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- 1 In 1728, when political unrest caused by the Afghan invasion still prevailed in the country, the Dutch East India Company maneuvered to transfer its trading post from Bandar 'Abbās to Hormoz, negotiating with the garrison of the island. On that occasion, the Afghan government appointed a new *šahbandar* of Bandar 'Abbās, who immediately arrested the president of the Dutch company and some of his colleagues, all of whom had come to pay their respects to him. Failing in a rescue operation, the company managed to make a peace with the Afghans only by the mediation of its rival, the English East India Company. Analyzing the process of this event involving the two East India Companies as well as the Afghan government, Haneda focuses on the role played by interpreters, mainly Armenians, in negotiations between the parties. In addition, the author offers a unique comparison of interpreters in Bandar 'Abbās with those in Nagasaki, the port city open for Dutch traders in Japan at that time, and highlights some crucial differences in the origin and employment pattern of translators, which, according to the author, reflects the political and social conditions surrounding each of the two port cities.

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Thèmes : 4.2.1. Safavides et Qâjârs

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