

**Worksheet for Farshid Emami's**  
**“Coffee and Coffeehouses in Ottoman and Safavid Lands, 1500-1800”**  
by Sascha Crasnow  
*(to be used with [video linked here](#))*



**Key Takeaways:**

1. How did coffee come to the Arab world? Why was it first developed as a drink?
2. When and where were the earliest coffeehouses established? How did coffee spread throughout Arab and Persianate lands, leading to the proliferation of coffeehouses? And how did the Ottoman Empire contribute to the spread of coffee in the region?
3. What features and characteristics of coffeehouses can be gleaned by coeval artistic depictions of them? Besides the drinking of coffee, what other activities occurred in coffeehouses?



4. What are the typical architectural components of Ottoman coffeehouses?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
5. Describe the Ipshir Pasha Coffeehouse. Where was it located? What makes its architecture so remarkable? How does it relate to the other buildings in the complex?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
6. What are the similarities and differences between Safavid and Ottoman coffeehouses? Include examples from the presentation as support for your answer.

### **Contextualizing the Work**

Think about the structures, locations, and social functions of Ottoman and Safavid coffeehouses. Do coffeehouses in the US and/or elsewhere in the world function similarly nowadays? Can you think of other spaces that fulfill a similar role today as coffeehouses in the 15<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> centuries?