

Kurdistan's Mobile Capitalism: Putting-Out System in Sheep and Cattle Farming

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Abstract

Historically, Ottoman Kurdistan, located at the intersection of major trade routes linking the Black Sea with the Persian Gulf, and Iran and Iraq with Syria and Anatolia, served as a crossroads of population, raw materials, and commodity flows. Based on Ottoman and British archival sources, this paper aims to examine what made Ottoman Kurdistan a cohesive economic region in the nineteenth century. By focusing on the historical compatibility and collaboration between peasants, pastoralists, and urban dwellers and using available statistical and qualitative information, this paper demonstrates the importance of animal husbandry in the region's economy and changing dynamics during the nineteenth century.

Bio

Zozan Pehlivan is an Assistant Professor of History and McKnight Land-Grant Professor at the University of Minnesota, Twin Cities. Her areas of expertise are history of environment, climate change, violence, comparative empires, and pastoralism. In 2020-21, she was a Harry Frank Guggenheim Distinguished Scholar. Currently she is working on her first book monograph, tentatively titled "Before the Genocide: Pastoralists, Peasants, and Environmental Crises in Late Ottoman Kurdistan."