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# THE ENCYCLOPAEDIA OF ISLAM

## THREE

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lower part of the town were replaced by wide, European-style boulevards, with modern buildings, restaurants and cafés, cathedrals, theatres, an opera house, museums, and educational institutions, including the University of Algiers. On the eve of Algeria's war of independence all that was left of Ottoman Algiers were some 34 hectares in the Qaşba, the upper part of the town.

Algiers' population grew considerably during the colonial period. In addition to a large number of Europeans who settled in the town and a high annual growth rate, the town witnessed an influx of immigration from Algeria's impoverished rural areas. Most of these immigrants lived in the much-overcrowded Qaşba, which was also known as "the indigenous town." With the enormous demographic increase, the town spilled beyond its former urban boundaries to include a number of suburban districts. Including these districts, Algiers' population in 1959 reached 805,000, of which 456,000 were Muslims.

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### Alimuddin, Sultan (of Sulu)

**Alimuddin I** ('Azim ud-Din), Sultan of Sulu (the Philippines), r. 1735–48 and 1764–74, is the most famous figure in the history of Islamic Sulu, although he also lived for a time as a convert to Christianity.

Formerly known as Datu Lagasan, he assumed the name 'Azim ud-Din in 1735. His father, Badar ud-Din, declared him sultan of the island of Tawi-tawi, North Borneo territories, and Jolo, the principal town of Sulu. In 1736, his court was transferred from Dungan to Bauang in Sulu.

His biographer, Najeeb Saleeby, informs us that 'Azim-ud Din received an Islamic education in the outskirts of Batavia and spoke both Arabic and Straits Malay. He kept his hold on his territories by introducing some reforms: he revised the Sulu code of law, improved the administration of justice, had parts of the Qur'an and Arabic legal and religious texts translated into the Sulu language, issued a standard coinage, and organised a standing army and navy to keep law and order.

He is the most written-about sultan in Spanish documents, where he is called Alimuddin. As a political move, he made efforts towards peace

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