

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910838189003321
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Titolo	Islamic Law in Early Modern Iran : Shara Court Practice in the Sixteenth to Twentieth Centuries
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Berlin/Boston : , : Walter de Gruyter GmbH, , 2023 ©2023
ISBN	3-11-123993-4 3-11-123973-X
Edizione	[1st ed.]
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (322 pages)
Collana	Studies in the History and Culture of the Middle East Series ; ; v.48
Disciplina	340.5909550903
Soggetti	LAW / Islamic
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Sommario/riassunto	<p>Historical studies on the practice of Islamic law (shara) tend to focus on practice in a Sunni setting during the Mamluk or Ottoman periods. This book decenters Sunni and Mamluk and Ottoman normativity by investigating the practice of shara in a Twelver Shii Persian-speaking milieu, in early modern Iran between the sixteenth to twentieth centuries. Drawing on documentary evidence and narrative sources, it reconstructs who the practitioners of Islamic law were, how they authenticated, annulled, and archived legal documents, and how they intervened in the resolution of disputes over religious endowments (waqf). The study demonstrates that following Iran's conversion to Twelver Shiism under the Safavids, the dominance of Ul Shii legal theory, which conferred judicial authority on scholars recognized as Shii jurists (mujathids), affected both the practitioners of Islamic law and the procedures of shara court practice in Iran. Shii jurists in Iran, as a result, would come to exercise by the end of the nineteenth century a judicial monopoly over valid shara court practice thus laying the foundation for Ayatollah Khomeini's extension, during the Iranian revolution, of the authority of the Shii jurist over political affairs.</p>