
Rudi Matthee
This article, a preliminary study to what promises to become a more comprehensive in
due time, points up the importance of Georgians in the administrative and military
structure of the 17th century Safavid state. It offers much valuable information on the
role of the Georgian ǧolâm-s during and after the reign of Şāh ‘Abbās I. (They had been
imported as early as the reign of Şāh Ţahmāsb but it is only under ‘Abbās that they would
play a significant role in state operations.) The author discusses what we know about
their recruitment, outlines the possibilities for a prosopographical study, and observes
how specific functions held by Georgians were often connected to specific landed
property. Above all, he emphasizes their lack of unity, a function, among other things, of
the fact that Georgia itself was not unified.
INDEX

**Thèmes** : 4.2.1. Safavides et Qâjârs

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