Philosophy written in Arabic and in the Islamic world represents one of the great traditions of Western philosophy. Inspired by Greek philosophical works and the indigenous ideas of Islamic theology, Arabic philosophers from the ninth century onwards put forward ideas of great philosophical and historical importance. This collection of essays, by some of the leading scholars in Arabic philosophy, provides an introduction to the field by way of chapters devoted to individual thinkers (such as al-Farabi, Avicenna, and Averroes) or groups, especially during the ‘classical’ period from the ninth to the twelfth centuries. It also includes chapters on areas of philosophical inquiry across the tradition, such as ethics and metaphysics. Finally, it includes chapters on later Islamic thought, and on the connections between Arabic philosophy and Greek, Jewish, and Latin philosophy. The volume also includes a useful bibliography and a chronology of the most important Arabic thinkers.
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The Cambridge Companion to Arabic Philosophy

Edited by
Peter Adamson
King's College London

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Marquette University
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Please note that all names in this volume are given in full transliteration (e.g., al-Fārābī, not Alfarabi or al-Farabi), except for Ibn Sinā and Ibn Rushd, where we defer to tradition and use the familiar Latinized names Avicenna and Averroes. The same goes for all Arabic terms; thus we write Ima‘īlī rather than Ismaili, Qur’an rather than Koran, etc. We have generally followed the transliteration system used in the *International Journal of Middle Eastern Studies*, but used the simplest transliteration conventions possible: the feminine ending *tā‘ marbūta* is always written –a, and the definite article is always written al-.

There is a numbered bibliography at the end of this book. Chapter authors refer both to items in this bibliography and to unnumbered works specific to their chapters.
CHRONOLOGY OF MAJOR PHILOSOPHERS IN THE ARABIC TRADITION

The following is a list of the dates of the major philosophers and other authors in the Arabic tradition who are mentioned in this volume, in approximate chronological order according to the date of their death. The main sources used in compiling this set of dates are The Encyclopaedia of Islam [16], Nasr and Leaman [34], and C. Brockelmann, Geschichte der arabischen Literatur, 5 vols. [Leiden: 1937–49]. [Note that the dating of the Epistles of Ikhwān al-Ṣafā’ is disputed. For a discussion see Encyclopaedia of Islam [16], vol. II, 1972–3]. Dates are given in A.H. (the Muslim calendar) followed by C.E. Jewish authors’ dates are given in C.E. only. Dates elsewhere in this volume are generally given in C.E. only. For conversion tables between the two calendars, see G. S. P. Freeman-Grenville, The Muslim and Christian Calendars, 2nd edn. [London: 1977]. Figures from the twelfth century are not included here; for these thinkers see chapter 19. The editors thank David Reisman for corrections and suggestions.

Sergius of Resh’aynû [d. 536 C.E.]
Ibn al-Muqaffa’ [d. 139/757]
Al-Muqammas, Dāwūd (early 9th c.)
Māshā’allah [d. ca. 200/815]
Ibn al-Bitriq [fl. ca. 200/815]
Abū al-Hudhayl [d. ca. 226/840]
Al-Nazzām [d. between 220/835 and 230/845]
Al-Ḥimsî, Ibn Nā’ima [fl. ca. 215/830]
Al-Kindī [d. after 256/870]
Ibn Iṣhāq, Ḥunayn [d. ca. 260/873]
Al-Balkhī, Abū Ma’shar [d. 272/886]
Chronology of major philosophers

Ibn Qurra, Thabit (d. 288/901)
Ibn Haylân, Yuhanna (d. 297/910)
Ibn Hunayn, Ishâq (d. 298/910–11)
Ibn Lûqâ, Qustâ (ca. 205/820–300/912)
Al-Jubbâ’î, Abû ‘Ali [d. 303/915–16]
Al-Dimashqî, Abû ‘Uthmân [d. early 4th/10th c.]
Al-Râzî, Abû Bakr [d. 313/925]
Abû Tammâm [4th/10th c.]
Al-Balkhi, Abû al-Qasim [d. 319/931]
Al-Jubba’î, Abû Hashim [d. 321/933]
Al-Râzî, Abû Ťâtim [d. 322/934]
Al-Balkhi, Abû Zayd [d. 323/934]
Al-Ash’ari, Abû Hâsmân [d. 324/935–6]
Ibn Yûnus, Abû Bishr Mattâ [d. 328/940]
Gaon, Saadia [882–942]
Al-Nasafî, Muhammad [d. 332/943]
Al-Fârâbî [d. 339/950–1]
Israelî, Isaac [d. 955]
Ikhwan al-Šafâ’ (The Brethren of Purity) [4th/10th c.]
Al-Sîjistânî, Abû Ya’qûb [d. ca. 361/971]
Ibn ‘Adî, Yahya [d. 363/974]
Al-Širafî, Abû Sa’îd [d. 369/979]
Al-Sîjistânî (al-Mantîqi), Abû Sulaymân [d. ca. 375/985]
Al-Andalûsî, Ibn Juljul [d. after 377/987]
Al-’Amirî [d. 381/991]
Ibn al-Nadîm [d. either 385/995 or 388/998]
Al-Kirmani, Šamîd al-Din [d. ca. 412/1021]
‘Abd al-Jabbar [d. 415/1024–5]
Ibn Miskawayh [d. 421/1030]
Aviceonna [Ibn Šînhâ] [370/980–428/1037]
Ibn al-Haytham (Alhazen) [d. ca. 432/1040]
Ibn al-Šayyib, Abû al-Šarâ [d. 434/1043]
Al-Biruni [d. 440/1048]
Ibn Gabirol, Solomon (Avicebron) [1021–58 or 1070]
Ibn Hazm [d. 456/1064]
Ibn Marzubân, Bahmanyar [d. 459/1066]
Ibn Šâ‘îd al-Andalûsî, Abû al-Qasîm Ša‘îd [d. 462/1070]
Ibn Mattawayh [d. 469/1076–7]
Chronology of major philosophers

Nāṣīr-i Khusraw (d. ca. 470/1077)
Al-Shirāzī, al-Mu‘ayyad fī al-Dīn (d. 470/1077)
Al-Juwaynī, Imām al-Haramayn (d. 478/1085)
Al-Lawkarī, Abū al-Abbās (fl. 503/1109–10)
Al-Ghazālī, Abū Hamīd (450/1058–505/1111)
Al-Nasafī, Abū al-Mu‘īn (d. 508/1114–15)
Ibn Bājja (Avempace) (d. 533/1141)
Halevi, Judah (d. 1141)
Al-Baghdādī, Abū al-Barakāt (d. after 560/1164–5)
Ibn Da‘ud, Abraham (ca. 1110–80)
Ibn Tusayfī (d. 581/1185–6)
Suhrawardī (549/1154–587/1191)
Averroes (ibn Rushd) (520/1126–595/1198)
Al-Bītrūjī (fl. ca. 600/1204)
Maimonides (1135 or 1138–1204)
Al-Rāzī, Fakhr al-Dīn (d. 606/1209)
Al-Baghdādī, ‘Abd al-Latīf (d. 628/1231)
Ibn Yūnus, Kamāl al-Dīn (d. 639/1242)
Ibn al-Qīṭī (d. 646/1248)
Falaquera, Shem-Tov (d. ca. 1295)
Al-Abhārī, Athīr al-Dīn (d. 663/1264)
Ibn Abī Uṣaybi‘a (d. 668/1270)
Al-Ṭūsī, Naṣīr al-Dīn (d. 672/1274)
Al-Kātibī, Najm al-Dīn al-Qazwīnī (d. 675/1276)
Ibn Kammūna, Sa‘d al-Dīn (d. 1277)
Al-Baydawī (d. 685/1286 or 691/1292)
Al-Shahrzūrī, Shams al-Dīn (d. after 688/1289)
Albalag, Isaac (late 13th c.)
Al-Shirāzī, Qutb al-Dīn (d. 710/1311)
Al-Hilli, al-‘Allāma (d. 726/1325)
Ibn Taymiyya (d. 728–9/1328)
Gersonides (Levi ben Gerson) (1288–1344)
Al-Isfahānī, Māhmūd (d. 749/1348)
Al-Ijī (d. 756/1355)
Ibn al-Khaṭīb (d. 776/1375)
Al-Taftazānī, Sa‘d al-Dīn (d. 792/1390)
Ibn Khaldūn (732/1332–808/1406)
Crescas, Hasdai (d. ca. 1411)
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Isfahani, Ibn Tarkhe (Ṣā‘īn al-Dīn) [d. ca. 836–7/1432]
Dashtaki, Šadr al-Dīn [d. 903/1497]
Dawwānī, Jalāl al-Dīn [d. 907/1501]
Al-Dimashqī, Muḥammad b. Makki Shams al-Dīn [d. 937/1531]
Dashtaki, Ghiyāth al-Dīn Maṣūr [d. 949/1542]
Mīr Dāmūd [d. 1041/1631]
Mulla Šadrā (Ṣadr al-Dīn al-Shīrāzī) [979/1571–1050/1640]
Al-Lāhījī [d. 1072/1661]
Sabziwārī [d. 1289/1872]