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Sugar trade in the Eighteenth-Century Persian Gulf

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Propositions

1. Despite serious political turmoil after the fall of the Safavid dynasty, sugar consumption persisted in regional courts and towns in Iran and its borderlands.
2. The Persian Gulf formed a strikingly resilient market during the eighteenth century.
3. The withdrawal of the VOC from the Persian Gulf can be attributed to increasing challenges from other sugar suppliers from the late Safavid period.
4. Shifts in the flow of sugar in the Persian Gulf corresponded to those in the exporting of bullion to India.
5. Indian brokers played crucial roles in the trade of sugar for precious metals in the Persian Gulf and its interior.
6. In Safavid Iran, the two different commercial institutions, namely European companies and Asian family firms, were compatible with one another in terms of risk management.
7. The sustained intra-Asian economy during the eighteenth century paved the way for progressive inflows of Western investments in Asia in the nineteenth century.
8. Historians today focus primarily on the social and cultural context of the VOC archives, but would do well not to lose sight of its original commercial context.
9. The historiography of the Indian Ocean still dwells on India. Further study of other Indian Ocean regions will help to understand the historical world in its entirety.
10. Excessive globalization hinders a fuller development of academia.