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- 1 This paper discusses and assesses Dutch and English trade practices in the Persian Gulf while comparing these to their operations in the Levant trade. The author offers many interesting observations about differences and similarities. One important (and understudied) difference is the need for the Europeans to work through intermediaries, Indians, Jews and Armenians. What emerges most clearly is that the Safavid government was far more interventionist than the Ottomans. While the latter did not go much beyond taxation, the former attempted to establish a silk export monopoly, tried to fix prices, while trying trade privileges to the purchase of a certain amount of silk. When the maritime companies ceased to buy silk on a regular basis, the Safavids banned or restricted the export of bullion and specie.

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Thèmes : 4.2.1. Safavides et Qâjârs

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