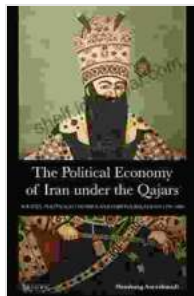


The Political Economy of Iran Under the Qajars: An In-Depth Exploration



The Political Economy of Iran Under the Qajars: Society, Politics, Economics and Foreign Relations 1796-1926 (International Library of Iranian Studies Book

30) by Hooshang Amirahmadi

★★★★☆ 4.1 out of 5

Language : English
File size : 6927 KB
Text-to-Speech : Enabled
Screen Reader : Supported
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled
Print length : 437 pages



The Qajar dynasty ruled Iran from 1796 to 1925, witnessing significant political and economic transformations. This book delves into the multifaceted political economy of Iran during this era, examining the interplay between economic factors, social structures, political institutions, and international relations.

Economic Development and Challenges

The Qajar period saw notable economic developments, including the growth of agriculture, trade, and industry. However, the economy faced challenges such as land inequality, inefficient taxation, and foreign intervention. The book explores the factors that contributed to these developments and the impact they had on Iranian society.

Land and Agriculture

Land ownership was highly concentrated in the hands of a few wealthy landowners, leading to a skewed distribution of wealth and social inequality. The book examines the land tenure system, agricultural practices, and the role of the government in managing land resources.

Trade and Commerce

Iran's strategic location facilitated trade between Europe and Asia. The Qajars encouraged trade by establishing trade routes, reducing tariffs, and signing agreements with foreign powers. The book analyzes the growth of trade, the role of merchants, and the impact of foreign trade on Iran's economy.

Industrialization

Industrial development was limited during the Qajar period, but some efforts were made to establish textile, mining, and manufacturing industries. The book examines the challenges faced by industrialization, including a lack of capital, technological limitations, and competition from imported goods.

Social Structure and Political Institutions

Iranian society during the Qajar period was characterized by a rigid social hierarchy, with the Qajar rulers at the apex. The book explores the social classes, ethnic groups, and religious communities that made up Iranian society and their interactions with one another.

Power Structure

The Qajar dynasty maintained its power through a combination of military force, patronage networks, and alliances with religious leaders. The book analyzes the structure of the government, the role of the monarchy, and the influence of the military and religious institutions.

Social Classes

Iranian society was divided into distinct social classes, each with its own rights and privileges. The book examines the upper classes, including the nobility and wealthy landowners, as well as the middle and lower classes, including merchants, artisans, and peasants.

International Relations

Iran's relations with foreign powers played a significant role in its political economy. The Qajars faced pressure from Russia, Britain, and other European powers to grant concessions and open up Iran's economy to foreign influence. The book explores the impact of these relations on Iran's economic development and national sovereignty.

Foreign Intervention

European powers competed for influence in Iran, intervening in its internal affairs and seeking to exploit its resources. The book analyzes the impact of Russian and British intervention on Iran's economy and political system.

Diplomatic Efforts

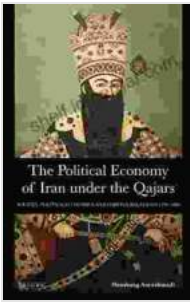
The Qajars attempted to navigate the complex geopolitical landscape by pursuing a policy of neutrality and balance between rival powers. The book examines the diplomatic efforts undertaken by Iranian rulers to maintain their independence and secure their interests.

The Political Economy of Iran Under the Qajars provides a comprehensive and engaging account of a pivotal era in Iranian history. By examining the interplay between economic, social, political, and international factors, the book sheds light on the challenges and opportunities faced by Iran during the Qajar period. This insightful work is essential reading for scholars, policymakers, and anyone interested in understanding the complexities of Iran's past and present.

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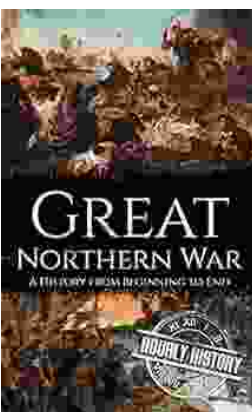
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