

# **Persia in Crisis**

**Safavid Decline and the Fall of Isfahan**

**Rudi Matthee**

**I.B. TAURIS**  
LONDON • NEW YORK

Published by I.B. Tauris & Co. Ltd  
In association with the Iran Heritage Foundation

# Contents

<i>List of Maps and Illustrations</i>	ix
<i>Note on Transliteration</i>	xi
<i>Abbreviations</i>	xiii
<i>Acknowledgments</i>	xv
<i>Preface</i>	xvii
<i>Introduction</i>	xxi
1. Patterns: Iran in the Late Safavid Period	1
2. Politics at the Safavid Court, I: Shahs and Grand Viziers, 1629–1666	27
3. Safavid Politics, II: Shahs, Grand Viziers, and Eunuchs, 1666–1699	55
4. Monetary Policy and the Disappearing Mints, 1600–1700	75
5. From Perpetual War to Lasting Peace: Safavid Military Politics in the Seventeenth Century	109
6. Weakening Links: The Center and the Provinces, 1600–1700	139
7. Religion in Late Safavid Iran: Shi`i Clerics and Minorities	173
8. From Stability to Turmoil: The Final Decades, 1700–1722	197
<i>Conclusion</i>	243
<i>Glossary</i>	257
<i>Notes</i>	259
<i>Bibliography</i>	329
<i>Index</i>	359