

Nabil Matar: Islam and the "Making of a Great Power": Britain and North Africa, 1688-1713

The paper will examine the two wars between France and Britain between 1689-1713 in their Mediterranean theatre. It will show the important role that Morocco and the Regencies of Algeria, Tunisia, and Libya played in providing supplies and logistical support to the two contenders. By the end of the wars, Britain prevailed in the Mediterranean, thanks to the effectiveness of its consuls and its fleet in persuading and coercing the North African rulers to discontinue cooperation with France, and to help the British military effort with horses, heat, corn, and the use of harbours. The victory of Britain was thus partly a result of "Muslim/"Barbary" support.