Omani relations with India go far back into history beyond the middle and modern Islamic eras. Old inscriptions and studies of various archaeological sites in different regions of Oman, particularly on the coast, point to old cultural ties between ancient Oman and the Mongedar civilization, an ancient Indian civilization in the Indus Valley. During no period in history had the relationship between the two countries been discontinued. On the contrary, commercial activities between the two countries continued over different ages. This research paper attempts to shed light on relations between the two countries in the modern historic era. In particular, it will focus on trade and economic relations between the two countries, which increased considerably at the beginning of the twentieth century.

The present study explores these relations using the documents of the British Consulate. We have chosen four reports which span the period from 1903 to 1911. These reports highlight the volume of trade between the two countries and the diversity of goods imported from India to the port of Muscat and the exports from Oman to India. These reports show the volume of maritime traffic from the port of Muscat during the period under study. In addition, it reveals the exact volume of trade exchange between the Sultanate of Oman and the outside world, giving special attention to India.

In this study, I will focus on the most important Omani ports that had direct commercial links with Indian ports as reported in writings of the Greeks and Roman, namely: Port Mchlimn (Moscha Limen) (Sumhuram), port of Oorjers (Orgyris) or Sarapit (Sarapis) (Masirah Island), port of Akila (Acila), believed to be port Qalhat, and Port Emana Ommana or Omana (Sohar, or Diba). As for the most famous Indian ports which had trade ties with ports of Oman in the Greek-Roman periods, they include the following: Port (Damerica Damirca) or (Tamilakam), the old name for the city of Tamil, and port (Barijaza Barygaza) in the Gulf of Cambay (Cambay) (Broch Broach). The study will also explore the exchanged goods between the two countries as well as the Indian and Omani business transactions.

In conclusion, the study will present the consequences of the commercial and cultural ties that linked the two countries since ancient times, aiming to boost the development of a reciprocal and complementary relationship between them in the current time.