

A Study of Models of Ottoman Citadels on al-Ṭarīq al-Sulṭānī, between Medina and Mecca	عنوان البحث باللغة الإنجليزية
دراسة لنماذج من القلاع العثمانية على الطريق السلطاني بين المدينة المنورة ومكة المكرمة	عنوان البحث باللغة العربية
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Abstract; *Al-Ṭarīq Al-Sulṭānī*, which connects *Al-Madīnah* with *Mecca*, holds significant historical importance in Islamic history. This paper aims to shed light on this road, define it, identify its points and stations, and explore its historical significance. The Ottomans took great care of it as part of their interest in the Two Holy Mosques, strengthening and fortifying it. The paper also aims to study the citadel models built along the road, the reasons for their construction, and their importance. Additionally, it seeks to analyze the architectural styles and elements of the road, comparing them with other examples of Ottoman citadels along various pilgrimage routes in Al-Ḥijāz. This paper holds great importance as it presents a new documentary publication for the first time, featuring four Ottoman citadels on the Sūlṭānī Road. The study adopts a comparative, analytical, and inductive approach, relying on essential documents concerning the castles, their locations, completion dates, and architectural styles.