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## **The Mamluk Sultanate and the Karaman Emirate: international relations and the fitnah concept**

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### **Abstract**

The classic Mamluk era (mid-13th – early 16th century) was one of the brightest in the history of Egypt, as well as of the entire Middle East. The reign of the sultan Barquq marked the beginning of what is known as the Burji, or Circassian, period (1382–1517). The current paper regards the impact of the sultan Barquq’s policy concerning the Karamanids, on the relationships between the Mamluk Sultanate and the Ottoman Empire with the neighboring regions. Furthermore, the fitnah concept holds a prominent place in the Islamic political doctrine engaging with other key concepts such as jihad and thaura (revolution). The authors trace the genesis of the fitnah concept in the Middle East history during the seventh – fourteenth centuries. Analysis of rare epistolary artifacts of the Mamluk era forms novelty value of the research. The main issue brought by the authors is to differentiate the connotations of the fitnah concept as a historical and political phenomenon from its religious and legal notion.

**Keywords list (en):** Mamluk sultanate, Karaman emirate, Islamic political doctrine, fitnah

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# Султанат мамлюков и эмират Караманидов: взаимоотношения в контексте теории “фитны”

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## **Аннотация**

На материале арабских средневековых источников, в том числе неопубликованных рукописных текстов, авторы рассматривают переписку мамлюкского султана Баркука с эмиром Карамана Ала ад-Дином Али. Обмен посланиями происходил в последние десятилетия XIV в., когда государство Караманидов представляло собой самый крупный независимый бейлик в Малой Азии, разделявший владения мамлюков и османов. В статье анализируется развитие понятия “фитна” и исследуются причины кризиса в отношениях между Караманидами и мамлюками в контексте теории “фитны”.

**Ключевые слова:** Султанат мамлюков, эмират Караманидов, исламская политическая правовая теория, Баркук

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