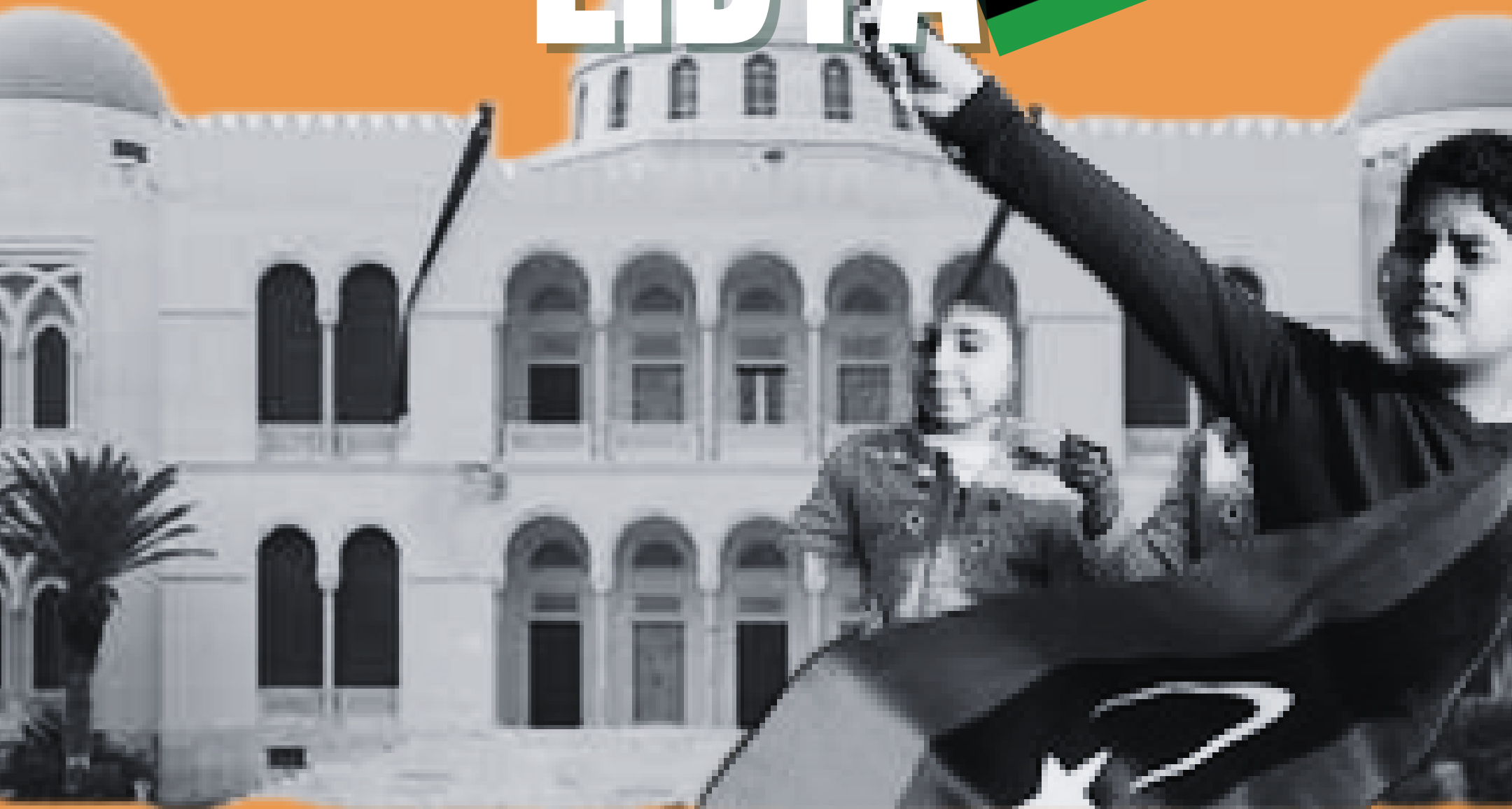




THINK MY INDEPENDENCE

LIBYA



On **December 24, 1951**, Libya, a federal monarchy ruled by **Idriss I**, became the **first African country** to achieve **independence** since the end of WW2.

THE OTTOMAN RULE PT.1

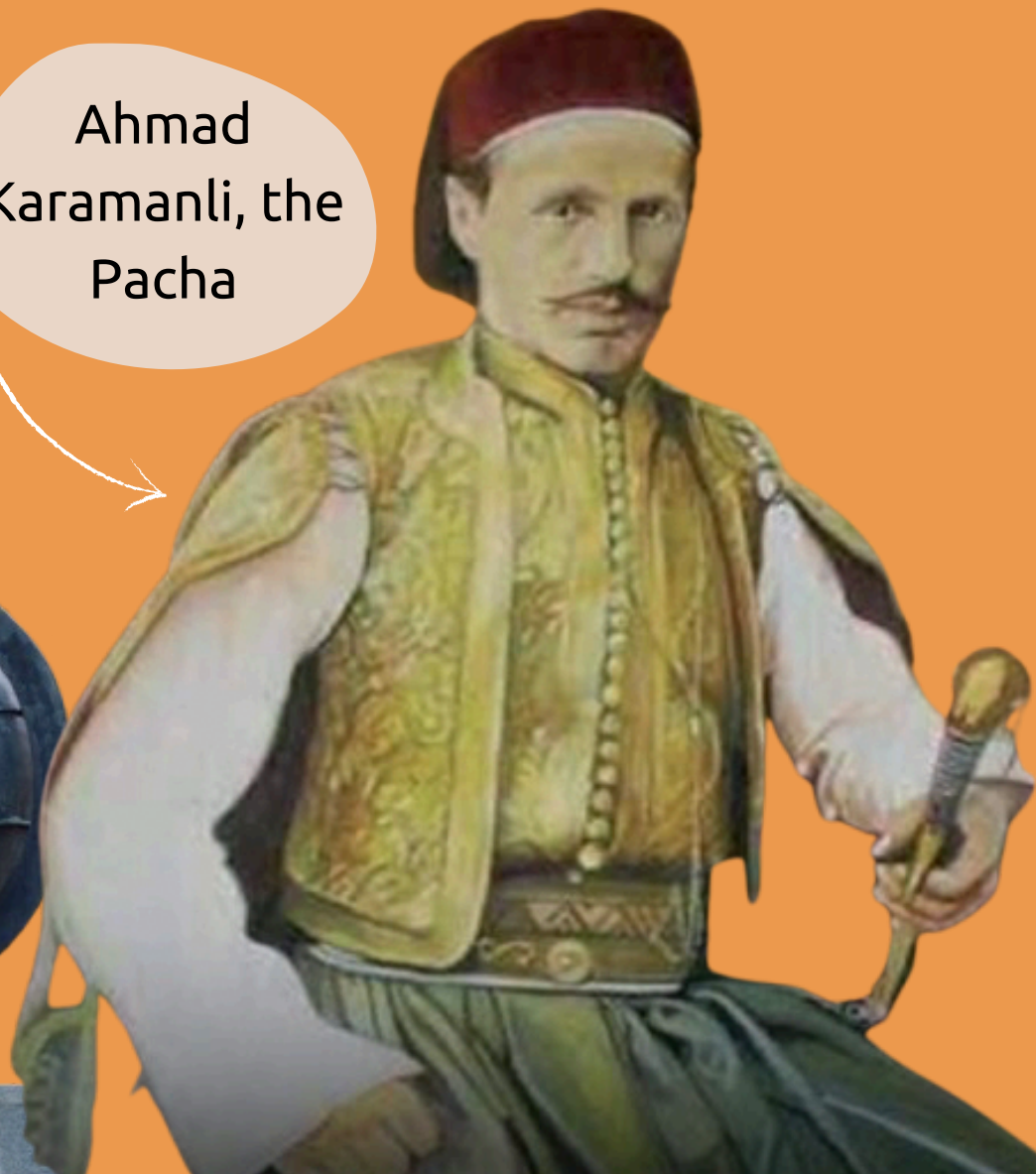
In the beginning of the 16th century, Libya becomes part of the Ottoman Empire. **Dragut**, a famous corsair, was appointed pasha to transform Tripoli into a strategic maritime base.

In 1711, **Ahmad Karamanli** seized power with the support of the divan (governing council) and the people, establishing a **semi-independent dynasty** recognized by the Ottoman sultan. The regency prospered thanks to trade, but this independence was weakened by internal conflicts from 1790 onwards.

Dragut



Ahmad Karamanli, the Pacha



THE OTTOMAN RULE PT.2

Instability led the Ottomans to **regain direct control of the regency in 1835**, to counter European colonial ambitions and tribal rebellions (notably Tuareg).

In 1840, Mohammed bin Ali Al-Sanoussi founded a **zawiya** (religious fraternity) in Cyrenaica, revitalizing Islam and easing tribal tensions.

The **Al-Sanoussi brotherhood** gained in influence, but aroused the mistrust of the Ottomans.

Late 19th century: The Al-Sanoussi brotherhood is still in place, but Tripoli remains a strategic challenge in the face of the **colonial ambitions** of the European powers.



ITALO-TURKISH WAR 1911-1912

In 1911, Italy decided to conquer Tripolitania and Cyrenaica. It sent an **ultimatum** to the Ottoman Empire, justifying its intervention by the protection of its nationals. On November 5, 1911, a **royal decree** officially integrates Tripolitania and Cyrenaica into the Kingdom of Italy.

The Italians meet fierce resistance from Turkish-Libyan forces, notably at the **Battle of Tobruk**, where **Mustafa Kemal** Pasha inflicts a defeat on the Italians.

Violence escalates, with the massacre of civilians by the Italian army at Sciara-Sciat, the discovery of mutilated Italian soldiers at Henni and the implementation of a policy of terror through public hangings.



ITALIAN COLONIZATION

In spring 1912, Italy controls the coastal zone after fighting. On **October 17, 1912**, under the **Treaty of Ouchy**, the Ottoman Empire renounced its sovereignty over Tripolitania and Cyrenaica, formalizing their **annexation by Italy**.

In the 1930s, the policy of Italian fascism toward Libya began to change, and both Italian Cyrenaica and Tripolitania, along with Fezzan, were merged into **Italian Libya** in 1934.

Italian Libya flag

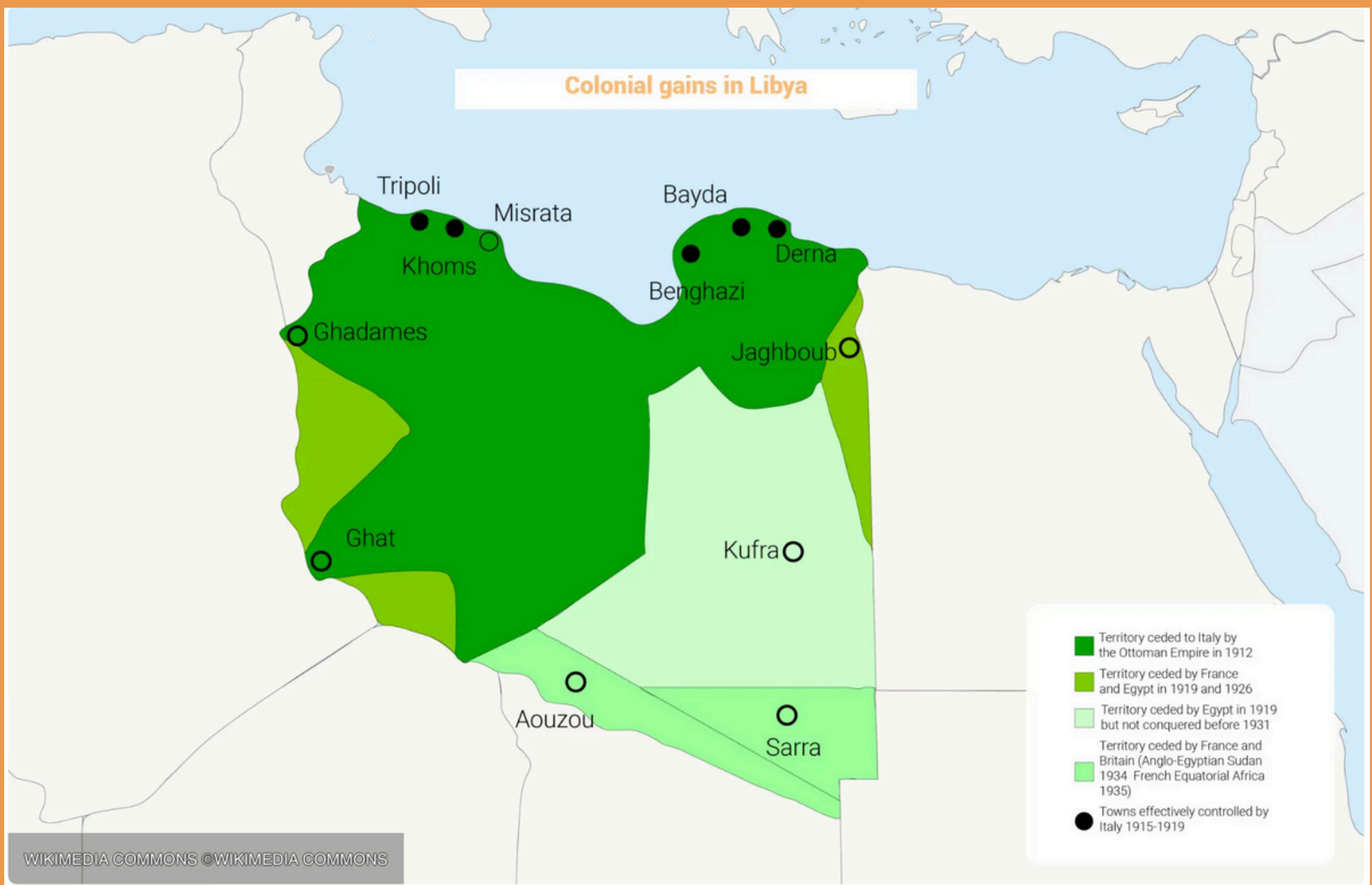


ROLE OF FRANCE AND THE UK

Territorial concessions

- **1925:** Egypt cedes the Kufra and Jarabub districts to Italian Libya.
- **1935:** The Mussolini-Laval agreement provides for the transfer of the Aouzou strip from France to Italy, but is not ratified by France.
- **1934:** The Sarra triangle is transferred to Italy by the Anglo-Egyptian condominium.

The UK and France indirectly facilitate the expansion of Italian Libya by transferring territories they consider of little value.



WAY TO INDEPENDENCE

At the end of WW2, France and the United Kingdom shared the occupation of the country: Tripolitania and Cyrenaica under British control, Fezzan under French control. Italy officially **renounced Libya in 1947** with the **Treaty of Paris**.

IDRISS AL SENUSSI,



On March 1, 1949, **Idris al-Sanussi** proclaimed the independence of the **restored Emirate of Cyrenaica**, while the British retained administration of Tripolitania, with the support of the British, who welcomed the emergence of a Libyan monarchy that would remain their ally. For several months, Libya's status was the subject of uncertainty, with France **reluctant** to accept the emergence of a new state in the region.

INDEPENDENCE

A United Nations (UN) resolution providing for British, French and Italian tutelage tried to settle the issue, but was rejected in May 1949. This was followed by Cyrenaica's proclamation of independence, which prompted the UN to vote on November 21, 1949 in favor of an independent state, including the 3 provinces, by January 1st, 1952. The resolution was adopted by 48 votes to one (Ethiopia), with nine abstentions. On **December 24, 1951**, Libya, a federal monarchy ruled by **Idriss I**, became the first African country to achieve independence since the end of WW2. Legislative elections made **Mohammed Muntasser** head of government.

10 ANNIVERSARY OF INDEPENDENCE

