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- ¹ This seminal article suggests a fresh interpretation of the dynamism of the late Safavid political process, a topic recently attracting more and more interest from researchers. In the first chapter, the author sharply criticizes the kind of approaches that deem 17th century Safavid politics to be power struggles among elite groups such as *golāms*, *Qezelbāš*, *‘ulamā*, bureaucrats, and eunuchs, premising that each of these had its own common interests. To demonstrate further the limited usefulness of such a labeling, Floor in the second and third chapters tries to reconstruct the careers of two grand viziers of the 17th century, Ḥalīfe Soltān and Mīrzā Mohammad Mehdi. According to the author, neither of these two prominent figures was representative of the interests of the ‘group’ from which he came. Based on these investigations, Floor emphasizes that, when elucidating the Safavid political history, it is more productive to focus on key individuals and their networks crossing elite groups.
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INDEX

Thèmes : 4.2.1. Safavides et Qâjârs

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