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978-1-107-00029-2 - Islam in Post-Soviet Uzbekistan: The Morality of Experience

Johan Rasanayagam

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#### ISLAM IN POST-SOVIET UZBEKISTAN

In recent years, the Uzbekistan government has been criticized for its brutal suppression of its Muslim population. This book, which is based on the author's intimate acquaintance with the region and several years of ethnographic research, is about how Muslims in this part of the world negotiate their religious practices despite the restraints of a stifling authoritarian regime. Fascinatingly, the book also shows how the restrictive atmosphere has actually helped shape the moral context of people's lives, and how understandings of what it means to be a Muslim emerge creatively out of lived experience.

Johan Rasanayagam is Lecturer in Social Anthropology at The University of Aberdeen. Dr. Rasanayagam's works have been published in numerous journals, including the *Journal of the Royal Anthropological Institute* and the *Central Asian Survey*.

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# Islam in Post-Soviet Uzbekistan

*The Morality of Experience*



JOHAN RASANAYAGAM

*The University of Aberdeen*



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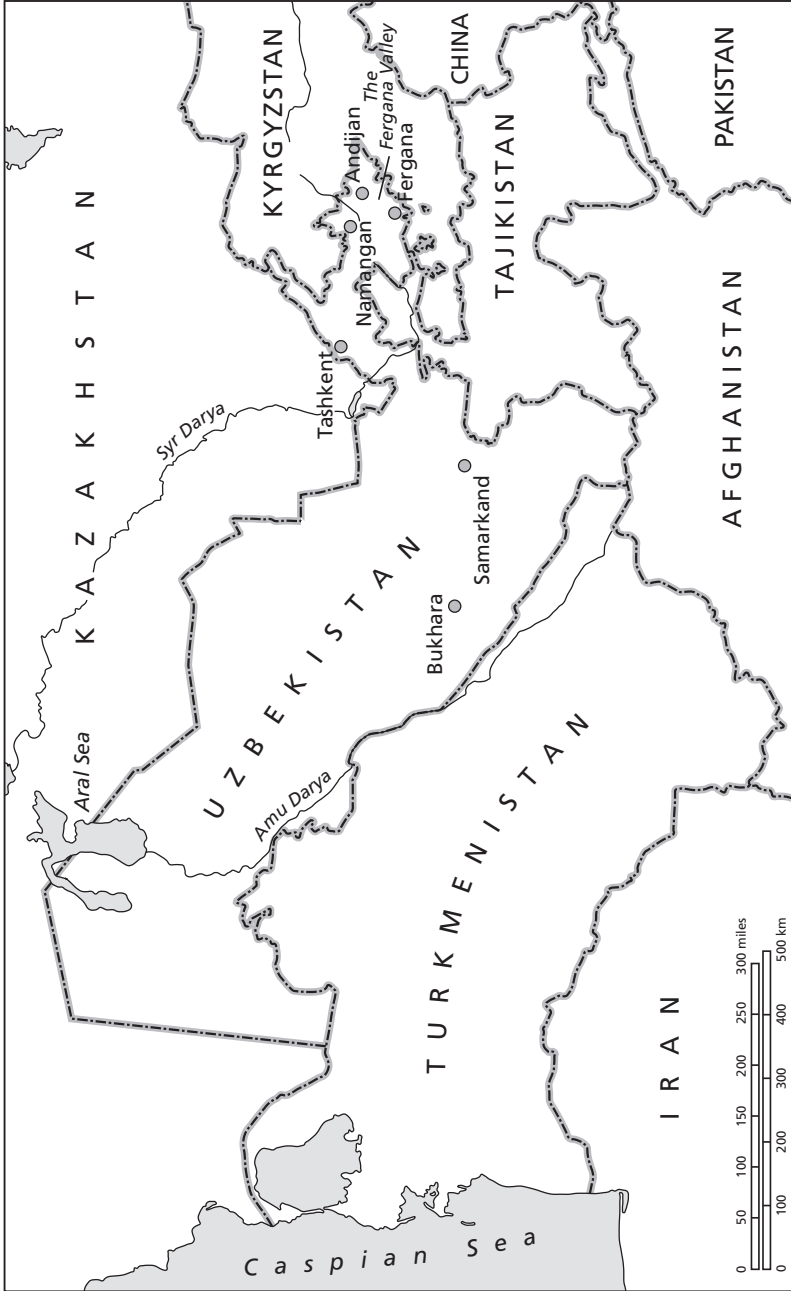
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## Note on Transliteration

Throughout this book, all transliterations from Uzbek follow the standard literary form. They do not reflect any dialectal particularities of the Andijan or Samarkand regions. All transliterations are Uzbek unless otherwise indicated, for example by (Ar.) for Arabic or (Rus.) for Russian. The exception is the word *sharīʿa*, a transliteration from Arabic. This appears repeatedly in the text, and the (Ar.) notation is omitted.



MAP: Uzbekistan and its neighbours