



GIFT GIVING

GIFT GIVING in Persia. The following articles constitute a preliminary attempt at studying various aspects of gift giving in a chronological and historical framework, from the pre-Islamic era to the early modern period. An anthropological approach, dealing with the practice of gift exchange in local communities, tribal clans, villages, extended families, neighborhoods, and urban quarters needs a separate and more detailed treatment. Since the meaning and the function of gift exchange and its practice in pre-modern societies need clarification, this entry will begin with some introductory remarks on the subject.

i. *Introduction.*

ii. *In pre-Islamic Persia.*

iii. *In the medieval period.*

iv. *In the Safavid period.*

v. *In the Qajar period.*