

Kurdish States and Emirates in Medieval and Modern Eras

Zakho Center for Kurdish Studies at Faculty of Humanities, University of Zakho will hold its 7th international conference entitled 'Kurdish States and Emirates in Medieval and Modern Eras' on May 3 – 4, 2023



7th seventh international conference

Writing Formats

1. The conference accepts papers in : Kurdish, Arabic, English, Turkish and Persian.
2. The abstract should not exceed 500 words and should include 5 keywords.
3. The full paper must not exceed 10000 words in length.
4. The following fonts are used in the writing of the papers according to the language: for Kurdish (Unicode), Arabic (Simplified Arabic), and English (Times New Roman).
5. The papers must be written according to Harvard referencing style.

Important Dates

1. Abstract submission deadline: 01/11/2022
2. Abstract acceptance or refusal notification: 15/11/2022
3. Full paper submission deadline: 01/02/2023
4. Paper acceptance or refusal notification: 01/03/2023
5. Conference dates: 3- 4/05/2023



(+964 (0) 751 536 1550)
hum.isc2023@uoz.edu.krd

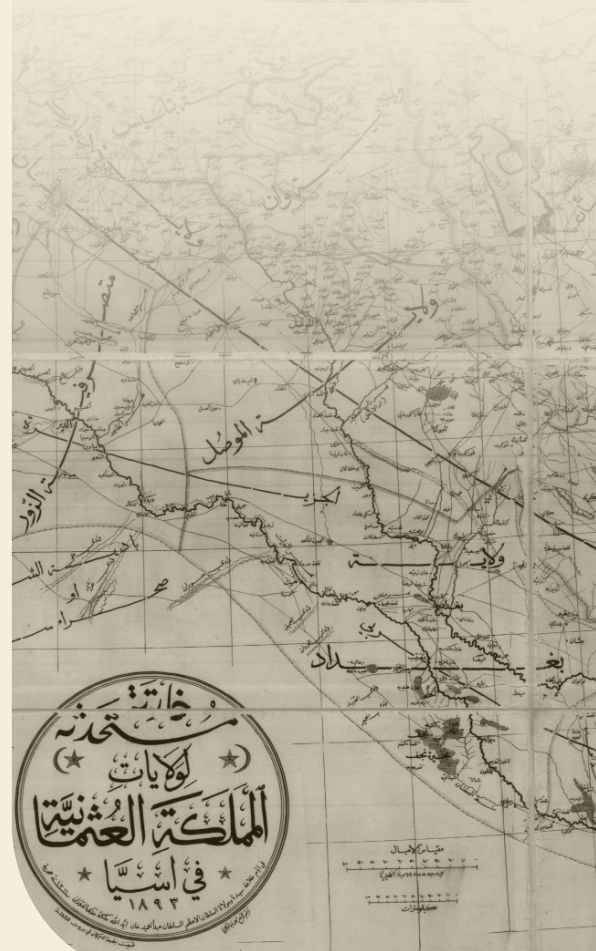
Introduction:

A popular saying in public academic circles was that “the Kurds did not have a state in history” or that the Kurdish states and emirates in ancient times were semi-states that had no independent decision. This idea spread strongly during the emergence of nation-states in the 19th and 20th centuries due to the inability of the Kurds to establish their nation-state on their historical land “Kurdistan”. Based on this and the historical trend, Zakho Center for Kurdish Studies decided to organize its 7th conference on the Kurdish states and emirates in the medieval and modern eras. The aim is to delve into the life, civilization and influences of these states and emirates.

In the medieval Islamic era, specifically between the 9th and 11th centuries AD, some Kurdish states and emirates appeared that had a big role in the political and civilization history of Kurdistan and the area. These included Rawwadids, Shaddadids, Hasanwayhids, Al-Ayariyah (Al-Anaziah), Dustakid-Marwanids and Ayyubid states.

After these Kurdish states were eliminated by the Seljuk Turks in the last Abbasid era, Kurdistan witnessed the emergence of other states and emirates especially during the Mongol invasion in the 13th century AD. The collapse of the Abbasid Caliphate and the fall of Baghdad by the Mongols in 1258 led to the appearance of many power centers in Kurdistan. Some of them were turned into powerful states and emirates by some influential families. Besides, the Kurdish clans were also forced to rely on themselves to secure their protection from the surrounding dangers. Thus, some tribal leaderships were formed that paved the way for the emergence of large and powerful emirates later in Kurdistan.

In the following period and according to Sharafkhan Bidlisi in his book Sharafnama nearly 48 Kurdish emirates were formed. Those emirates ruled all Kurdistan. Some of them obtained absolute rule, such as: Ardalan, Hakkari, Bahdinan, Botan and Soran and some had lesser powers, such





as Khizan, Palu, Jamshkezk, Bertek and others.

On the other hand, the establishment of Safavid state in 1501 and Chaldiran battle between Ottoman and Safavid states in northern Kurdistan in 1514 had the greatest impact on the future of those Kurdish emirates. The Ottoman Empire implemented a special policy towards Kurdistan: leaving Kurdistan for the Kurds and not interfering into its affairs. Such a policy had also been followed by other countries and dynasties which occupied Kurdistan, and they had included this policy within the context of their organizations and their administrative vision. However, the Ottoman policy soon changed to the general central rule and it began the pressure on these Kurdish emirates, whose number had diminished and faded dramatically in the 19th century, and by 1851 they were completely removed from the Kurdish political scene.

Aims

Very little historical information is known about the Kurdish states and emirates despite their importance and their political and civil roles-to the extent that the existence of some of them exceeded the strength of some of the surrounding countries. Thus, the main objective of this conference is to shed light on the public life of the Kurdish states and emirates in the medieval and modern eras. It is also a new attempt to rewrite the history of some of these medieval emirates. Additionally, it focuses on the life of those Kurdish emirates that occurred within the Ottoman and Iranian states boundaries, especially after the unveiling of many documents belonging to that period, specifically Ottoman documents. These documents reveal a lot about the Ottoman policy towards those Kurdish emirates and through which researchers get information about many aspects of the public life in Kurdistan at that time.

Vision

The conference shows the political and civilization aspects of the Kurdish states and emirates. With regard to the

political aspect, the discovery of many valuable sources and documents has changed the historical course of much of the information structure that historians had inherited a decade ago about these states or emirates. Therefore, the vision of the conference, in this respect, is to build the political information structure of these Kurdish states and emirates based on the new information and documents.

Likewise, the civilization of these states and emirates has not been investigated properly and it is only marginally mentioned within some political events. Civilization reflects the intellectual and urban level of a nation. Usually Nations and peoples are evaluated by the extent to which their civilizations have developed throughout history, and by their level of understanding of their reality and what they have provided to humanity. The Kurds also had their civilization during that era and the cultural monuments that can be seen are so many that cannot be counted or written about. Kurdistan is full of historical remains. However, the civilization of the Kurds at that time was not documented in a form that express and reveal its truth and historical role, whether in Kurdistan or outside it. Therefore, writing and researching about the civilization of the Kurds is another scientific vision of this conference.

Themes and topics

The conference is seeking submissions related to the following topics:

First: The political history of the Kurdish states and emirates

1. The early Kurdish states and emirates in the Middle Age: Rawwadids, Shaddadids, Hasanwayhids, Al-Ayariyah (Al-Anaziah), Dustakid-Marwanids and Ayyubid states
1. The internal and external relations of the Kurdish states and emirates
3. The end and fall of the first emirates era in Kurdistan in the Middle Age.
4. The historical sources of the Kurdish states and





emirates in the Middle Age

5. The emergence of a new emirates era in Kurdistan in the 13th and 14th centuries AD
6. The Kurdish emirates in the era of the two states: Al-Qar Qoyunlu (the owners of the black sheep) and Aq Qoyunlu (the owners of the white sheep) in the 15th century
7. The Kurdish emirates and the Ottoman-Safavid conflict at the start of the 16th century.
8. The Ottoman decrees and rules related to the Kurdish emirates
9. The Kurdish emirates in the Ottoman-Iran treaties
10. The role of the Kurdish emirates in the internal and external Ottoman wars
11. The Ottoman states relations with the Kurdish emirates
12. The Ottoman reforms and their impact on the Kurdish emirates.
13. The interests of the big nations in Kurdistan at the start of the 19th century and their impact on the future of the Kurdish emirates
14. The end of the second emirates era in Kurdistan in 1851: causes and consequences

Second: Civilization, construction and culture

1. Civilization and construction (castles, cities, schools, roads and bridges, inns, markets and others.
2. Scientific centers in Kurdistan during the medieval and modern eras under the rule of the Kurdish emirates
3. The Kurdish school (endowments, curricula, scientific subjects, scholars)
4. the Kurdish princes, the encouragement of writing and Kurdish language and literature
5. Kurdish and foreign documents and manuscripts about the Kurdish emirates
6. The participation of the Kurdish princes in writing and recording poetry collections

Third: Administration

1. The organizational structure of the Kurdish states and emirates in the Middle Age
2. The Kurdish emirates in the Ottoman administrative systems and organizations in the 16th century
3. the administrative divisions within the Kurdish emirates
4. The administrative hierarchy in the Kurdish emirates (institutional and administrative positions in the Kurdish emirates: the emir, the minister, Katkhuda, the agent, the judge, the mufti, the clerk and the army...etc.
5. The role of the Kurdish princes in the administration of the Sanjaks and the Ottoman states outside Kurdistan (the governors, the princes of the Sanjaks, Arpalik, the leaders and the Timars...etc.
6. The role of the Kurdish princes and the Ottoman army

Fourth: Economy

1. The economic resources of the Kurdish states and emirates
2. The economy of the Kurdish countryside
3. Natural resources
4. Taxes and fees
5. Trade
6. Industry

Fifth: Social life

1. Urban and rural
2. The Kurdish clans in the Kurdish emirates
3. Ethnic diversity in Kurdistan
4. the policy of the Kurdish princes towards religious and doctrinal components.
5. Religious life and mystical practices

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5. Conference dates: 3-4/5/2023

Fees

All costs, including accommodation, are covered by the conference except for travel costs.

Contact

For more information and/or any enquiries about the conference, you are welcome to contact us directly via the conference email address:

(hum.isc2023@uoz.edu.krd), or you can call us on this number: (+964 (0) 751 536 1550



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Zakho Centre
for Kurdish Studies
سەنتەری زاکو یۆ ئەکۆلینین کوردی

✉ zcks@uoz.edu.krd ☎ +964(0)751 536 1550
📍 Iraq- Kurdistan region, Zakho- University of zakho

