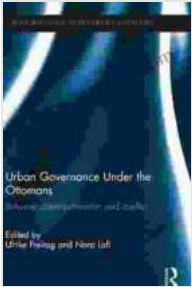


Urban Governance Under the Ottomans: A Comprehensive Exploration of City Administration in the Ottoman Empire



Urban Governance Under the Ottomans: Between Cosmopolitanism and Conflict (SOAS/Routledge Studies on the Middle East) by Nora Lafi

★★★★☆ 4.5 out of 5

Language : English
File size : 1743 KB
Text-to-Speech : Enabled
Screen Reader : Supported
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled
Print length : 251 pages



The Ottoman Empire, spanning over six centuries, left an indelible mark on the urban landscape of the Middle East, North Africa, and Southeast Europe. From the bustling streets of Constantinople to the thriving bazaars of Cairo, Ottoman cities were hubs of commerce, culture, and social interaction. Behind the splendor and vibrancy of these urban centers lay a sophisticated system of governance that shaped the daily lives of millions of people.

Urban Governance Under the Ottomans delves into the intricate workings of this governance system, shedding light on the institutions, practices, and individuals that played a pivotal role in the administration of Ottoman cities.

Drawing on a wealth of archival and historical sources, the book offers a comprehensive overview of the urban landscape under Ottoman rule.

Chapter 1: The Evolution of Urban Governance

This chapter traces the origins and development of urban governance in the Ottoman Empire. It explores the administrative structures inherited from the Byzantine and Seljuk empires and how they were adapted to meet the needs of the growing Ottoman state. The chapter also examines the influence of Islamic law and tradition on the formation of urban policies and institutions.

Chapter 2: The Qadi and the City Court

The qadi, or Islamic judge, held a central position in the administration of Ottoman cities. This chapter examines the role of the qadi in legal disputes, religious matters, and the enforcement of public order. It also discusses the establishment of city courts and their jurisdiction over various types of cases.

Chapter 3: Guilds and the Regulation of Trade

Guilds played a vital role in regulating trade and industry in Ottoman cities. This chapter explores the structure, organization, and activities of guilds. It examines how guilds enforced quality standards, controlled prices, and provided social welfare benefits to their members.

Chapter 4: The Administration of Public Works

Providing for the well-being of the urban population was a key responsibility of Ottoman city administrators. This chapter examines the provision of essential services such as water supply, sanitation, and public health. It

also discusses the construction and maintenance of roads, bridges, and other infrastructure.

Chapter 5: Social Welfare and the Role of Religious Institutions

Ottoman cities were home to a diverse population with varying needs. This chapter explores the social welfare system that evolved to assist the poor, the sick, and the elderly. It examines the role of religious institutions such as mosques, hospitals, and soup kitchens in providing social services.

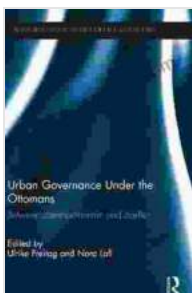
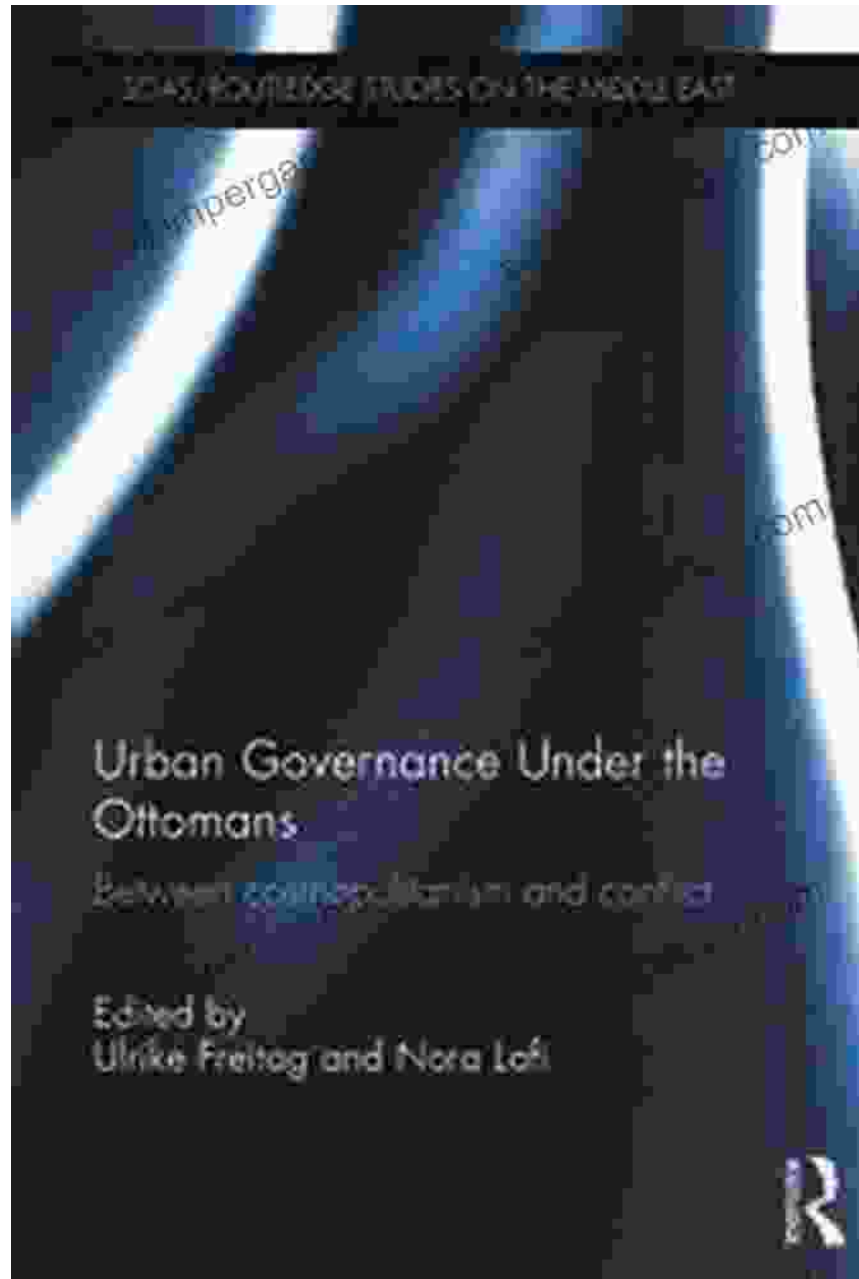
Chapter 6: The Case of Istanbul

As the capital of the Ottoman Empire, Istanbul was the most important and populous city in the realm. This chapter provides a detailed case study of urban governance in Istanbul. It examines the unique administrative challenges posed by the city's size, diversity, and strategic location.

Urban Governance Under the Ottomans concludes by assessing the legacy of Ottoman urban governance. It explores the impact of Ottoman institutions on the development of city administration in subsequent periods. The book also highlights the enduring influence of Ottoman urban traditions on contemporary cities in the Middle East and beyond.

Call to Action

If you are interested in the history of urban governance, the Ottoman Empire, or the development of cities in the Middle East, then *Urban Governance Under the Ottomans* is an essential read. Free Download your copy today and embark on a fascinating journey through the intricate world of urban governance under the Ottomans!



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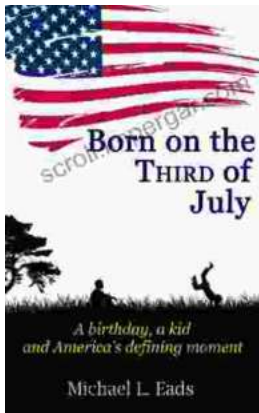
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