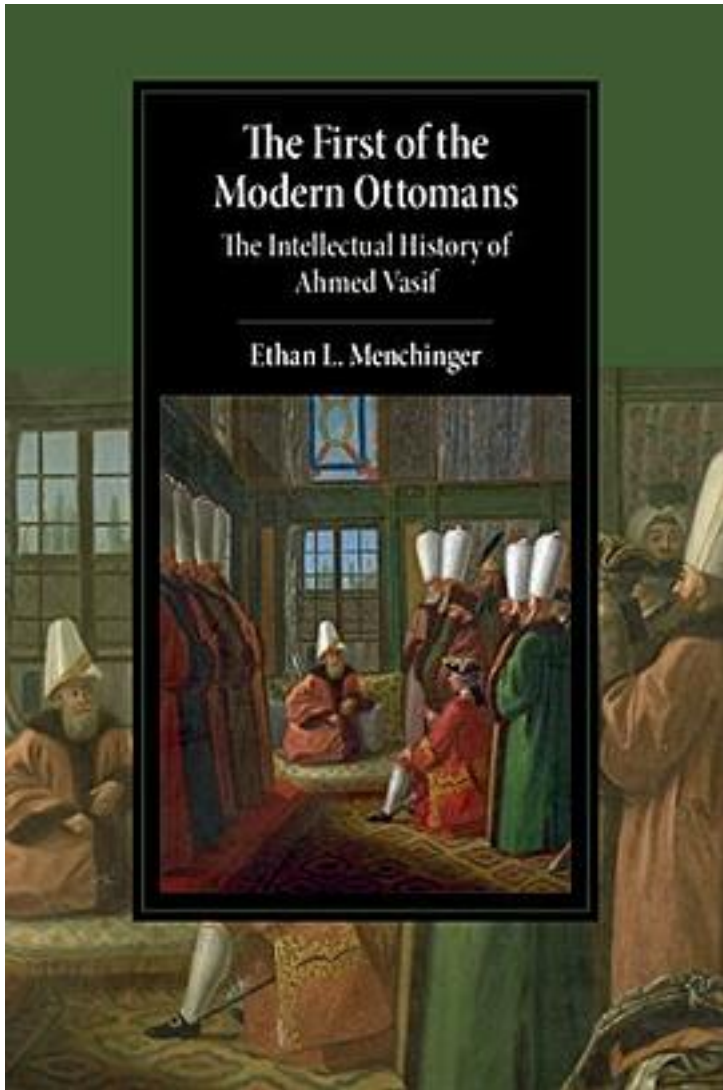


# The First of the Modern Ottomans



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出版者:Cambridge University Press

出版时间:2017-8-10

装帧:Hardcover

isbn:9781107197978

The eighteenth century brought a period of tumultuous change to the Ottoman Empire. While the Empire sought modernization through military and administrative reform, it also lost much of its influence on the European stage through war and revolt. In this book, Ethan L. Menchinger sheds light on intellectual life, politics, and reform in the Empire through the study of one of its leading intellectuals and statesmen, Ahmed Vâsf. Vâsf's life reveals new aspects of Ottoman letters - heated debates over moral renewal, war and peace, justice, and free will - but it also forces the reappraisal of Ottoman political reform, showing a vital response that was deeply enmeshed in Islamic philosophy, ethics, and statecraft. Tracing Vâsf's role through the turn of the nineteenth century, this book opens the debate on modernity and intellectualism for those students and researchers studying the Ottoman Empire, intellectual history, the Enlightenment, and Napoleonic Europe.

作者介绍:

Ethan L. Menchinger is currently a lecturer at the University of Michigan. He was previously a postdoctoral fellow at the Forum Transregionale Studien and Freie Universität, Berlin, and a visiting scholar at the University of Toronto.

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## 标签

奥斯曼帝国

历史

传记

## 评论

一个18世纪奥斯曼官员/知识分子的传记。瓦瑟夫出身于巴格达的一个知识分子家庭，从一个省长的书记做起，再到俄土战争前线的军需官与外交官，在战争中被俄军俘虏，到了圣彼得堡，见识了俄国的改革，又参与了停战谈判。回国后做一些史官与财政方面的工作，业余和一同僚合伙搞印刷出版事业。因为分摊不均而与同僚撕逼，被派到西班牙去当大使，算是一种流放。在西班牙，他在游记上说自己很讨厌西班牙，还说什么在图书馆里看到了安达卢斯时代的古兰经，悲从中来。实际上他很享受西班牙的歌剧，收

礼也毫不手软。回国后，瓦瑟夫的仕途又数次起落，他自大贪婪的性格使在同僚中很不受欢迎，因此仕途停滞，只能在史官与中级财政官员的位置上打转。但他的文笔真的很好，对赛利姆改革的大政翼赞很到位，深得赏识。在拿破仑战争中，偶然做上了外长，不久死在了任上

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书评

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