

ALI PASHA SEMIZ, Ottoman Grand Vizier. Born at Brazza in Herzegovina, he was carried off at an early age during a *dewshirme* operation to be brought up at Istanbul; in 953/1546 he became *agha* of the Janissaries, and later *beylerbeyi* of Rumelia. Appointed governor of Egypt in 1549, he took part in Sulayman I's Persian campaign, and succeeded Rustam Pasha as Grand Vizier in Shawwal 968/July 1561, a post which he held until his death in Dhu 'l-Kacda 972/June 1565. Immediately after his appointment, he negotiated with the Austrian ambassador Busbecq a peace treaty which was signed at Prague in June 1562. But the peace policy of CA11 Pasha was wrecked by the new Emperor Maximilian II; on the death of the Grand Vizier, Sultan Sulayman I had to undertake a fresh campaign against Austria. An intelligent and shrewd man, CA11 Pasha was famous for his corpulence (hence his cognomen Semiz, "the fat") and his wit.

Bibliography : Mustafa Selaniki, *Td>rikkh*, 7-11, Ibrahim Pedewl, *Ta*rikkh*, i, 24; cOthman-zade Ta3ib, *ffadifyat al-Wuzard**, 31 ff; J. von Hammer, *Histoire de VEmpire Ottoman*, vi, 86 ff., 146 ff., 199, 208; *IA*, s.v. (by Tayyib Gokbilgin)