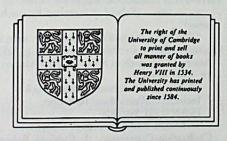
TURKO-PERSIA IN HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE

EDITED BY ROBERT L. CANFIELD

Department of Anthropology Washington University in St. Louis

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© Cambridge University Press 1991

First published 1991

Printed in Great Britain at the University Press, Cambridge

British Library Cataloguing in publication data
Turko-Persia in historical perspective. – (School of American Research advanced seminar series) – (A School of American Research book).
1. Central Asian civilization, history
1. Canfield, Robert L. II. Series III. Series 958

Library of Congress cataloguing in publication data

Turko-Persia in historical perspective / edited by Robert L. Canfield.

p. cm. – (School of American Research advanced seminar series)

"The initial drafts of the chapters . . . were written as contributions to an advanced seminar . . . held at the School of American Research in Santa Fe, New Mexico, the week of April 15 to 19, 1985"—Pref.

"A School of American Research book." Includes bibliographical references. ISBN 0 521 39094 X

1. Middle East-Civilization-Congresses. 2. Asia, Central-Civilization-Congresses. I. Canfield, Robert L. (Robert Leroy)
II. School of American Research (Sante Fe, N. M.) III. Series.
DS57.T83 1990
958-dc20 89-77394 CIP.

ISBN 0 521 39094 X

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The Islamic culture that developed in the ninth and tenth century in what is now Eastern Iran was to have a significant impact on most Muslims of west, south and central Asia. Under the patronage of Persianized Turkic Muslim rulers, the culture spread westward to the Mediterranean and eastward into India. Especially in the early centuries of Islam, Turko-Persia represented a distinctive variant of Islamic life and thought in these regions, particularly among the elite. But after the fifteenth century regional variants started to emerge.

In this collection, the contributors write about different aspects of Turko-Persian culture. The work consists of an historical survey of the culture, a chronology of major developments in the region from the rise of the Persian empire before Islam up to the present, and six chapters by eminent authorities on the region. These focus on three themes in Turko-Persian culture: the importance of literature; the tension between central and peripheral institutions in Turko-Persian societies; and the confrontation of the Turko-Persian Islamicate world with the European world. As the first book-length study to examine Turko-Persian culture as an entity, the volume should stimulate further research into this tradition.

DREAMING

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If dreaming is, as we are told, both universal and frequent, it would seem to be a topic that anthropologists, as well as psychologists, ought to study. Yet dreams, dream sharing, and dream interpretation have hitherto been oddly neglected by anthropologists. This volume presents ten original anthropological essays that offer challenging innovative concepts, new cross-cultural data, and a wide range of theoretical approaches to the subject of dreaming.

THE CHEMISTRY OF PREHISTORIC HUMAN BONE

Edited by T. Douglas Price

Bone chemistry is one of the most promising analytical methods now being used by archaeologists and physical anthropologists to investigate the past of the human species, and this state-of-the-art review numbers many of the leading scientists in the field among its contributors. The volume provides a comprehensive survey of recent work examining the application of bone chemistry to prehistoric groups throughout the world. Key papers deal with problems of diagenesis – post-mortem chemical changes in bone during burial – and the isotope characterisation of bone as an indicator of past environments. A collective conclusion offers a summary set of recommendations regarding conventions for analysis and the reporting of results.



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