Omīd Reḡā'ī. *Qabāle-hā-ye pārsī : pardāzeš-e šūrī va moḥtavā'ī*

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- 1 Like Rezai's *Jostār-hā'ī dar sanad-šenāsī-ye fārsī* (see M. Szuppe, *Abs. Ir.* 29, 2006, n° 206), this volume brings together material first presented in a series of articles published between 1381-1387/2002-2009 in the journal *Mirāt-e Jāvedān*. It is divided into seven parts and conveniently summarises some of the key findings of Rezai's remarkably original research over the years on Safavid and Qājār legal documents (*asnād-e šar'ī*).
- 2 In the first part Rezai looks at four conditions found in deeds of endowment (*vaqf-nāme-s*) meant to guarantee the perpetuity of the endowment (*vaqf*). The second part examines the relationship between the main text and marginalia of a Safavid *vaqf-nāme* from Qazvīn. The third and fourth parts study the way in which Qājār legal documents were registered, archived and annulled at the *šarī'a* court of the *šayḡ ol-eslām* of Širāz. Part five looks at how contracts for the performance of religious pilgrimage on someone else's behalf (*ḡajj/zeyārat-e neyābatī*) were registered in the court register (*ketābče-ye šar'īyyāt*) of Moḡammad Šādeq Ṭabāṭabā'ī Sangalajī (d.1300/1883), a Qājār jurist (*mojtahed*) active in Tehrān. The registration of legal documents is also dealt with in part six, but this time at the *šarī'a* court of another Tehrān based *mojtahed*, Sayyed Esmā'īl Behbahānī (d. 1295/1878). In part seven, Rezai considers the notarisation of Qājār legal documents in Kordestān.
- 3 The outstanding contribution of this volume is the interesting light it sheds on regional differences in Qājār legal practice. While the registration of documents in the *šarī'a* courts of Sangalajī and Behbahānī in Tehrān was similar, it differed from practice followed at the *šarī'a* court of the *šayḡ ol-eslām* of Širāz. At the same time the way

documents were notarised in Kordestān, a region inhabited mainly by Sunnī Šāfi'ī Kurds, was also different from practice followed in the šarī'a courts of Twelver Šī'ī *mojtaheds* in Tehrān and Šīrāz during this period.

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