Contents

Acknowledgments xi
Note on Transliteration and Dates xv

1 Muftis
Introduction 1
The Madhhab 6
The Official Madhhab 10
The Official School of Law and the Imperial Legal Order 13
The Rise of an Ottoman Official Madhhab and the Grand Narratives of Islamic Legal History 17

2 Genealogies and Boundaries: Situating the Imperial Learned Hierarchy within the Ḥanafī Jurisprudential Tradition 65
Tabaqat: A Very Short Introduction 68
Early Stages: Kemâlpaşazâde’s Risāla fī Tabaqat al-Mujtahidîn 71
Kinalizâde’s Tabaqat al-Ḥanafîyya 74
Contents

Mahmûd b. Süleymân Kefevî’s Katâ‘ib Alâm al-Akhyâr
min Fuqahâ’ Madhhab al-Nu’mân al-Mukhtar 80
Edirneli Mehmed Kâmi’s Mahâmîn al-Fuqahâ’ 89
Recontextualizing Taşköprüzâde’s al-Shaqa’iq al-Nu’mânîyya 94
Concluding Remarks 99

3 Genealogies and Boundaries II: Two Responses from the
Arab Provinces of the Empire 101
Ibn Tüllân’s al-Ghuraf al-‘Aliyya fi Tarajim Muta’akkhîri
al-Hanafîyya 102
Taqiyy al-Din al-Tabibi’s al-‘Tabaqât al-Saniyya fi Tarajim
al-Hanafîyya 111
Concluding Remarks 118

4 Books of High Repute 122
A Methodological Note on Textual Canons and
Their Formation 127
“The Reliable Books”: The Imperial Hierarchy and Its
Canon Consciousness 130
A Case Study: The Integration of al-Asbhab wa’l-Nazîr
into the Ottoman Imperial Canon 135
The Transmission and Canonization of Texts Outside the
Ottoman Learned Hierarchy 139
Comparing Jurisprudential Canons 144
The Emergence of the Greater Syrian “Ottomanized”
Canon 155
A Damascene Critique of the Imperial Jurisprudential
Canon 157
Concluding Remarks 159

5 Intra-Madhhab Plurality and the Empire’s Legal Landscape 163
Using the Officially Appointed Muftîs’ Rulings 166
Writing Ottoman Fatâwâ in Arabic 181
Nonappointed Muftîs and the Imperial Jurisprudential
Landscape 191
Establishing Authority 192
The Nonappointed Muftîs’ Rulings 198
Concluding Remarks 204
Conclusion: The Second Formation of Islamic Law 207
Looking East: The Ottoman Case in a Comparative
Perspective 208
The Chinggisid Heritage 214
Situating the Post-Mongol Period in the Grand Narratives
of Islamic Legal History 220
## Contents

Appendix A. *The Classification of the Authorities of the Hanafi School* 225
Appendix B. *Kefevî’s Chains of Transmission* 229
Appendix C. *Minkârizâde’s and al-Ramlî’s Bibliographies* 231
*Selected Bibliography* 245
*Index* 267