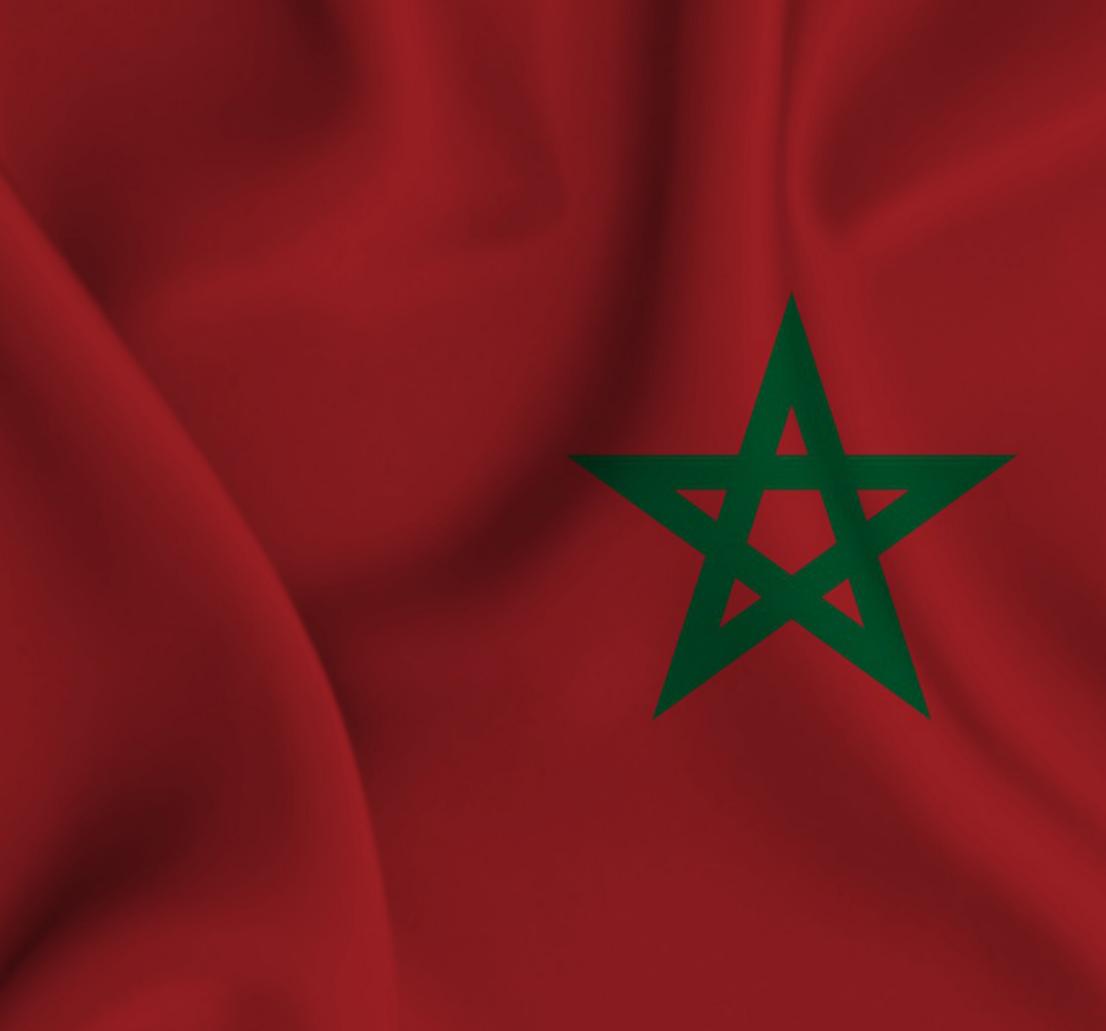


Morocco North Africa

By Shaykh Sājid Ibrāhīm Sūfī



Part 4

Rabat, Morocco's capital, rests along the shores of the Bouregreg River and the Atlantic Ocean.



Rabat old city (Medina) World Heritage site

The Old City of Rabat, also known as the Medina, is a walled city that dates back to the 17th century. The Medina is home to many historic buildings, traditional souks, and bustling markets. One very important feature of the Medina is that even if it dates back to the 17th century, people still live in it today.



THE REMINDER

Rabat old city













Rabat old market World Heritage site









THE REMINDER

Masājid and Madrasah in the old city









The Hassan Tower

The Hassan Tower is a minaret that was part of an unfinished masjid that was built in the 12th century during the Almohad dynasty. The masjid was commissioned by Sultan Yacoub El Mansour and was intended to be one of the largest in the world, but it was never completed due to the death of the ruling Sultan. Legend also says that a major earthquake broke off part of the minaret and permanently halted its construction. Regardless, the Hassan Tower stands at an impressive 44 metres tall and is accompanied by 200 columns that would have been the basis for the intended masjid. It is made of red sandstone and stands as a masterpiece of Moroccan architecture and is one of the most iconic landmarks in Rabat, and Morocco more generally.



The Mausoleum of Mohammed V

The Mausoleum of Mohammed V is a magnificent tomb that was built in honour of King Mohammed V, beloved by the Moroccan people as he led Morocco to independence in 1956. The mausoleum is located next to the Hassan Tower and is an important example of Moroccan architectural heritage. It is made of white marble, and features intricate carvings and mosaics. The tomb is still used today as the final resting place of King Mohammed V and his son, the late King Hassan II. The tombs themselves are made from white Onyx, possibly one of the most precious types of marble in the world, and are guarded by horsemen wearing traditional clothing that used to be worn by the Sultan's guards.





The Kasbah of the Udayas

The Kasbah of the Udayas is a fortified citadel located on the banks of the Bouregreg River, just outside the walls of the Old City of Rabat. It was built in the 12th century during the Almohad dynasty, and served as a military stronghold to protect the city from invaders.







Part 5, Atlas mountains, to be continued.