
Giorgio Rota

Giorgio Rota

Natchkebia deals here with a lengthy and still unpublished Tableau général de la Perse moderne (dated 1807) preserved in the archives of the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs, highlighting the issues concerning the authorship of this work (which was signed by Joseph Rousseau alone but was probably written to a large extent, if not completely, by his father Jean-François) and placing the circumstances of its composition into the wider context of Napoleon’s Persian policy and his dream of an overland invasion of India. The article provides also interesting information on Jean-François Rousseau, who was born at New Julfa in 1738 and therefore was a living link between the Oriental policy of the Bourbons and the upstart Bonaparte’s, and his efforts to forge a Franco-Persian alliance against Great Britain. Rousseau eventually failed to secure a place as French envoy to the Qājār court for himself or for his son: interestingly enough, the new ambassador appointed by Napoleon was Claude-Mathieu de Gardane, himself a grandson of Ange de Gardane’s, appointed French consul at Eṣfahān in 1715. The Author presents an English translation of the chapter about Georgia, together with three excerpts (also about Georgia and the Georgians) from other chapters. It is to be wished that Natchkebia may one day publish (or at least analyses in detail) the whole Tableau, which is different from Joseph Rousseau’s Notice historique sur la Perse ancienne et moderne (Marseille, 1818).
INDEX

Thèmes : 4.2.1. Safavides et Qâjârs

AUTEURS

GIORGIO ROTA

Institut für Iranistik - Wien