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VICTIMS, FUGITIVES, AND CRIMINALS: THE NON-IMTEGRATED SLAVES IN RUMILI (16TH – MIDDLE OF THE 18TH CENTURY)

(Summary)

The study is dedicated to the various factors which prevented the successful integration of some domestic slaves and ex-slaves into the Ottoman society as well as to the two main forms of slaves' societal self-exclusion – slave fugitivism and slave criminality. An attempt was made to delineate some characteristic features of these phenomena. Slave integration and slave exclusion are viewed as a reverberation of the very ambivalent essence of pre-modern Islamic slavery that regarded slaves as both things and persons. The porous boundaries between integration and exclusion are illustrated with several examples of fugitive slaves or slaves involved in heavy crimes who despite acting in violation of the law appeared to be well incorporated in the (marginal) segments of the Ottoman society. The text is based on multiple sources but mostly on documents derived from the kadi registers.