

## **Iranian Tuccar and the Silk Trade in the Eighteenth Century**

*Fariba Zarinebaf*

Ottomanist historians have paid very little attention to the continuity of silk trade between Iran and the Ottoman empire in the early modern period. The prominent historians, Fahri Dalsar and Halil Inalcik underscored the importance of Iranian silk caravans in the trade of Bursa in the fifteenth and early sixteenth centuries and its decline after 1550 due to wars between the two states. The continuity of trade in Iranian silk and textiles has hardly received any scholarly attention. The palace registers, however, tell a different story and point to the importance of Iranian luxury silks and other textiles among the elites. In addition, Iranian silk trade continued through the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. This paper will focus on the place of Iranian silk and luxury textiles in elite consumption and silk trade in the Ottoman capital and hubs during the eighteenth century.