

# Chronology

By Hsain Ilahiane/Maroc

- \* 7000-5000 B.C. Capsian civilization; emergence of **proto-Mediterranean peoples**, ancestors of the Berbers.
- \* 6000-2000 B.C. Neolithic period in the Maghreb and the Sahara.
- \* 3300 B.C. Egyptian archeological records refer to a battle between the army of the Pharaohs and Libyans (called *tehenu*).
- \* 1274 B.C. King Ramses II recruits Libyans to fight the Hittites.
- \* 1279-1213 B.C. King Ramses II invites Libyans to settle near Memphis and **Libyan domination of Middle Egypt**.
- \* 1000 B.C. Phoenicians acquire trading posts in Spain and establish ports of call in Sicily, North Africa, and elsewhere in the western Mediterranean.
- \* 950 B.C. Sheshonq I, a Libyan, founds the 22nd Egyptian dynasty.
- \* 814 B.C. Foundation of Carthage by Phoenicians escaping from Tyre with Princess Dido.
- \* 500-400 B.C. Formation of Berber Kingdoms: **Mauritania** in the west, **Massaessyles** in the center, and **Massyles** in the east.
- \* 400-500 B.C. Carthage expands into its African hinterlands.
- \* 264-241 B.C. First Punic War with Rome; Carthaginians occupy Messina.
- \* 239-237 B.C. Mathos and Libyans revolt against Carthage and occupy Tunis, Utica, and Bizerte.
- \* 220 B.C. Syphax is king of the Massaessyles of Numidia.
- \* 218-202 B.C. Second Punic War
- \* 204 B.C. Defeat of Syphax; Massinissa encroaches on Cirta and makes it his headquarters.
- \* 174-150 B.C. Massinissa, king of the Massyles kingdom.
- \* 150 B.C. Numidic-Phoenician war; defeat of Carthage in Zema.
- \* 148 B.C. Death of Massinissa.
- \* 146 B.C. Third Punic War; final destruction of Carthage; beginning of the Roman occupation of North Africa; foundation of Africa Proconsularis.
- \* 116 B.C. Jugurtha, Massinissa's grandson, unites Numidia.
- \* 112-104 B.C. Jugurthine War; Jugurtha defies the Romans; he is eventually betrayed by King Bocchus of Mauretania.
- \* 82 B.C. Hierbas unites Numidia and is ruined by Rome.
- \* 46 B.C. Defeat of Juba I; Rome annexes Numidia and creates the Roman province of Africa Nova.
- \* 33 B.C. Death of King Bocchus of Mauritania.
- \* 25 B.C. Augustus gives Mauritania to Juba II as a client kingdom.
- \* A.D. 17-24 Revolt of Tacfarinas.
- \* 23 Death of Juba II; accession of his son Ptolemy.
- \* 40 Murder of Ptolemy by Caligula.
- \* 42 Rome creates Mauritania Tingitana in the west and Mauritania Caesariensis in the center.
- \* 45 Moor and Numidian revolts.
- \* 100 Christianity enters the Maghreb.
- \* Second century Roman consolidation; spread of olive cultivation and road network; Africans achieve influence in Rome.
- \* 117 Lucius Quitus, a Berber, appointed to the senate and senior posts by Trajan.
- \* 125 Birth of Apuleius of Madauros.

- \* 170 Apuleius writes the *Golden Ass*; birth of Tertullian.
- \* 193 Laciur Septimius Severus from Liptis Magna becomes the first African emperor of Rome.
- \* 312 Donatist schism begins.
- \* 340 Rise of the Circumcelliones; increasing strength of Donatism.
- \*347 Donatists and Circumcelliones unite against Roman power.
- \* 354 Birth of Saint Augustine.
- \* 372-376 Revolt of Firmus in the Kabyle Mountains, with support from Donatists.
- \* 395 Saint Augustine becomes bishop of Hippo.
- \* 396 Revolt of Firmus' s brother Gildon, with Donatist support.
- \* 429 Invasion of Africa by the Vandals.
- \* 430 Saint Augustine dies during the siege of Hippo.
- \* 533 The fall of the Vandals; reconquest of Africa for the Eastern Empire by Count Belisarius; restoration of Catholic supremacy.
- \* 540 Yabdas' s revolt in the Aures.
- \* 570 Birth of Prophet Muhammad.
- \* 596 Berber uprisings against the Byzantines.
- \* 642 Arabs occupy Cyrenaica.
- \* 643 Arabs occupy Tripoli, destroy Sabratha, and invade Fezzan and Barqa.
- \* 647 Muslims defeat the Byzantine army at Sbeitla; occupation of Tripolitania.
- \* 669 `Uqba Ibn Nafi` seizes Tripolitania and Byzacena; foundation of the city of Qayrawan; Berber resistance by Kusayla.
- \* 683 `Uqba' s expedition to the Atlantic; he is defeated by Kusayla, a Berber leader; Arabs retreat temporarily from the Maghreb; death of `Uqba at Tehuda (around Biskra); Kusayla occupies Qayrawan.
- \* 688 Arab counteroffensive; Kusayla dies.
- \* 695 Hassan Ibn Nu`man invades the Maghrib, captures Carthage, but Arabs armies are defeated by Al- Kahina, Berber queen of the Aures.
- \* 701 Al-Kahina dies; end of Berber resistance; the Berbers convert to Islam.
- \* 711 Tariq Ibn Ziyad leads the conquest of Spain.
- \* 740 Emergence of Khariji beliefs and practices; development of the Ibadithe sect.
- \*744 Barghwata establish a Berber state in Tamesna along the Atlantic coast of Morocco.
- \* 748 Salih, prophet and founder of the Barghwata kingdom, reigns.
- \* 758 Ibadithes occupy Qayrawan.
- \* 760 Fall of the Ibadithe imamate in Tripoli.
- \* 765 Ibn Rustum founds the city of Tahart, capital of the Rustumid dynasty.
- \* 768 Ibadithe uprising in Africa; Ibadithe exodus to Tahart.
- \* 776 Tahart is capital of the Ibadithes; Ibn Rustum becomes imam of the Ibadithes.
- \* 786-789 Idris Ibn `Abd Allah founds the Idrissid dynasty.
- \* 800 Aghlabid dynasty rules Tunisia.
- \* 807 Idris II founds the city of Fes.
- \* 827 Aghlabids conquer Sicily.
- \* 842 Yunnus declares the Barghwata heresy.
- \* 868 Aghlabids conquer Malta.
- \* 878 Aghlabids occupy Syracuse.
- \* 896 Aghlabids crush Berbers of Nafusa, a Rustumid stronghold in Libya.
- \* 909 Collapse of the Aghlabid and Rustumid dynasties; Tahart Ibadithes find asylum in Sadrata; foundation of an Ibadithe imamate in Jabal Nafusa, Libya.

\* 910 Fatimids occupy North Africa; `Obeid Allah al Mahdi is recognized as caliph; he tries to convert Berbers to Shiite Islam; Berber uprisings against the Fatimids.

\* 927 Foundation of the city of M' sila.

\* 936 Foundation of the city of `Achir, capital of the Zirid dynasty.

\* 960 Bulluggin Ibn Ziri founds the cities of Algiers, Medea, and Miliana.

\* 972 Fatimids leave the Maghrib to Egypt; Zirids take over the Maghrib.

\* 979-989 Expansion of the Zirid dynasty; Bulluggin invades the Barghwata kingdom, Fes, and Sijilmasa.

\* 985 Collapse of the Idrissid dynasty.

\*990 The Empire of Ghana annexes the Saharan city of Awdaghust.

\* 1014 Rise of the Hammadid dynasty.

\* 1050 Banu Hilal Arabs invade the Maghrib.

\* 1053-1069 Almoravids establish control over central Morocco.

\* 1059 Almoravids destroy the Barghwata heresy.

\* 1062 Almoravids found their new capital of Marrakech.

\* 1068 Almoravids found Bijaya.

\* 1070 Almoravids establish control over Fes.

\* 1077-1078 Almoravids take over Tanger; fight the Empire of Ghana and control the trans-Saharan caravan trade; birth of Ibn Tumart, the Almohad Mahdi; Bijaya becomes the capital of the Hammadids dynasty.

\* 1094 Birth of `Abd Al Mu' min at Tajra (Nedroma).

\* 1102 Almoravids complete conquest of Islamic Spain.

\* 1106 Death of Yusuf Ibn Tachafin.

\* 1116 Ibn Tumart meets `Abd Al Mu' min in Mallala, Algeria, and recruits the future founder of the Almohads dynasty.

\* 1121 Ibn Tumart is declared the Mahdi of the Almohads and fights the Almoravids.

\* 1129 Almohads besiege Marrakech.

\* 1130 Ibn Tumart dies, and leadership passes to `Abd Al Mu' min.

\*1139-1146 Almohads conquer Fes and Marrakech.

\* 1162 Death of `Abd Al Mu' min; Abu Ya`qub Yusef becomes emir.

\* 1172 Almohad Empire extends its control from the Atlantic to Tripolitania and from Spain to the western Sahel.

\* 1229 Foundation of the Hafsid dynasty with Tunis as its capital.

\* 1235 Rise of the `Abd Al Wadids dynasty in Tlemcen, then in central North Africa.

\* 1248 Marinid dynasty establishes control in western Maghrib and takes over Fes and Marrakech.

\*1269 Collapse of the Almohads dynasty.

\* 1276 Marinids build Fes Al Jdid.

\* 1350 Ibn Battuta, Berber explorer, visits the Empire of Mali.

\*1370 Marinids establish control over Tlemcen.

\* 1374 Marinids divided into Fes and Marrakech kingdoms.

\* 1415-1514 Portuguese occupy Ceuta (1415), Tanger (1471), Massat (1488), Safi and Agadir (1508), Azemmour(1513), and Mazagan (1514).

\* 1492 Christians occupy Granada, and Muslims flee to North Africa.

\* 1494 Collapse of the Hafsid dynasty.

\* 1497 Spain occupies Melilla, Mers El Kebir, Oran, Penon d' Alger, Cherchell, Dellys, and Mostghanam.

\* 1510 Leo Africanus visits Bilad Al-Sudan, spends time in Timbuktu and Gao.

\* 1517 Ottomans occupy Tlemcen.

- \* 1517-1525 Sa`diyyin establish themselves in the south and take over Marrakech, wage holy war against Christian Portugal and Spain.
- \* 1554 Ottoman Empire captures Libya.
- \* 1574 Ottomans take over Tunis.
- \* 1576 Ottomans temporarily occupy Fes but are forced to withdraw.
- \* 1578-1591 Sa`diyyin invasion of Timbuktu and the northern territories of the Songhay Empire.
- \* 1580 Spain occupies Ceuta.
- \* 1609 Waves of Andalusí people escape to North Africa.
- \* 1630-1641 Dila Zawiya in the Middle Atlas reaches its height of influence and power; it is ruined by Moulay Al Rachid in 1668.
- \* 1631 The rise of the `Alawite dynasty in Tafilalt, Morocco.
- \* 1659-1669 Moulay Rachid establishes the `Alawite dynasty.
- \* 1667 Moulay Rachid destroys Illigh and its maraboutic family.
  
- \*1672-1727 Sultan Moulay Isma`il builds over 76 qasbas (forts) in the Middle Atlas and staffs them with `Abid al Boukhaari (black soldiers) to secure communication routes and to watch over the dissident Berber tribes of the Middle Atlas.
- \* 1674 Middle Atlas Sanhaja tribes overthrow the agents of Sultan Moulay Isma`il and refused submission of tax payments.
- \* 1811-1822 Berber revolt during which Middle Atlas Sanhaja tribes rise against Sultan Moulay Sliman` s (1792-1822) proscription of the cult of saints and endorsement of puritan Wahhabi doctrines.
- \* 1814 Treaty of Paris establishes French sovereignty over Senegal and Mauritania.
- \* 1830 France begins its colonization of Algeria.
- \* 1835 Rise of the Sanusi movement in Libya.
- \* 1842 Sanusi order founds its first zawiya in Cyrenaica.
- \* 1853 Heinrich Barth, German explorer, visits Timbuktu.
- \* 1857 French conquest of the Kabyle.
- \* 1858-1860 Kabyle uprisings.
- \* 1859 Aures uprising.
- \* 1860 Hodna uprising.
- \* 1863-1904 French rule and conquest establish French Sudan.
- \* 1871 Al Mokrani uprising.
- \* 1876 Al `Amri revolt.
- \* 1881 Establishment of a French protectorate in Tunisia.
- \* 1881-1883 Bou`mama rebellion in southern Oran.
- \* 1902 Sanusi revolt is crushed by the French.
- \* 1912 Establishment of a French protectorate in Morocco; Spain controls most of northern and southern Morocco; Libya becomes an Italian protectorate.
- \* 1914 Moha Ou Hammou uprising against the French, winning the battle of Lehri in the Middle Atlas.
- \* 1915 Battle of Qasr Bu Hadi; Idris becomes leader of the Sanusi order.
- \* 1916 Tuareg rebels led by Kaocen occupy Agadez.
- \* 1921-1926 `Abdelkarim al-Khattabi revolt in the Rif, northern Morocco.
  
- \*1922 Establishment of the Colonie du Niger; the Citroen trans-Saharan adventure arrives in Bourem, Mali.
- \* 1926 Foundation of Etoile Nord Africaine (ENA).
- \* 1930 Berber Dahir.

- \* 1933 Ait Atta resist the French in the Sahara and the Anti-Atlas; battle of Bougafer.
- \* 1937 Foundation of the Parti du Peuple Algerien (PPA).
- \* 1940 Emergence of Algerian nationalism; foundation of the Institut Francais d' Afrique Noire (IFAN) in Dakar, Senegal.
- \* 1945 Massacres of Algerians following nationalist uprisings at Kherrata, Setif, Guelma, and Saida.
- \* 1949 Berberist crisis; Kabyle leaders call for a secular and multicultural Algerian society (an *Algérie Algérienne*); opposition to an Arab-Islamic basis for Algeria.
- \* 1951 Libyan independence, 24 December.
- \* 1954 Beginning of the Algerian war for national liberation; formation of the Front de Liberation Nationale (FLN) in a breakaway from the PPA.
- \* 1956 Moroccan independence, 2 March; Tunisian independence, 20 March; first congress of the FLN in the Soummam Valley, Kabylia, 20 August.
- \* 1956-1957 `Addi Ou Bihi revolt in Tafilalt.
- \* 1958-1959 Rif uprising is repressed.
- \* 1959 Foundation of the Movement Populaire (MP) by Mahjoubi Ahardan.
- \* 1960 Nigerian independence, 3 August. Malian independence, 22 September. Mauritanian independence, 28 November.
- \* 1962 Algerian independence, 5 July.
- \* 1962-1963 Tuareg of Idrar Niforas in northeastern Mali rebel against the government of Mali.
- \* 1963 Foundation of the Front des Forces Socialistes party (FFS) by Hocine Ait Ahmed.
- \* 1967 Foundation of Association Marocaine de la Recherche et de l' Echange Culturel (AMREC) in Rabat; foundation of Paris-based Academie Berbere d' Echange et de Recherches Culturels; in 1969 renamed Agraw Imazighen.
- \* 1969 Mu`ammar Gadhafi deposes the Sanusi monarchy.
- \* 1972 Second coup attempt on the king of Morocco, Hassan II; Mohamed Oufqir, a Berber general, is implicated.
- \* 1972-1974 The Sahel suffers one of the worst droughts in memory, devastating nomadic livelihood systems.
- \* 1973 Kabyle activists form Groupe d' Etudes Berberes at the University of Paris VIII-Vincennes.
- \* 1978 Establishment of Ateliers Imedyazen, an outreach and publication cooperative in Paris to debate and disseminate Berber issues; foundation of Tamaynut Association.
- \* 1980 Algerian government cancels Mouloud Mammeri' s lecture at the University of Tizi-Ouzou; Kabyle protests; repression of protestors by security forces; Berber Spring (Tafsut); foundation of the Mouvement Culturel Berbere (MCB).
- \* 1980-1990 Proliferation of Berber cultural associations.
- \* 1984-1985 Drought destroys about 70 percent of Tuareg livestock.
- \* 1989 Foundation of the Rassemblement pour la Culture et la Democratie (RCD) by Said Sadi; Libya deports Malian Tuareg; Union du Maghrib Arabe (UMA) entered into by Algeria, Libya, Mauritania, Morocco, and Tunisia.
- \* 1990 Front Islamique du Salut (FIS) sweeps municipal and regional elections; erosion and humiliation of the FLN; Tuareg attack Tchén Tabaraden; start of Tuareg Rebellion in Niger; armed Tuareg rebels attack government in Mali and Niger; Front pour la Liberation de l' Azaoud (FLA) seeks to establish a new state in northern Mali; interior ministers of Algeria, Mali, and Niger meet in Tamanrasset to discuss armed Tuareg uprisings; presidents of Libya, Algeria, Mali, and Niger hold a summit to discuss Tuareg issues; Tuareg aim to set up a free Tuareg state.

**\*1991 Tuareg destroy a border checkpoint, erasing border markings between Niger and Mali; Tuareg massacres; Tuareg attack In Gall;** Agadir Charter calls for the recognition of the Amazigh language and culture in Morocco; two Tuareg rebel groups and the government of Mali sign a truce in Tamanrasset; concessions included the establishment of a Tuareg autonomous region and the withdrawal of the Malian army from Timbuktu and Gao; the Front Populaire de Liberation de l' Azaouad (FLA) continues its attacks; Malian army retaliation increases.

**\* 1992 Tuareg rebel leaders and the government of Mali** sign a truce; Mali and Algeria to repatriate Malian Tuareg and refugees.

**\* 1992-1993 Niger admits the existence of a Tuareg rebellion** and calls for peace talks; continued Tuareg attacks and raids; truce between the Front de Liberation de l' Air et de l' Azawad (FLAA) and the government of Niger.

**\* 1993 Tuareg refugees begin to return to Mali from Algeria.**

**\*1994 Massacre of Tuareg civilians by Malian armed forces;** Tuareg assaults on Gao; Berber associations create an umbrella organization for the Amazigh cultural movement, Conseil National de Coordination (CNC); Tuareg rebel leaders and the government of Niger hold peace talks in Paris; Tuareg assault on government forces; members of the Goulmima-based organization, Tilleli, are arrested for showing banners written in Berber script (Tifinagh) during Labor Day march; King Hassan II calls for teaching "Berber dialects" ; Moroccan television begins broadcasting a daily four-minute news bulletin in Tamazight, Tashalhiyt, and Tarifit.

**\*1994-1995 School boycott in Kabylia.**

**\* 1995 Algerian government creates the Haut Commissariat à l' Amazighite (HCA)** to oversee the insertion of Tamazight in the education system and media; it fails to achieve its mission; peace agreement signed between the government of Niger and Tuareg groups ending the Tuareg revolt; skirmishes continue; Malian Tuareg call on the international community to help solve Mali' s northern problems; continuous cycles of retaliatory killings of Tuareg civilians and Tuareg assaults; Algeria relocates Malian refugees to new camps.

**\* 1996 Moroccan law restricts the use of names for Moroccan** children to approved Arabic-Muslim names and indirectly outlaws the use of Amazigh names not on the approved list.

**\* 1997 First World Amazigh Congress held in the Canary Islands** (Tafira in Berber).

**\* 1998 Assassination of Matoub Lounes, Kabyle singer** and activist; riots sweep Kabylia.

**\* 2000 Publication of the Amazigh Manifesto;** it calls for an inclusive approach in the reorganization and restructuring of Moroccan history and culture; questions the traditional Arab-Islamic basis of Moroccan society and history.

**\* 2001 King Mohamed VI announces the foundation of the Institut Royal** pour la Culture Amazigh (IRCAM); **Black Spring in Kabylia; the massacre of Massinissa; protests throughout Kabylia;** government forces kill scores of protestors; Kabyle tribal heads, or *arches*, meet in the village of El-Kseur and draft the El-Kseur Platform, which calls for economic demands and official recognition of Berber language and culture.

**\* 2002 Algerian government recognizes the Berber language,** Tamazight, as national (not official) language in constitutional revision.

**\* 25 January 2002 Moroccan authorities prevent the Association for the Defense of the Victims of the Spanish War** from holding a conference in Al Hoceima in northern Morocco on the Spanish use of German manufactured toxic gas to put down the Berber rebellion from 1921 to 1926.

\* **2004 Institut Royal pour la Culture Amazigh (IRCAM) publishes its first teaching manual of Tamazight** for primary school levels, titled *Tifawtin a tamazight* (Good Morning, Tamazight).

\* **17 January 2005 Algerian government agrees in principle to implement the El-Kseur Platform,** but details remain unsettled.

\* **21 February 2005 Seven members of IRCAM resign in protest** of the total failure of the National Education and Communications ministries to implement the directives of IRCAM.

\* **10 June 2005 Activists and members of the Berber movement petition** the government to establish the Parti Democratique Amazigh (PDA) in Morocco.

\* **15 August 2005 The political parties of MP,** the Mouvement National Populaire (MNP), and l' Union Democratique (UD) fuse into al-Haraka al-Sha`biyyah al-Muwahhada or Mouvement Populaire Unifie.

\* **13 September 2005 Gaddafi Charity Foundation calls on the government of Libya to lift a 1970s ban on the registration of Amazigh names.**