

# Contents

---

Figures	ix
Acknowledgments	xi
Abbreviations	xiii
Note on Transliteration	xv
Note on Weight and Currency Terms	xvii
Introduction	1
<b>I Aleppo and the Caravan Trade</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>THE RISE OF ALEPPO, 1516–1600</b>	
<b>THE TIME OF TROUBLES, 1600–1630</b>	
<b>THE RETURN OF THE SILK TRADE, 1630–1730</b>	
<b>THE DECLINE OF THE CARAVAN TRADE</b>	
<b>II Population, Society, and Merchants in Ottoman Aleppo</b>	<b>37</b>
<b>POPULATION AND ETHNICITY</b>	
<b>THE QUESTION OF “CLASS”</b>	
<b>ALEPPO’S MERCHANTS</b>	
<b>MERCHANTS AS FREE AGENTS</b>	
<b>THE PRACTICE OF COMMERCE IN ALEPPO</b>	
<b>III Merchant Diasporas and Trading “Nations”</b>	<b>72</b>
<b>THE EUROPEAN TRADING COMMUNITIES</b>	
<b>TRADING DIASPORAS FROM WITHIN THE <i>UMMA</i></b>	
<b>THE SYRIAN CHRISTIANS: A NEW TRADING DIASPORA</b>	

IV	The Commercial Institutions of a Caravan City	110
	THE CARAVANS	
	KHANS, <i>SŪQS</i> , AND COFFEEHOUSES	
	GOVERNMENTAL INSTITUTIONS OF TRADE	
V	Money, Credit, and Investment	146
	MONEY, TRADE, AND CREDIT	
	LOANS AND CREDIT	
	CAPITAL INVESTMENT	
	WOMEN AS INVESTORS	
VI	An “Islamic Economy” in an Age of Mercantilism	186
	FOUNDATIONS OF THE ISLAMIC ECONOMY	
	THE OTTOMAN RESPONSE TO SHIFTS IN INTERNATIONAL TRADING PATTERNS	
	THE GOVERNMENT AND THE GUILDS	
	Conclusion	216
	Glossary	223
	Selected Bibliography	227
	Index	237