The history of Zanzibar and East Africa in general is incomplete without reference to the activities of Sayyid Said which marked a golden age in the history of Zanzibar., the Sultan of Omani who exercised considerable influence over Zanzibar and the east African coast. Ssayid said in no doubt played a crucial role in the history of Zanzibar. the coming of sayyid said into Zanzibar improved the prospects of the region than it was prior to the movement of sayyid said headquarters to Zanzibar. This therefore brings us to a question of how in which a detailed analysis will be given in this article. It must however be established that in 1828, Sayyid said the then known imam of Muscat payed a visit to Zanzibar. There is no doubt he was pleased with this region which facilitated the movement of his headquarters from Muscat to Zanzibar. The main reason why he established his capital is not known but various reasons have been attributed to his movement from Muscat to Zanzibar. The area of Zanzibar rose to the peak during the reign of Sayyid said as it has earlier been classified as a golden age in the history of Zanzibar. The various achievements and developments in this are could in no doubt be attributed to the activities of sayyid said in the area. These acitivities brought about development and was a huge success in the history of Zanzibar. these activities include economic achievements which was the most dominant achievement in the history of Zanzibar.his ecomonic revival in no doubt helped to launch a sustained contact between the East African coast and the interior. The the economic activities in Zazibar during the reign of sayyid said was characterised by the system of agriculture, Trading system, slave trade, introduction of new crops such as cloves as well as the use of caravans. This evidently proves that the region of Zanzibar prospered in Economic activities Other dominant achievements recorded during the reign of sayyid said include foreign relations which brought about the signing of treaties, the esatablishment of consulates as well as trade relations with various areas in Europe and other parts of the world. It was brought about the introduction of political organization as this was evident in the theocratic system of government adopted in Zanzibar. Government revenue system was also created in which the balancing of account system was adopted. The history of Sayyid said in Zazibar is not complete without reference to the development of architecture, judiciary and military system intiatied during his reign.this article seeks to give a vivid view into the various achievements of Sayyid Said which have been outlined. In order to fully ascertain the achievement of Sayyid said into power, it is important to breiefly consider the activities and state of Zanzibar before the coming of Sayyid said into power so as to establish the major changes that had evolved due to the coming of Sayyid dsaid into power.

Briefly considering the activities of Zanzibar before the coming of Sayyid it is important to establish that agriculture flourished in this area as their main occupation was farming. Crops like barley, oat, millet. This could in no doubt be attributed to the good climate of the area which resulted in the existence of fertile lands in this area. History suggest that the land of Zanzibar was very fertile as it had two rainy seasons which was known as the greater rain or mazika that fell from April to may as well as the lesser rain clled muli that fell from Octobrt to December. The island was very fertile and seemed equal to the production of all tropical vegetations. This is evident that extensive plantations were being established in these areas. Apart from farming, the people of Zanzibar were also identified to be great fisher men and the resources from this area served as items of trade. It musr hpwever be noted that even though the animal world of Zanzibar was not extensive, they served as great fisher men as they obtained abundance of fish from the sea, chief among which is the shark in which the natives cherished their meat. This therefore fostered efficient trading system amongstthe people. There was internal trading that existed among the people of thais area. History recorded that sheeps were sold from Galla to the zanzibars, geese and ducks were brought into the area of Madagascar. The people served as middle men as they traded with the Indians, Arabs and Persians. The people served as middle men.they obtained ivory, rhincerous horns from the interior snd sold them to foreign traders.the people of Zanzibar also traded amongst themselves. This therefore establishes the reasons that could be responsible for the establishment of the of the head quqrters os sayyid said in Zanzibar being that the economic activities and commerce thrived in this area as it is evident through the exchange of goods between the people of Zanzibar and the East African interior areas as well as its regular trade with the outside world. Sayyid said was in no doubt attracted to the activity in this area as he desired to control the trade between East Africa and the rest of the world.

The age of Sayyid said ibn Sultan is considered one of the most the most prosperous eras in the history of Zanzibar in the 19thc and thisis as a result of the various activities and achievements intiatited in Zanzibar. The most important activity carried out in Zanzibar was its economic activities which contributed immensely to the growth and development of this region.a scholar petterson expresses the land to be a feeble land of spices, a vile centre of trade in slaves, a place of origin of expeditions into the vast, mysterious continent. the strength of Zanzibar was in no doubt built on its economic activities as it prospered in economic activities. The most important economic achievement carried out by Sayyid said in Zanzibar was the effective system of Trade and others include the introduction of new crops, prosperous slave trade, introduction of caravans. Sayyid said movement to Zanzibar could be attributed to his aim of transforming Zanzibar into a major trading centre for countries around the world. Sayyid said engaged in internal trade and long distance trade. Trade existed between Zanzibar and the interior areas. Prior to the rule of Sayyid said there was internal trading in this area as history recorded that sheeps were sold from Somali and the galla to Zanzibar. Trade between these people was not stable until the reign of sayyid said in Zanzibar. Long distance trade was further strengthened during the reign of the sultan sayyid in Zanzibzar and this could be attributed to the fact that the economic activities of this area attracted European states such as America, Britain and France. This activity further strengthenrd the region of Zanzibar and it rose to its peak. No wonder this period was being attributed to be a golden age period. The coming the Europeans into this area fostered development in various areas. Various goods were brought and exchanged in this area being that it was a trading centre. This trading activities brought about economic revival that sustained contact between the East African coast and the interior. Due its effective trading system, Zanzibar controlled and operated the economic activities of East Africa, America, Persia, European traders and other Arab traders. The whole commerce of East Africa both import and export passed through the hands of the merchant of Zanzibar. This in no doubt was as a result of its effective trading system. Its most valuable exports are cloves, ivory, seamium, gums-copal. The Sultan of Zanzibar formulated effective policies that facilitated effective trading system. History suggest that Said established rules to govern the atctivities of foreign traders in Zanzibar. He established free trade in this area as there were no duties levied on goods brought into this area. This brought about effective trade system in the international system between Zanzibar and various European states as he encouraged trade with other parts of the world. This therefore transformed Zanzibar into an international and strategic market with traders coming from America, Britain as well as Germany. Sayyid said also operated a barter system of trade which involved the exchange of goods.in order to allow for effevtive trading system, the use of caravans was also introduced. He organized large caravans that penetrated the mainland of the coast. The introduction of caravans opened up the interior, bringing many East African people into the world economy as suppliers of ivory or slaves aw well as provision of local products. This caravans were created in replace of relying on the interior tribes for the supply of goods. This means of attainment of goods had been in esistence prio to the coming of sayyid said as the Sultan of Zanzibar. The coming of sayid said ushered in the use of caravans.the use of caravans brought about the introduction of caravan routes in the interios during the reign of Sayyid said. This subsegently led to the growth of various towns like Ujiji, taboya, bagamoyo along these routes.

Another major achievement of sayyid said was the introduction of new crops. Prior to the coming of Sayyid, we have sen that the people of Zanzibar were great farmers and grew various agriculture products but the reign of sayyid brought about the introduction of new crops. Other various crops also emerged in the area due to the coming of the Europeans into this area in the 19thc .Sayyid said passion for agriculture coupled with the advantegous soils of Zanzibar encouraged him to seek for crops that would be cherished by all the people of Zanzibar and would have high demands in the international market. He therefore introduced clove cultivation in Zanzibar as he realized the high demand for cloves in European and Asian countries and so he encouraged his subjects to grow them. The clove crops were described as spices which originated from Moluccus island and Madagascar. It was considered a commercial crop of the people of Zanzibar. History suggeast thet in the 19thc, Zanzibar was the most important clove producer. He established many clove plantations in Zanzibar.the cloves produced in Zanzibar were of high quality compared to other areas nd this can in no doubt be attributed to its climate and soil. As stated earler on, it should be notified that the area of East Africa has a high level of fertility.the soil in Zanzibar was suitable for clove production asit required clay which was greatly inhabited in Zanzibar. Oil was being from the clove tree which was used for varieties of activities such as cooking as well as preparation of medicines. It also served as an item of preservation of products in Europe. Before the coming of Sayyid said into Zanzibar, there were no clove trees in existent in these area. he ordered several thousand clove sapplings from these islands and encouraged the farmers of this region to plant this product extensively.he directed that every planter should grow three cloves for every coconut tree planted. These instructions were laid down by sayyid said that attracted punishments if not followed to latter. These crop served as a majour source of wealth to the people as it was cherished and important both in the internal and external trade.it undoubtedly became the principal and most important cultivation of Zanzibar and was grown wherever the soil was suitable from the large and extensive plantations belonging to the sultan and his family to the few trees owned by various cultivators. Evidence available suggest that there was production large quantitiesof cloves as more than 6000 tons of cloves were produced annually. He intiaied a large-scale cultivation of cloves in Zanzibar that was successful. The emergence of cloves displaced other productons such as coconut, grains, rice, potatoes. the availability of cloves in Zanzibar fostered trade between this area and other areas as it led to the influx of foreigners in to this area to purchase this item. This activity would have in no doubt brought about the growth and development as well as the recognition of zanaibar since it was ranked the highest clove producer in the 19thc.till the 1970s, Zanzibar and Pemba supplied the world most cosumed cloves.these cloves were exported internally and externally. Cloves were exported to India, Britain, United states of America, China and other European states.over time, several spices such as cinnamon, pepper were adopted in this area. The land of Zanzibar became known as the spice islands.

Apart from the introduction of cloves, it should be establisged that other crops were introduced by Sayyid said into Zanzibar such as the development of grains and coconut oil which helped in improvingthe agricultural system and the development of the economic system of Zanzibar.sayyid Said intiatied policies to ensure that this agricultural system was effectively put in place.it must also be established that due to the coming of the Europeans in the 19thc, new crops were also introduced such as pineapples, guaver, banana, cashew, sugar cane. The people of the interior started growing these crops.

The reign of sayyid said in Zanzibar witnessed prosperous slave trade which was prominent in East Africa of the 19thc. It must be established that slavery was the most profitable of all the economic activities in Zanzibar and the vast majority of the blacks living in the island were either slaves from east Africa or the descendants of slaves from east Africa.the slaves obtained from various areas of east Africa were brought to Zanzibar in dhows where many slaves were packed in large quantities with no regard for comfort or safety. Slaves were usually forced to march in a line down the streets of stone town guarded by local slaves of the island. Slaves were a commodity of export as well as a source of labour to Zanzibar.zanzibar was said to have had 150,000 inhabitants in which 60,000 were slaves. History has it that a group of slaves worked on cloves and planatations while the rest were exported to Persia, Arabia, the ottoman empire and Egypt. His slave trade activities turned Zanzibar into a principal market as people came from different parts of the interior to sell slaves in Zanzibar. The introduction of guns into the area with the coming of Europeans led to efficient slave raiding in this region. Every year about 40,000-50,000 slaves were being taken into Zanzibar from the interior to trade. Evidence also suggest that when the activity of slave trade got to its peak, Zanzibar exported 80,000-100,000 slaves annually. 10,000 were sent to India, muscat and Mauritius from Zanzibar. The slaves were the backbone of the economy and served as a great source of wealth to the merchants

Fisr of all, considering the political organization, Sayyid said made great achievements in this area. History suggest that he organized a theocratic and centralized system of government which was based on doctrines as it was organized in the kharijite sect.it suffered constant changes as the Sultan feared a governor usurping leadership and taking over lordship from him. History suggest that he appointed eunuchs and divided civil and military power system. These officials helped in the running of the system of administration in Zanzibar. The Sultan of Zanzibar created an effective and efficient system of administration through its political organization. His title Sayyid was acknowledged as a modification between the strictly Islamic title of imam and the more secular one of sulta. the system of government which was of the kharajite sect was characterized by quarrels over wealth, titles, slaves and land. His achievement is also noted in the building of his main palace in the city of Zanzibar. He called it bait-el sahil. Even though the sultan of Zanzibar was designated as an absolute and centralized system of government, the Sultan was greatly influenced by aristocracy.his relatives and immediate family become the mere agents of these surrondings. The activities of the Sultan are controlled by theology as the Quran is the atatue book of the arabs. From the Quran, all their jurispendence are derived. This system was therefore adopted in Zanzibar as the political organization and activities in this area was governed by theology during the era of sayyid. The Quran had its short comings as it could be diversified into various interpretation but effective administration was maintained being that the sultan had to rule according to the tennets of the Quran and could not oppose the Quran. It should be notified that from this area, the system of administration was carried out. The various officials who helped in the running of the affairs of the administration resided in Zanzibar and this therefore fostered and efficient system of administration as the government was close to the people. The Sultan maintained peace and stability in the area through his efficient system of administration. Sayyid said received and addressed issues in his headquarters. These include issues of war, shelter as well as food. said government was identified to have adopted a toleration towards the Sunni muslims. This therefore establishes that the activities of the Omani empire influenced Zanzibar as various parts of the Arabic culture was incorporated into East Africa.

Furthermore, tremendous achievements were recorded in the aspect of architectural development in Zanzibar. He encouraged the development of Arabic architecture in Zanzibar. Sayyid said converted the fishing and farming town of Zanzibar which was described as a land with mud huts and thatched roof into a town with storeyed flats. History suggest that sayyid said built up mosques in Zanzibar through which he encouraged Islamism in the coast and the interior areas of east Africa including Zanzibar. The construction and architectural activities in Zanzibzar was carried out by skilled masons from Arabia with the aid of the native labour force. These activities in no doubt fostered migration of people from the Omani empire into the area of Zanzibar. Their architecture is reflected on the aspect of Islamism.