

Elite Nationalism and Minority Politics in Late Ottoman and Early Republican Eras: Exploring the Complexities and Impact

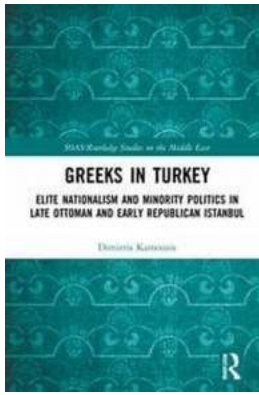
In this article, we delve into the intricate dynamics of elite nationalism and minority politics during the late Ottoman Empire and early Republican era. Through comprehensive research and analysis, we aim to shed light on the complexities, historical context, and lasting impact of this period. Join us on this captivating journey of understanding how elite nationalism influenced minority politics, thus shaping the history of the region.

The Late Ottoman Empire: A Tale of Imperialism and Fragmented Identities

The late Ottoman Empire witnessed a transformation marked by external pressures, internal conflicts, and the rise of nationalism. Imperial powers exerted their influence on various communities within the empire, unsettling the delicate balance of power. Ethnic, religious, and linguistic identities became increasingly important, leading to the emergence of elite nationalist movements.

The Rise of Elite Nationalism: A Catalyst for Change

The rise of elite nationalism among dominant ethnic and religious communities was fueled by a desire to assert their cultural, political, and social dominance. As the Ottoman Empire struggled to maintain control, these elites sought to mobilize their respective constituents by promoting a sense of ethnic and religious superiority.



Greeks in Turkey: Elite Nationalism and Minority Politics in Late Ottoman and Early Republican Istanbul (SOAS/Routledge Studies on the Middle East) by Heike B. Görtemaker (1st Edition, Kindle Edition)

★★★★☆ 4.2 out of 5

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Text-to-Speech : Enabled
Screen Reader : Supported
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled
Word Wise : Enabled
Print length : 268 pages



Impact on Minority Politics: A Struggle for Recognition

The influence of elite nationalism on minority politics cannot be understated. Minority populations, such as Armenians, Greeks, and Jews, found themselves at odds with the nationalistic agenda of the dominant elites. Their struggle for recognition, rights, and representation was met with resistance and, at times, persecution.

The Armenian Question: A Tragic Outcome

The Armenian genocide stands as a haunting testimony to the toxic blend of elite nationalism and minority politics in the late Ottoman Empire. As tensions escalated, Armenian Christians became the target of state-sanctioned violence, resulting in an estimated 1.5 million deaths. The repercussions of this catastrophic event continue to reverberate today.

The Minority Response and the Birth of Turkish Nationalism

While minorities faced significant challenges, they also responded by formulating their own nationalistic aspirations. Greek and Armenian nationalist movements emerged, seeking to carve out spaces for their respective communities within the crumbling empire. These movements often clashed with the dominant Turkish nationalist narrative.

Legacy of Elite Nationalism and Minority Politics

The impact of elite nationalism and minority politics during this era continues to shape the sociopolitical landscape of the region. Nationalist ideologies, be they Turkish, Greek, or Armenian, have left lasting imprints on collective memories and identities. The repercussions of this tumultuous period remain sources of tension and debate in present-day Turkey and neighboring countries.

Elite nationalism and minority politics in the late Ottoman Empire and early Republican era were intertwined, with each influencing the other in profound ways. The struggles for recognition, representation, and survival faced by minorities during this period created lasting divisions and resentments. By understanding the complexities of this historical context, we can strive for a more inclusive and empathetic future, where diverse voices are respected and celebrated.

Keywords: Elite Nationalism, Minority Politics, Ottoman Empire, Republican Era, Armenian Genocide, Ethnic Identities, Nationalistic Movements

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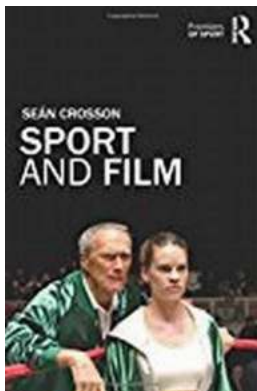
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This book provides a solid and critical historical examination of the endorsement, development and course of Greek nationalism among the lay/clerical leadership of the Greek Orthodox minority of Istanbul during the last phase of the dissolution of the Ottoman Empire and the first years of the newly established Republic of Turkey.

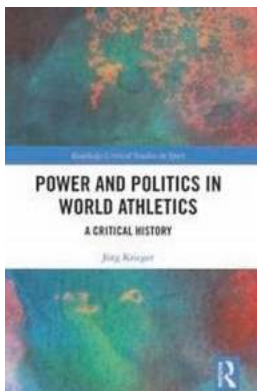
The focus is on the political role played by the ethnocentric communal elite, who actively championed the Greek nationalist plan of the Megali Idea (Great Idea). Based on a comparative investigation and synthesis of a wide array of Greek and British archival sources the book engages with the various stages of Constantinopolitan Greek elite nationalism in Turkey and partly in Greece, and examines its manifestations, its level of success and its consequences on the minority during the crucial period of 1918–1930. The main argument is that the internal dynamics, the policies and the responses of this powerful communal elite vis-à-vis other communal factions as well as Greek irredentism and Turkish nation-building conditioned to a significant degree the construction of specific representations and perceptions of the group's collective identity and determined the status of the Greeks of Istanbul as a national minority in Turkey until nowadays.

Providing a thorough analysis of elite politics during and in the aftermath of the Greek-Turkish War and assessing the application of the minority clauses of the Treaty of Lausanne (July 1923), the volume is a key resource for students and academics interested in nationalism and minorities, modern Greek history, Ottoman and Turkish history as well as for policy makers and specialists working in the diplomatic field, the Greek and Turkish public service, international institutions and non-governmental organizations.



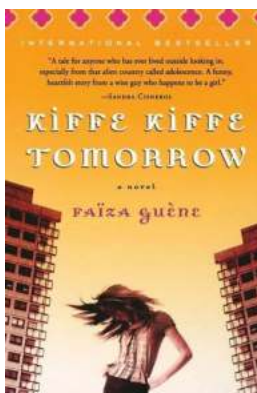
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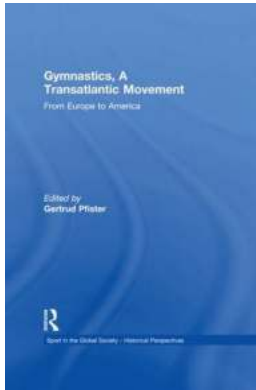
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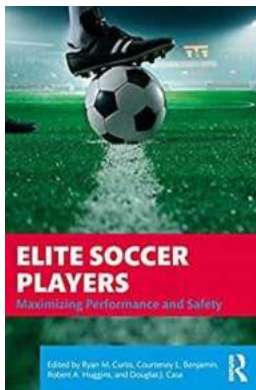
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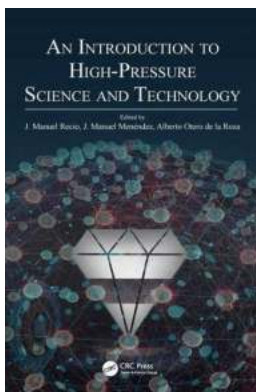
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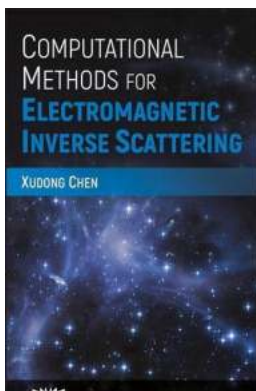
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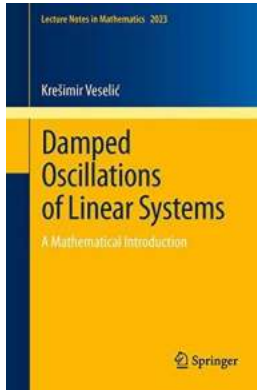
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