The Iranian constitutional movement (1906-1911) was marked by the explosion of a political and social literature in which different visions for a new Iran were expressed. Among the various actors involved the Iranian ulamas were certainly one of the most mobilized, especially in the first three years of the movement.

In political treaties (risāla-yi siyāsi or lâhiya) with programmatic characters, the Iranian ulama, like other socio-political actors, discussed the current political situation in Iran but also drew up a state of the situation in the contemporary Muslim world by drafting at the occasion models (as well as anti-models). And it is precisely in this respect that the mention to the Ottoman Empire is as frequent as it is diverse. By endeavoring in this communication to note the variety of mentions to the Ottoman Empire and their uses, we will insist on what they say about the Iranian constitutional movement, the political imagination of Iran at this period, and of course the relations between Iran and the Ottoman Empire during the nineteenth century.