ahmad was from Magreb who was a follower of whhabism. Ahmad stood against Mohammad Ali because of the severe enmity between him and whhabism. He represented himself as the agent of
God and prophet. With rising in revolt against Muhammad Ali’s rule he aimed to overthrow his regime as he claimed that Mohammad Ali was working as the “Pasha of Christians” and his reforms were against the Islamic principles. However to fight against the rebellions Mohammad Ali sent troops but a clash took place among the Falahin troops themselves because about 30,000 soldiers joined the insurgents. Thus fighting between the two armies continued on up to six weeks and finally Turkish and Bedouin troops crushed the rebellions, seven thousands of the insurgents were killed and women and children were massacred by these troops.37

In this way, being a reformer Mohammad Ali made efforts to brought reforms in different fields, especially in his military to make it more powerful and advanced on the line of European pattern. But due to the jealousy different important personalities of the country rose in revolts against Pasha and his military reforms. So, with all ups and downs Mohammad Ali had to face problems during his rule and he had to take the situation with adjustments in his last period of rule.

Thus, the renewal of hostilities against him in 1839 ended the peaceful atmosphere of the country. This forced Mohammad Alito make arrangements for the hereditary succession to the throne of Egypt and its dependencies that included Syria, Adona and Crete. This decision of making the hereditary succession by him was supported by France. The
rise of military power in Egypt resulted in signing a treaty that is known as “Treaty of London” on July 15, 1940. In this treaty it was decided by great powers to maintain the integrity of the whole Ottoman Empire. Being a sharp politician and statesman Mohammad Ali showed his disagreement with this treaty. As a result an Anglo-Austrian fleet was dispatched to the Syrian coast, which reduced many places like Beyroute, Tripoli, Sidon, Tyre Acre and lastly Alexandria. Under the pressure of powerful countries and due to the arrival of the said fleet Mohammad Ali was alarmed and had to take a decision to evacuate Syria. Nevertheless he stipulated for the Egypt’s retention. 38 Thus, a ‘Firman’ was issued by the Sultan on June 1st, 1841, by which Mohammad Ali was named as the governor of Egypt not only for his life time but also the hereditary rights to the office were given to his male decedents.39 Besides it in this “Firman” it was also said that Pasha’s army would reduce to 18,000 troops in time of peace as per this treaty signed in 1841 Mohammad Ali became busy carrying out in great political projects. The foundation stone of the great ‘Delta Barrage’ in 1837 was laid by Muhammad Ali. This was considered to be the last public work by him. But due to the mental disorder in 1848 he had to resign from all public affairs. This mental disorder led to his death, in 1849. After his death his son Ibrahim was appointed the ‘Regent’ for a short period but he also died in the same year. On the basis of the right of succession given to this family
Muhammad Ali’s grandson, Abbas came into power in 1849 who also proved to be a worthy ruler of this dynasty. The rule of the dynasty founded by Mohammad Ali came to an end in 1936-52 with the last ruler named; King Faruq was succeeded by King Fu’ad II, 1952-53. ⁴⁰
REFERENCES:


6. Afaf Lutfi al-Sayyid, op. cit., p. 27.


8. Afaf Lutfi al-Sayyid, op. cit., p. 27.


10. Ibid, p. 27.

11. Ibid, pp. 31-32.


22. W.M. Daly, op. cit., p.140.


26. V. Lutsky, op. cit., p. 56.

27. Ibid, p. 56.


29. V.Lutsky, op. cit., p. 56.

31. V. Lutsky, op. cit., p. 32.

32. Derek James Overton, (Thesis) op. cit., pp. 55-57.

33. V. Lutsky, op. cit., p. 57.


35. Derek James Overton, (Thesis) op. cit., p. 38.

36. M. W. Daly, op. cit., p. 151.


