

Abstract

The present study deals with the applied direction of the Islamic Arabic geographical thought until the middle of the sixth century A.H (12th C.A.D). This subject has been studied from the perspective of the Muslim Arab's geographical thought and their investigation of the geographical knowledge, discovering the application areas on which the geographers moved and those who sought and used them in serving the society and its various activities whether they were political , military , commercial or related to services.

The general geographical procedure based on description, analysis , interpretation and evaluation has been employed for studying this subject . Such a procedure represents the principles generally adopted in the applied approach.

The study is organized in three chapters besides an introduction and a conclusion which contains the results arrived at . Chapter one includes the applied direction of the Muslim Arabs , which is comprised of four sections . The first chapter contains the early practical beginnings in the knowledge of geography. The second chapter includes the practical features and the characteristics of the Islamic Arabic geography. The third chapter contains the methods the Muslim Arabs used in the practical direction . The fourth section includes the factors leading to the interest in the practical direction.

Chapter two treats the applied direction in the fields of natural geography. It encompasses four sections , the first of which includes the applied direction in the field of climate whereas the second handles the applied direction in the hydrographic field . The third section covers the applied direction in the geomorphological field and the fourth section includes the applied direction in the field of astronomy.

Chapter three is entitled , The applied Direction in Some of The Fields of Demography. It has two sections, the first of which includes the applied direction in field of cities whereas the second includes the applied direction in medical geography.

The study contains the same tools of representation by tables , figures and maps to demonstrate some of the applied directions which Muslim Arab scholars employed in their geographical studies.