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I. Important Safavid rulers in Isfahan:
    Shah ‘Abbas I (r. 1588 to 1629 CE)
    Shah ‘Abbas II (r. 1642–1666 CE)
    Shah Solayman (r. 1666-94 CE)
    Shah Soltan Hosayn (r. 1696-1722 CE)

II. Zayandeh Rud, the river of the Isfahan oasis

III. Parts of the Safavid urban layout:
    A. Maidan –e Naqsh-i Jahan: the main square of Safavid Isfahan: plan established
       1592 CE, when Shah Abbas I inaugurated the new capital complexes and their
       spacious public zones with subsequent changes in mid- 17th c.
       Key elements of the space
       1. Ali Qapu (Sublime Gate): the gate pavilion leading through to the
          administrative center as well as the private spaces of the palace
          district beyond. Construction phases: 1590, 1620's, 1670's
       2. Masjid- i Shaykh Lutfullah: across and opposite the gate pavilion
       3. Masjid-e Jadid-e Abbasi: the new congregational/ royal mosque
       4. Qaisariyye (Bazaar) Gate: across and opposite the new great
          mosque, a monumental entry into a series of covered streets,
          crossings, inns and warehouses (connects the new maidan to the old
          bazaar and the old congregational mosque)
    B. Chahar Bagh Promenade (construction beginning c.1596 CE)
       1. Pavilion of the Eight Paradises (Hasht Behesht) 1669 CE
    C. Palace of Forty Columns (Chehel Sotun) first phase c. 1637-50 CE
    D. Bridges of Isfahan:
       1. Allah Verdi Khan Bridge 1602-07 CE
       2. Hasanabad (Khaju) Bridge 1651/2 CE
    E. Neighborhoods
       1. Bidabad: new neighborhood with service complex of Ali Quli Agha
          (1710’s)
       2. Abbasabad: new neighborhood of palaces built up after 1600 CE
       3. Jubareh
       4. Dashti
       5. New Jolfa (new Armenian suburb across the river after 1590 CE)

IV. Bibliography:
   Baghdiantz-McCabe, Ina The Shah’s Silk for Europe’s Silver: The European Trade of the Julfa
   Armenians in Safavid Iran and India (1530-’1750)(Atlanta: Scholar's Press, 1999)


Matthee, Rudi *The Politics of Trade in Safavid Iran: Silk for Silver, 1600-1730* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1999)