

Abu al-Qasim Saadallah's Academic Career at Al-Bayt University, Jordan (1996–2002)**Dr. Zoubir Benbordi**

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Received: 08/08/2025 ; Accepted: 30/10/2025 ; Published: 31/12/2025**Abstract:**

After Dr Abu al-Qasim Saadallah completed his academic duties at the University of Minnesota in the United States in 1996, he began planning to return to Algeria or join an Arab university. He applied to several universities at the time, and Al-Bayt University in Jordan accepted him, offering him a contract starting in September 1996.

Saadallah spent around six years at this university, during which he devoted himself to teaching postgraduate students by virtue of his expertise. He also supervised dissertations and examined others both within and outside the university, participated in various academic events, and published articles in peer-reviewed journals.

This study of his experience is significant as one of Saadallah's most important academic milestones outside Algeria, as it reveals his commitment to disseminating knowledge and serving historical research wherever he went, whilst highlighting the extent of his ongoing academic contributions despite his advancing age. Consequently, research into this phase aims to document its details and highlight its significance within the career of the doyen of Algerian historians, thereby opening up new horizons for researchers interested in his biography and academic journeys.

Keywords: Abu al-Qasim, Saadallah, University, Al-Bayt, Jordan, career.

1. Introduction:

Following the completion of Dr Abu al-Qasim Saadallah's obligations to the University of Minnesota in the United States in June 1996, where he had been a visiting professor since 1993, he began to consider returning to Algeria, or taking up a teaching post at one of the Arab universities before returning to Algeria once more. He subsequently applied for positions at several Arab universities, including Al-Bayt University in Jordan, which accepted his appointment from September 1996 until his retirement from teaching on 30 May 2002, having reached the age of 70.

Saadallah spent nearly six years at Al-Bayt University, during which he worked with great dedication and devotion. He was entrusted with teaching postgraduate students in particular, given his qualifications and teaching experience. He also supervised a number of theses and examined many others, both within the university and at other Jordanian universities. Saadallah also contributed to the academic life of the university by participating in conferences and seminars organised by the university or to which he was invited from outside, and by publishing articles in several journals.

It is within this context that I present this article on the eventful career of the doyen of Algerian historians, considering it one of his most significant academic journeys outside Algeria, dedicated to the dissemination of knowledge and scholarly engagement. Through this article, I shall endeavour to highlight its various aspects.

Building on the above, I shall address the following main question in this article: What were the key details and milestones of Abou El-Qasim Saadallah's academic career at Al-Bayt University in Jordan between 1996 and 2002?

To answer this question, I have divided the article into eight sections: a brief introduction to Abu al-Qasim Saadallah; an introduction to Al-Bayt University in Jordan; Saadallah's enrolment at the university; the subjects he taught; his teaching methodology and observations on students; his supervision of students' theses; his academic contributions and activities; followed by his dismissal from teaching and his return to Algeria.

It should be noted that I have drawn upon the doctoral thesis of the student Mariam Khalidi, entitled: 'Abu al-Qasim Saadallah: His Life and Works'.

As for the objectives this research seeks to achieve, the most important are:

- To shed light on one of the most prominent professors, researchers and historians who devoted their lives and efforts to scholarship and research wherever they settled or travelled.
- To provide a detailed account of one of Saadallah's most significant academic journeys outside Algeria, by highlighting its various aspects and dimensions.
- To contribute research that will be of assistance and guidance to other scholars and researchers studying this prominent figure in particular, and her academic endeavours in general. To carry out this research, and given its nature, I have adopted a historical approach, without neglecting analysis and description.

2. A brief introduction to Abu al-Qasim Sa'd Allah:

Abu al-Qasim Sa'd Allah was born in 1930 in the 'al-Badou' area, west of the town of Guemar¹. His father, Ahmad Saadallah, was not a scholar, but he was a man of reform; as for his mother, Al-Abidiya Hali, she was keen on his education, as she was influenced by her brother, Sheikh Al-Hafnawi Hali, who graduated from the Zaytouna Mosque in 1936 and became a member of the Association of Algerian Muslim Scholars².

Saadallah memorised the Holy Qur'an at the kuttab under the tutelage of Sheikh Belkacem bin al-Barri (Zubairi), when he was no more than fifteen years old. He then enrolled at Zaytouna in the autumn of 1947 to continue his studies³, having been influenced by his maternal uncle's husband, the scholar Sheikh Muhammad al-Tahir al-Tlili, who was at that time the leader of the reform movement in Guemar; he urged him to go to Zaytouna and bid him farewell before his departure⁴.

Saadallah spent seven years in Tunis, during which he obtained his certificate of eligibility in 1951 and his certificate of completion in 1954, having ranked second in his class⁵. He began his career in journalism in Tunis at the newspaper Al-Basair, which was published by the Association of Scholars. Several of his poems were published there. He also published a collection of stories, reflections and poems in Tunisian newspapers such as Al-Nahda and Al-Usbu', and in Algerian newspapers such as Al-Basair, as well as in the Lebanese literary magazine Al-Adab. He then helped, alongside his colleagues, to establish the 'New Pen Association', a literary society⁶.

Saadallah, a young graduate of Zaytouna University, aspired to continue his studies in the Levant, as the Association of Scholars had been sending delegations there since 1953; however, his application was rejected because he was not a graduate of the Abdelhamid Ben Badis Institute – and what was his fault? He had travelled to Zaytouna in the very year the institute opened, in 1947. However, this did not deter him from his resolve. He returned to Algiers on 19 November 1954 and taught for a full year at the 'Al-Thabat' school in the capital. Then, in the spring of 1955, he moved to teach at the 'Al-Tahdhib' school in Setif; both schools were affiliated with the Association of Scholars⁷.

In 1955, he travelled to Tunisia and from there to Egypt, arriving on 24 September, where he visited the headquarters of the Association of Scholars in Cairo and met Sheikh Muhammad al-Bashir al-Ibrahimi. In October of the same year, he enrolled at the Faculty of Arts and Humanities at Dar al-Ulum, Cairo University, and studied

the fundamentals of science and the truths of knowledge under its scholars, including Abd al-Salam Muhammad Harun and Sami al-Dahan. During that period, he kept abreast of the intellectual elite in Egypt through his extensive reading and his passion for literature, which dominated his mind and thought. Among the most famous names he became acquainted with were the poet Salah Abd al-Sabur, the writer Abd al-Rahman al-Sharqawi, and the poet Muhammad al-Fayturi⁸.

Amid this new cultural landscape in Egypt, the young Saadallah found what he had been searching for; He increased his creative output in the Egyptian magazine **Al-Risala al-Jadida**, the Lebanese magazine **Al-Adab**, and the Algerian newspaper **Al-Basair**, and succeeded in introducing Algerian literature – which had remained obscure until then – through his studies and extensive articles in the pages of these magazines and newspapers. During this time, he also participated in numerous cultural activities: poetry, prose, and creative writing, including short stories, novels and criticism. His time at Dar al-Ulum was a fruitful period, during which he benefited from a rigorous academic education and satisfied his passion for reading and literature. He eventually succeeded in publishing his first collection of poetry, **Victory for Algeria**, with Dar al-Fikr in Cairo in 1957⁹.

In July 1959, Saadallah obtained a Bachelor's degree in Arabic Language and Islamic Studies¹⁰. However, he did not complete his Master's studies in Egypt, and in November 1960 he travelled to the United States of America, having secured a scholarship from the Provisional Government of the Algerian Republic. From that point on, he shifted his focus from literature to history. Whilst there is no contradiction or conflict whatsoever between literature and history, many international historians began their careers as writers before becoming historians. From the Department of History at the University of Minnesota, he obtained a Master's degree in History and Political Science in 1962, followed by a PhD in Modern and Contemporary History in 1965, under the supervision of Dr Harold Charles Deutsch. The title of his thesis was 'The Algerian National Movement (1900–1930)'¹¹.

In October 1967, he returned to Algeria and began his academic career at the University of Algiers, where he established the first department specialising in historical studies¹². During his career, he held several positions and responsibilities at the University of Algiers and taught at numerous Arab and foreign universities, including in the United States, Canada, Jordan, Saudi Arabia, Syria and Egypt¹³.

Abu al-Qasim Saadallah has produced several works in his field of specialisation, the most notable of which are: 'The Cultural History of Algeria' in ten volumes, 'Research and Opinions on the History of Algeria' in five volumes, and his doctoral thesis 'The Algerian National Movement' in four volumes. In addition to his other works, which number more than forty, these include biographies such as **The Life of Emir Abdelkader** by Henry Churchill; critical editions such as **The History of Al-Adwani** by Muhammad ibn Umar Al-Adwani; travelogues such as "The Journey of Al-Aghwati Al-Hajj Ibn al-Din", and biographies and studies such as "The Pioneer of Islamic Renewal: Muhammad ibn al-Anabi", and works of intellectual and literary creativity such as "Intellectual Foundations and Studies in Modern Algerian Literature". His works and studies will remain a testament to his encyclopaedic knowledge, the originality of his research and the depth of his scholarship. He is the man who brought together the various branches of knowledge, devoted himself to the study of history, and spent a long time immersed in the realm of literature¹⁴.

Many students were taught by Professor Dr Abul-Qasim Saadallah, who went on to become luminous figures and shining stars in the academic firmament of Algerian universities, taking up the torch from the pioneering teacher who passed away in peace. Among them we recall: Nasir al-Din Sa'iduni, Muhammad al-Arabi al-Zubairi, Yahya Bouaziz, Yusuf Manasriya, and Ahmad Mariouh¹⁵.

It is noteworthy that Sa'dallah devoted himself to painstaking research, at the expense of his health; he immersed himself in this to such an extent that he fell prey to a host of ailments, yet he did nothing but confront them

by continuing to research and write. He was patient and strong in his resolve and tenacity, until his passing on 14 December 2013 extinguished a shining light of patriotism, scholarship and history. May God have mercy on the doyen of historians and the exemplar of researchers for what he offered, and may He have mercy on him for what he accomplished and achieved¹⁶.

3. Introduction to Al-Bayt University, Jordan:

It is a Jordanian university, located on the outskirts of the city of Mafraq, 65 km north-east of the capital, Amman. The Royal Decree establishing the university was issued on 17 August 1992. On 22 May 1993, a royal decree was issued appointing Dr Mohammed Adnan Al-Bakhit as President of the University. Immediately thereafter, a number of administrative, academic and technical committees were established to carry out the task of establishing the University, each according to the responsibilities assigned to it¹⁷.

Following the completion of its infrastructure, the appointment of academic staff, and the finalisation of its programmes, the university welcomed its first cohort of students on 1 October 1994. Under the patronage of King Hussein bin Talal and in the presence of Crown Prince Hassan, the university was officially inaugurated on 6 March 1995. Al-Bayt University comprises numerous faculties and institutes covering all fields of education, offering dozens of specialisations at bachelor's, master's and doctoral levels¹⁸.

4. Saadallah's enrolment at the university:

Following the conclusion of Dr Abul-Qasim Saadallah's duties at the University of Minnesota in the United States in June 1996—where he had been a visiting professor since 1993—after the Head of the History Department at the university declined to offer him teaching positions for the forthcoming 1996–1997 academic year, due to the severe financial pressure the department was under, as well as pressure from fellow professors, who viewed him as an outsider, in his own words, and having confirmed the completion of his book **The Cultural History of Algeria** and the recovery of the missing chapters from **The Algerian National Movement**; Saadallah began to consider returning to Algeria, or going to teach at an Arab or foreign university for several years, before returning to Algeria once more¹⁹. He subsequently applied for positions at several universities, including those in Canada, Australia, Saudi Arabia, Egypt and Jordan; however, his age was always a barrier to his acceptance at most of them²⁰.

He also wrote to Saadallah Muhammad al-Mili, Director of the Arab League Educational, Cultural and Scientific Organisation (ALECSO) in Tunisia, in the hope of finding work with the organisation, which would bring him closer to Arab and Islamic countries, where, as he noted, he needed to be active, conduct research and publish²¹.

After months of searching and waiting, he received an offer from Al-Bayt University in Jordan to join its staff from September 1996, following the efforts of the Algerian Ambassador in Amman, Al-Hashimi Qadouri, who undertook to send his file to the University President, Dr Mohammed Adnan Al-Bakhit, in Al-Mafraq, along with the Arab cultural attaché, Khaironi, as well as the efforts of his two friends, the diplomat Mohamed Al-Mili and the then Algerian ambassador to Syria, Abdullah Al-Rakibi, who had written to him months earlier offering to intervene to secure his appointment there as a professor, or to work in Oman or the United Arab Emirates²².

Saadallah goes on to say that good fortune came his way, but from an unexpected source. He forwarded my file to our late friend Al-Hashimi Qadouri, Algeria's ambassador to Jordan at the time. Al-Bayt University had recently opened its doors, so the ambassador sent my file personally to the university president, and his envoy, Mr Khaironi,

returned with immediate acceptance. And so another chapter of my life began, thanks to the step taken by Saadallah and carried out by our friend Al-Hashimi Qadouri²³.

Saadallah arrived in Jordan on the morning of 24 August 1996. The flat he chose to live in was next door to that of his colleague Dr Nasser al-Din Saidouni, who had also come to the university to teach (1996–1998); as Saadallah recalls, his presence helped alleviate his sense of isolation²⁴. It should be noted that his colleague Ammar Bouhoush was also teaching at the same university from January 1996²⁵. Saadallah initially signed a contract for a single academic term, renewable at the end of each term. His first academic term began on 3 September, just 10 days after his arrival, marking the start of his career there²⁶.

5. Subjects he taught:

Dr Abul-Qasim Saadallah was assigned to teach postgraduate students in particular, given his academic qualifications and teaching experience. He also taught several subjects across various disciplines to undergraduate students, including:

- The liberation movement in the modern Islamic world.
- Jurisprudential schools and Islamic sects.
- The history of waqf.
- The history of land ownership.
- The modern administrative system.
- The military system in the Islamic state.
- The history of the House of the Prophet.
- Contemporary world history.
- The elite in ancient and modern Islamic countries²⁷.

It is worth noting that Saadallah taught some of these subjects even though they did not fall within his area of expertise; consequently, he struggled to prepare for them due to the pressures of his work at the university. Nevertheless, he does not deny that he benefited from them in terms of his knowledge of Arab and Islamic history²⁸.

6. His teaching approach and observations on students:

Dr Saadallah's teaching approach differed from that of other university lecturers, who would dictate information to students so that they could write it down in their notebooks; come exam day, the students would recite what had been dictated to them by heart and write it on their answer sheets. Saadallah fought against this phenomenon, as it led students to write down what was dictated to them without paying attention to understanding or comprehension. He therefore encouraged them to write down only notes and ideas based on what they had understood from his lectures, and refrained from dictation; although this provoked a reaction from them, as they were unaccustomed to this method. Nevertheless, their relationship with the professor was exemplary in terms of politeness and goodwill, as Saadallah says:²⁹

Among his observations regarding the students is that some of them attend classes only reluctantly, because the subject is part of the curriculum and compulsory for them³⁰. Furthermore, they are not as interested in academic achievement as they are in passing and obtaining high marks, because job appointments are linked to this—that is, to their percentage grades. He adds in this regard: **“What I notice about the students is that they are**

excessively lazy and do not aspire to work towards success; rather, they aspire only to success itself. Few of them study the material outside of lectures, and even fewer study anything beyond the syllabus. In a single class, you will find only four or five out of thirty who possess the desire, intelligence, ambition and readiness”³¹.

As for research papers and graduation projects, their outward appearance is colourful and ornate, whilst their content does not meet the required standard, although some students do their utmost to satisfy the lecturer and adhere to the scientific method³². In comparison with American students, Saadallah noted that Eastern students write with great emotion; if they write a research paper, they include a dedication full of sentiment to their parents, relatives, friends, professors and others. American students, however, do not dedicate their work to anyone to that extent³³.

7. His supervision of students' theses:

Dr Abu al-Qasim Saadallah supervised a number of master's and doctoral theses for students at Al-Bayt University. He also served as an examiner for numerous theses, both within this university and at other Jordanian universities, such as the University of Jordan, Yarmouk University, and Mu'tah University. The following table provides examples of these³⁴:

| Student's name and surname | Thesis title | Degree awarded | Saadallah's role | Year of defence |
|-------------------------------|---|----------------|------------------|-----------------|
| Omar Saleh Ali Al-Omari | Jordan's stance on the Algerian Revolution in the Jordanian press, 1954–1962 | PhD | Examiner | 1997 |
| Al-Hasan bin Ali al-Kattani | The Jurisprudence of Al-Hafiz Ahmad bin Al-Sadiq Al-Ghamari: A Comparative Study | Master's | Co-supervisor | 1999 |
| Mustafa Eid Ahmad al-Qayyim | Educational Institutions in the Far West of Morocco during the Marinid Era 638 AH/1240 AD–869 AH/1464 AD | Master's | Supervisor | 2000 |
| Musa Ahmad Makhat Bani Khalid | The Role of Berber Tribes in Fatimid and Umayyad Political Relations in Al-Andalus (297–422 AH/910–1031 AD) | PhD | Examiner | 2002 |
| Ayed Musa Al-Halaika | The Judiciary in Damascus during the Early Mamluk Period (648–784 AH/1250–1382 AD) | Master's | Examiner | 2002 |

8. His academic contributions and activities:

Abu al-Qasim Sa'd Allah contributed to the revitalisation of academic life at Al-Bayt University, despite the heavy workload that drained his energy to the utmost. His working hours at the university run from 8 am to 5 pm – and he is not permitted to leave or be absent without permission from the Vice-Chancellor – as there are a succession of meetings that take up a great deal of time, reviewing graduation projects and research topics, participating in the discussion of theses, marking students' grades, drawing up syllabuses for the subjects to be taught to students in the coming term, writing research papers for postgraduate students, and other tasks, in addition to the time he spends preparing lessons. Furthermore, a lecturer cannot participate in any conference, seminar or

activity outside the university without the permission of the Vice-Chancellor, who sometimes refuses to grant permission as long as the activity is linked to the university³⁵.

Nevertheless, Saadallah was keen to participate and contribute to research through articles, lectures and presentations in journals, seminars and scientific conferences organised by the university, or to which he was invited from outside it. I recall the following, in chronological order:

- Article: “**Settlement and Integration in Algeria**”, *Al-Nadwa* magazine³⁶, Al-Bayt University, 1997³⁷.
- Lecture: “**Travel Literature among Moroccans**”, Symposium on “Sources of Modern Arab History”, Al-Bayt University, 29–30 April 1997³⁸.
- Article: “**The Last of the Notables, or the End of the Arab Aristocracy in Algeria**”, Al-Manara Journal³⁹, Al-Bayt University, August 1997⁴⁰.
- Lecture: “**Manifestations of Western Civilisation in the Memoirs of a Witness to the Century by Malek Bennabi**”, Symposium on “**Biographical Literature and Memoirs**”, Al-Bayt University, 12 May 1998⁴¹.
- Lecture: “**Observations on Arabisation in Algeria**”, Symposium of the Arabic Language Academy in Cairo, 1999⁴².
- Lecture: “**The Influence of Al-Manar Magazine and Sheikh Rashid Rida in the Arab Maghreb**”, Symposium commemorating the death of Rashid Rida, Al-Bayt University, in coordination with the International Institute of Islamic Thought, 1999⁴³.
- Presentation: “**The Journeys of Léon Roch and Gervais Courtelmann to the Hejaz**”, Conference on “European Journeys to the Arabian Peninsula”, King Abdulaziz Foundation, Saudi Arabia, 1999.
- Lecture: “**Muhammad ibn Yusuf Atfash and his cultural role**”, Amman Day, Al-Bayt University, 16 April 2001⁴⁴.

In addition to the above, Dr Saadallah also held a prominent position in the Department of History due to his extensive experience and expertise; he was a member of the department’s Research Council, a member of the university committee responsible for setting the curriculum for postgraduate students, the chair of the Modern History Syllabus Committee, and a member of the committee for the textbook *An Introduction to Islamic History*, which is compulsory for all students. The editorial board divided the book into sections, and Saadallah was responsible for those relating to the Arabic language, education, mosques, schools, waqf, the Hajj, and so on⁴⁵.

9. His exemption from teaching and return to Algeria:

After Dr Salman Fadhil Al-Badour took over as President of Al-Bayt University in August 2001, he worked to appoint Jordanians to senior positions, even if they lacked the necessary administrative and academic qualifications. This was in contrast to the practice of the administration of the former president, Mohammed Adnan Al-Bakhit, who appointed professors of various nationalities to these positions, provided they were qualified in his view. The truth is that the latter had a close relationship with Dr Saadallah; he loved him dearly and respected him for his stature and worth, and had always considered his presence at the university a great asset. Saadallah says of the new president of Al-Badour University that he was full of himself and not humble, despite being highly knowledgeable and extremely intelligent. However, his personality and manner differed from those of ‘Al-Bakhit’, who was known for his strictness, sincerity and diligence, as well as for his affability, humanity, eloquence and

love of humour, despite a firmness that some interpreted as dictatorial⁴⁶.

This new policy also affected the teaching staff, with President Al-Badour appointing only Jordanian master's degree holders in certain specialisms, which led to the dismissal of most foreign lecturers, particularly those over the age of 70⁴⁷, which was exactly what Saadallah had anticipated since he took over as university president. He therefore began to seriously consider returning to Algeria⁴⁸, and wrote to the University of Algiers regarding the possibility of teaching there as a contract lecturer⁴⁹.

On 30 May 2002, what Dr Saadallah had anticipated came to pass, as the university president issued dismissals for most of the professors, Saadallah being among them, on the grounds that they had exceeded the age of 70, thus bringing to an end his career at Al-Bayt University, where he had spent around six years. Saadallah also mentions that there were other reasons behind this decision, including the fact that the current president of the university had come specifically to impose secularisation, and to exclude Islamic and, in their view, extremist subjects, as well as those calling for the awakening and revival of the Islamic world⁵⁰.

The letter of dismissal reached Saadallah on 2 June, stating that his contract would come to an end from next September. Some of his colleagues regretted his departure, and former president Al-Bakhit tried to dissuade him from leaving, promising that he would raise the matter with the university president and that his continued presence in Jordan would be an asset; however, Saadallah was determined to return to Algeria and settle there after his long absence, which had lasted nearly nine years. He says of this: **“I have been a guest here since 1996, and a guest must leave one day. The time has come to depart, and it is time for the knight to dismount”**⁵¹.

Some of his colleagues in the History Department held a party in his honour, organised by Dr Hind Abu al-Sha'ar, but he apologised for not attending as he was in Amman and busy with his travel arrangements. Dr Saadallah left Jordan on 8 July 2002, returning to Algeria to continue his academic career there as a contract professor at the University of Algiers⁵².

Saadallah also visited the National Centre for Studies and Research on the National Movement and the Revolution of 1 November 1954, and asked its new director, Jamal Yahyaoui, to provide him with an office and a computer on which to carry out his research, as the cramped conditions of his home made this difficult; Yahiaoui agreed to his request after consulting the then Minister of Mujahideen, Mohamed Cherif Abbas, who also welcomed the idea. Saadallah also signed a contract with the Centre under which he was to write a book on the cultural history of the Algerian Revolution within three years, which he did, publishing the book, which is the tenth volume of his work **The Cultural History of Algeria (1954–1962)**⁵³.

It should be noted that Saadallah named his house in the 'Dali Ibrahim' neighbourhood of Algiers 'Beit Al-Urdun' (House of Jordan), as a significant portion of the costs of its construction came from his salary when he was a professor at Al-Bayt University, whereas his salary as a professor at the University of Algiers had not enabled him to do so⁵⁴.

10. Conclusion:

In conclusion, I have drawn a number of conclusions, which I summarise as follows:

- Given his academic qualifications and teaching experience, Abu al-Qasim Saadallah left a distinctive mark on Jordan's Al-Bayt University during the six years he spent there, where he was tasked with teaching postgraduate students in particular. He also supervised and examined numerous master's and doctoral theses for students at the university or at other Jordanian universities.
- Saadallah opposed the practice of lecturers dictating information to students, as this leads them to write

down what is dictated to them without paying attention to understanding and comprehension. His teaching approach relied on students writing down only the key points and ideas they had understood from his lectures, in addition to their own reading.

- Saadallah contributed to revitalising academic life at Al-Bayt University through his participation and research contributions in the form of articles, lectures and presentations in journals, seminars and academic conferences, whether organised by the university or to which he was invited from outside.

- Abu al-Qasim Saadallah says of his time at Al-Bayt University in Jordan: **“The first thing that springs to mind is six years of dedication to my academic life. AS the days went by, Al-Bayt University became an integral part of my daily life. I am there from 8 am to 5 pm. It is a beacon in the heart of the Arabian desert. Moreover, with its lecturers, students and administrative staff, it represents to me a large extended family and close relatives. There is warmth in our interactions, and a shared sense of responsibility to raise the university’s standards and achieve the goals set out in its academic plans”**⁵⁵ .

11. Footnotes:

- ¹ Ashouri Qamoun, ‘The Renowned Encyclopaedic Scholar Dr Abu al-Qasim Saadallah’, **International Symposium on Abu al-Qasim Saadallah: Historian and Thinker**, Faculty of Social and Human Sciences, University of El Oued, Algeria, 13–14 December 2015, p. 10.
- ² Ali Ghanabzia, “Abu al-Qasim Saadallah: The Diligent Son of the Association of Algerian Muslim Scholars (1940–2014)”, **International Symposium on Abu al-Qasim Saadallah...**, op. cit., p. 118.
- ³ Mohamed Nouar, “A Creative Mind from the New **Generation**”, in **The Passing of the Sheikh of Algerian Historians Abu al-Qasim Saadallah as Written by His Loved Ones**, Edited by: Mohamed al-Amin Belghith, Al-Basair al-Jadida, Algiers, 2014, p. 278.
- ⁴ Ali Ghanabzia, op. cit., p. 118.
- ⁵ Sheikh Lekhal and Rahima Bichi, “Abu al-Qasim Saadallah’s Efforts to Promote the History of the Algerian Sahara”, in **The Passing of the Sheikh of Historians...**, op. cit., p. 564.
- ⁶ Abdelkrim Boualsafsaf et al., **Dictionary of Notable Figures of Algeria in the Nineteenth and Twentieth Centuries**, Vol. 2, Publications of the Centre for Historical and Philosophical Studies, Mentouri University, Constantine, Algeria, May 2004, p. 151.
- ⁷ Ibid., p. 150.
- ⁸ Abu al-Qasim Sa’d Allah, **Intellectual Foundations**, 2nd ed., Dar al-Gharb al-Islami, Beirut, Lebanon, 2005, pp. 47–48.
- ⁹ Ashouri Qamoun, op. cit., p. 12.
- ¹⁰ Abdelkarim Boualsafsaf et al., op. cit., p. 151.
- ¹¹ Abu al-Qasim Sa’dallah, op. cit., pp. 49–54.
- ¹² Abdelkrim Boualsafsaf et al., op. cit., p. 151.
- ¹³ Mukhtar Salmi, ‘Abu al-Qasim Sa’d Allah: Historian, Researcher and Translator’, **Journal of Historical Studies**, Vol. 23, No. 1, University of Algiers 2, Algiers, 2022, pp. 162–163.
- ¹⁴ Mohamed Al-Amin Belghith, ‘The Dean of Algerian Historians: Life and Career **1930–2013**’, in **The Passing of the Dean of Historians...**, op. cit., pp. 22–35.
- ¹⁵ Ashouri Qamoun, op. cit., p. 11.

- ¹⁶ Ibid., pp. 16–18.
- ¹⁷ Al-Bayt University website, **General Information about the University**. Accessed on Thursday 12 December 2024, at 20:30. <https://www.aabu.edu.jo/AR/>
- ¹⁸ Ibid.
- ¹⁹ Saadallah retired from the University of Algiers in 1996. Perhaps one of the main reasons he continued teaching and conducting research outside Algeria was the political and security instability the country was experiencing in the 1990s.
- ²⁰ Abu al-Qasim Saadallah, **Masar Qalam** Yawmiyat, Vol. 6, Al-Alam al-Ma'rifa, Algiers, 2015, pp. 205–224.
- ²¹ Ibid., p. 207.
- ²² Abu al-Qasim Saadallah, “An Example of Scholars’ Loyalty: Abu al-Qasim Saadallah in the Obituary of Abdullah al-Rakibi”, **Sheikh Abdul Hamid bin Badis website**. Accessed on Friday 13 December 2024, at 11:30. <https://binbadis.net/>, and Abu al-Qasim Sa’d Allah, **Masar al-Qalam: Yawmiyat**, op. cit., pp. 209 and 227–234.
- ²³ Abu al-Qasim Sa’d Allah, “A Portrait from Wafa’ al-Ulama...”, op. cit., and Abu al-Qasim Sa’d Allah, **Masar Qalam** Yawmiyat, op. cit., p. 245.
- ²⁴ Shortly afterwards, his wife Hafsa joined him, whilst his son Ahmad chose to continue his studies in America. It should be noted that Saadallah had taken in his nephew Omar, Hisham, into his home, and had overseen and funded his university education from the very first day he arrived in Jordan. See: Ammar Bouhoush, “Abu al-Qasim Saadallah, as I Knew Him”, **The Fifth Intellectual Symposium on Abu al-Qasim Saadallah: “Abu al-Qasim Saadallah and the Algerian National Character”**, Al-Wadi, Algiers, 14 January 2023, available on his website. Accessed on Tuesday 17 December 2024, at 20:10. <https://www.ammarbouhouche.com/>
- ²⁵ Ammar Bouhoush recalls that during their time at Al-Bayt University, they were able to organise a weekly get-together, taking turns to meet at one of their homes every Wednesday to have a meal. This wonderful opportunity, as he says, was a chance to exchange views on matters both big and small, to discuss the behaviour of our friends at the University of Algiers, and to comment on events at the university during the long period we taught there. See: Ammar Bouhoush, op. cit.
- ²⁶ Ammar Bouhoush, op. cit., and Abu al-Qasim Saadallah, **Masar al-Qalam: Yawmiyat**, op. cit., pp. 235–237.
- ²⁷ Abu al-Qasim Sa’dallah, **Masar al-Qalam: Yawmiyat**, Vol. 6, op. cit., pp. 241, 248, 326 and 352, and Abu al-Qasim Sa’dallah, **Masar al-Qalam: Yawmiyat**, Vol. 7, op. cit., p. 137.
- ²⁸ Abu al-Qasim Sa’dallah, **Masar al-Qalam: A Diary**, Vol. 6, op. cit., p. 248; and Abu al-Qasim Sa’dallah, **Masar al-Qalam: A Diary**, Vol. 7, op. cit., p. 100.
- ²⁹ Abu al-Qasim Sa’d Allah, **Masar al-Qalam: Yawmiyat**, vol. 6, op. cit., p. 365, and Abu al-Qasim Sa’d Allah, **Masar al-Qalam: Yawmiyat**, vol. 7, op. cit., p. 119.
- ³⁰ Abu al-Qasim Sa’d Allah, **Masar al-Qalam: Yawmiyat**, vol. 6, op. cit., p. 253.
- ³¹ Abu al-Qasim Sa’d Allah, **Masar al-Qalam: Yawmiyat**, Vol. 7, op. cit., pp. 117–119.
- ³² Abu al-Qasim Sa’dallah, **Masar al-Qalam: A Diary**, Vol. 6, op. cit., p. 266.
- ³³ Abu al-Qasim Sa’dallah, **Masar al-Qalam: A Diary**, Vol. 7, op. cit., p. 117.
- ³⁴ Abu al-Qasim Sa’dallah, **Masar al-Qalam: A Diary**, Vol. 6, op. cit., pp. 293, 333–339, 391, 400, 459–460 and 462, and Abu al-Qasim Sa’dallah, **Masar al-Qalam: Yawmiyat**, Vol. 7, op. cit., pp. 36, 54–57, 295–297 and

- 316.
- 35 Abu al-Qasim Sa'd Allah, **Masar al-Qalam**: Yawmiyat, Vol. 6, op. cit., pp. 244, 254, 272 and 364, and Abu al-Qasim Sa'd Allah, **Masar al-Qalam**: Yawmiyat, Vol. 7, op. cit., p. 149.
- 36 It was overseen at the time by the university president, Dr Al-Bakhit, who always encouraged Saadallah to contribute to its issues.
- 37 Mohammed al-Amin Balgith, op. cit., p. 34.
- 38 Abu al-Qasim Saadallah, **Masar Qalam** Yawmiyat, Vol. 6, op. cit., p. 288.
- 39 Saadallah was a member of its editorial board for five years, which was chaired at the time by Dr Salman Fadhil al-Badour.
- 40 Abu al-Qasim Sa'dallah, **Masar al-Qalam: Yawmiyat**, Vol. 6, op. cit., pp. 324 and 334.
- 41 Ibid., p. 370.
- 42 Mariam Khalidi, **Abu al-Qasim Saadallah: His Life and Works**, PhD thesis, supervised by Prof. Ibrahim Lounissi, University of Jilali Yabès, Sidi Bel Abbès, Algeria, 2017–2018, p. 366.
- 43 Abu al-Qasim Saadallah, **Masar al-Qalam: Yawmiyat**, Vol. 6, op. cit., p. 451.
- 44 Abu al-Qasim Saadallah, **Masar al-Qalam: Yawmiyat**, Vol. 7, op. cit., pp. 147–148.
- 45 Nasir al-Din Sa'iduni, **Abu al-Qasim Sa'dallah: A Word of Loyalty...**, Al-Basair al-Jadida, Algiers, 2014, p. 233; and Abu al-Qasim Saadallah, **Masar al-Qalam: Yawmiyat**, Vol. 6, op. cit., pp. 273 and 408; and Abu al-Qasim Saadallah, **Masar al-Qalam: Yawmiyat**, Vol. 7, op. cit., p. 83.
- 46 Abu al-Qasim Saadallah, **The Path of the Pen: Diaries**, Vol. 7, op. cit., pp. 185–186 and 224.
- 47 Whilst in Jordan, Saadallah contracted several illnesses; among them, at the beginning of April 2002, he suffered from a severe fever, which forced him to be admitted to the University of Jordan Hospital on the 11th of that month, where he remained for eight days. This was the first time he had been admitted to hospital and the first time he had been absent from work due to illness, having worked for six years without missing a single hour. See: Abu al-Qasim Sa'dallah, **Masar al-Qalam: Yawmiyat**, Vol. 7, op. cit., pp. 276–280.
- 48 It should be noted that in March 2002, the History Department at the University of Minnesota informed Sa'dallah that they had decided not to proceed with the consideration of applications—including Sa'dallah's—for the post of Professor of Islamic Studies for the 2002–2003 academic year. See: Abu al-Qasim Saadallah, **Masar Qalam** Yawmiyat, Vol. 7, op. cit., p. 265.
- 49 Ibid., p. 224.
- 50 Ibid., pp. 293–294.
- 51 Ibid., pp. 294–297.
- 52 Ibid., pp. 24 and 303.
- 53 Abu al-Qasim Sa'd Allah, **Cultural History of Algeria**, Vol. 10, Al-Basair al-Jadida, Algiers, 2007, p. 6, and Abu al-Qasim Sa'd Allah, **The Path of the Pen: Diaries**, Vol. 7, op. cit., pp. 308, 316–319 and 341–343.
- 54 Mohammed al-Hadi al-Hassani, "The House of Jordan", in **The Departure of the Sheikh of Historians...**, op. cit., pp. 352–354.
- 55 Abu al-Qasim Sa'dallah, **Dialogues**, World of Knowledge, Algiers, 2015, pp. 205–206.