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**PAX OTTOMANA – ADMINISTRATION, REGULATION AND SHARIA LAW  
OF THE OTTOMAN EMPIRE**

**Summary:** The focus of this work named “Pax Ottomana” is to bring us closer and explain how the Ottoman empire functioned during 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> century – the period of which our research is focused on. Based on the fact that our own country was under the rule of Ottoman empire and that our authors are not usually focusing on how the rule looked like from the perspective of Ottomans the author of this work decided to bring us closed to the period of the Ottoman rule on these territories and on the global scene, a period which is known in new historiography as “Ottoman Peace”. Ottoman state in this time was at the peak of its power and conquered nations were under the direct rule of Turkish administrative apparatus. Through one extensive overview and through legal-historic analysis of this period author would like to make basis for further researches in domestic academic circles in order to have better outlook on this historical period. Millet system was in special focus of this article as well as sharia law which made the very foundation of the Ottoman state of that time. Apart from that we have made an overview on the sources of the sharia law and genesis of its origin due to the fact that sharia law is very specific and that it also had its expansion during the period from the late 15<sup>th</sup> century and onward, especially after proclamations of qanun-nama’ by Turkish sultans which filled the legal loopholes (especially in terms of administration, finances and public law). This contributed greatly to the Islamic law and Islamic jurisprudence.

**Keywords:** Ottoman Empire, Pax Ottomana, Turkish administration, sharia law, 16<sup>th</sup> century, 17<sup>th</sup> century, Millet system

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