

Abstract (in English):

This master's thesis is focusing on the issue of military ranks in the armed forces of contemporary Arab states. In the thesis, the terms for military ranks of all branches of the armed forces (ground force, navy, air force) of Arab armies are being discussed. At the same time, the proposed thesis is dealing with the historical and political context of development of military ranks in the region; therefore, there is a focus on early developments of military ranks in the Middle Ages, reform efforts in the Ottoman military of Sultan Mahmut II., and the creation of Egyptian army during the rule of Muḥammad ‘Alī’s dynasty. In the thesis itself, military traditions of European colonial powers together with the political developments in the second half of the 20th century are also taken into consideration while discussing the ranks and terminology. The rank system of the Armed Forces of the Egyptian Arab Republic serves as a reference for other states throughout the thesis. The thesis is based on analysis of scholarly literature and relevant legislation of Arab countries.