

# The Ottoman and Qajar Empires in the Age of Reform: The Making of the Middle East

The Ottoman and Qajar Empires were two of the most powerful empires in the Middle East during the 19th century. Both empires underwent significant reforms during this period, which had a profound impact on the region.



## The Ottoman and Qajar Empires in the Age of Reform (The Making of the Middle East) by Hal Marcovitz

★★★★☆ 4.8 out of 5

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## The Ottoman Empire

The Ottoman Empire was founded in 1299 and ruled over a vast territory that included much of the Middle East, North Africa, and southeastern Europe. By the 19th century, the empire was in decline. It had lost territory to European powers and was facing internal rebellions.

In response to these challenges, the Ottoman Empire embarked on a series of reforms known as the Tanzimat. The Tanzimat reforms aimed to

modernize the empire and make it more efficient and effective. They included measures such as:

- Reorganizing the army and navy
- Establishing a new system of taxation
- Creating a new legal code
- Opening new schools and universities

The Tanzimat reforms had a significant impact on the Ottoman Empire. They helped to modernize the empire and make it more efficient and effective. However, they also led to increased tensions between the Ottoman government and its subjects. The reforms were seen by many as an attempt to Westernize the empire and undermine its Islamic character.

## **The Qajar Empire**

The Qajar Empire was founded in 1794 and ruled over a vast territory that included much of Iran, the Caucasus, and Central Asia. By the 19th century, the empire was in decline. It had lost territory to Russia and was facing internal rebellions.

In response to these challenges, the Qajar Empire embarked on a series of reforms known as the New Order. The New Order reforms aimed to modernize the empire and make it more efficient and effective. They included measures such as:

- Reorganizing the army and navy
- Establishing a new system of taxation

- Creating a new legal code
- Opening new schools and universities

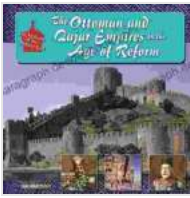
The New Order reforms had a significant impact on the Qajar Empire. They helped to modernize the empire and make it more efficient and effective. However, they also led to increased tensions between the Qajar government and its subjects. The reforms were seen by many as an attempt to Westernize the empire and undermine its Islamic character.

### **The Impact of Reform on the Middle East**

The reforms of the Ottoman and Qajar Empires had a profound impact on the Middle East. They helped to modernize the region and make it more efficient and effective. However, they also led to increased tensions between the governments and their subjects. The reforms were seen by many as an attempt to Westernize the region and undermine its Islamic character.

The reforms of the Ottoman and Qajar Empires ultimately failed to save the empires from collapse. The Ottoman Empire collapsed in 1922, and the Qajar Empire collapsed in 1925. However, the reforms had a lasting impact on the region. They helped to lay the foundation for the modern Middle East.

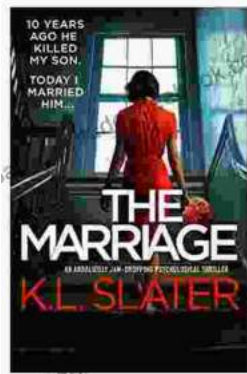
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