케 démarch 이스마일의 이집트 개혁과 그 개혁이
이집트 사회에 끼친 영향

송경근**

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** 조선대학교 아랍어과 교수
<Abstract>

The Reformation of Egypt by Khedive Ismail & Its influence on Egyptian Society.

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Ismail, the son of Ibrahim and grandson of Muhammad Ali, seemed to both European and Egyptians a promising ruler. The early years of Ismail’s rule were a boom period in Egypt. The American Civil War was preventing Southern cotton from reaching England’s textile mills. By 1863 all Egyptian cotton was being sold to Europe at inflated prices. The country’s economy was thriving. Bankers and other moneylender flocked around Ismail, luring him into various public and private investments.

He began to modernize Egypt by the construction of factories, irrigation works, and public buildings. Many cultural institutions began during his reign. He also established the system of provincial and local administration and convoked the first representative assembly in 1866. He changed all of the Egyptian society. However Egypt’s foreign debt skyrocketed. Once the American Civil War ended and Southern cotton again became available, Egypt’s cotton boom ceased, tax revenues fell, and terms demanded by foreign lenders became stricter.

In 1875 he sold his government’s shares in the Suez Canal Company to Britain for 4 million pounds (approximately $20 million), a fateful step toward British control. He allowed Britain and France to set up their Dual Financial Control over Egyptian state revenues and expenditures. All this control was intended to restore the credit of the Egyptian government.