

Evaluation of the Egyptian agricultural development during the Mamluk era

ABSTRACT

This article evaluates the agriculture development in Egypt during the Mamluk era. This study shows that there are several factors that affected agriculture and its produce, such as the problems in the iqta' system, the problems in the irrigation system, the shortage of a productive labour force for the land, the lack of technological innovation in agriculture and the disturbances caused by climatic and biological disasters. However, these factors did not lead to a total decline and absolute collapse of the Mamluk agriculture era.

Keyword: Agriculture; Mamluk era (872/1468 to 922/1517); Iqta system; Climate change; Egypt