



French Republic, was put in charge of foreign affairs and defence with power to approve decrees promulgated by the Sultan. The Treaty gave France the authority to undertake the military occupation of Moroccan territory in order to maintain order. The pacification of Morocco took 27 years, and it was not until 1934 that all recalcitrant tribes were finally brought under control and Morocco was unified under the Sultan's authority.

The Empire of Morocco was in principle an absolute monarchy, with the Sultan exercising spiritual and temporal authority and having a central government under his authority. The French Resident General was in effect responsible for the administration of the French Zone. During the Protectorate the French administration reclaimed land and improved agricultural methods, developed mineral resources, established manufacturing industries, and improved communications. The administration also carried on a successful campaign against epidemics, provided hospital facilities, and introduced modern health practices. During this period thousands of European colonists—the colons—settled in the Protectorate.

A growing movement for the independence of Morocco was spearheaded by the Istiqlal party, which was formed in 1937. The Sultan's open support of the Istiqlal dated from 1947, when he called for a revision of the Treaty of Fez. Subsequently, agitation for independence grew more intense, the situation being complicated by the opposition to the Sultan of the tribal chiefs, the most important of whom was El Glaoui, the Pasha of Marrakesh. Growing disorders resulted, in 1953, in the disposition of Sultan Sidi Mohammed ben Youssef,