

Contents

<i>List of Figures</i>	page ix
<i>Acknowledgments</i>	xi
Introduction: Politics, Law, and Authority in the Abbasid and Fatimid Eras	1
The Judiciary and Islamic Intellectual Culture in the Early Centuries	1
The Scholars (<i>'ulamā'</i>) and the Graeco-Arabic Philosophers	10
Scholars as Philosophical Theologians and Philosophical Sufis	13
Caliphs as Bibliophile Patrons of Philosophy and Platonizing Guides	20
A Fluid Dialectic of Authority between Rulers and Scholars	25
Part I Philosophical Caliphs and Their Impact on the Scholars (<i>'ulamā'</i>)	
1 Rival Caliphs in Baghdad and Cairo	41
The Abbasids and Fatimids in Context	41
Graeco-Arabic Philosophy and Islamic Mysticism	45
Ibn Masarra's <i>Book on the Properties of the Letters</i>	51
Neoplatonic Intellect and Soul in the Scriptural Cosmos	53
Mysticism in Iraq and the Rise of Esoteric Hermeneutics	55
A Platonizing Theological Metaphysics	58
Philosophy's Place in the Changing Authority of the Scholars	62
2 A Third Caliphate in Cordoba	77
A Rivalry of Caliphs in Cordoba, Cairo, and Baghdad	77
Philosophical Caliphs Navigating the World of the Scholars	80
The Rise of Aristotelian Logic-Oriented Scholars in Cordoba	84
Ibn Ḥazm's Critique of Platonizing Cosmologies	87
Philosophy in Zāhirism and Masarrism	90
3 Political Reform among the Later Abbasids	106
al-Ghazālī's Legacy between Philosophy and Sufism	106
A Political Response to Platonizing Cosmologies	112
A Philosophical Critique of Fatimid Political Authority	116
Abū Bakr b. al-'Arabī on the Philosophers and Sufis	123

viii Contents

**Part II Philosophical Sufis among Scholars
 ('ulamā') and Their Impact on Political Culture**

4	Sufi Metaphysics in the Twelfth Century	137
	Sufism and Its Integration of Philosophical Doctrines	137
	The Konya Manuscript of Ibn Barrajān's Major <i>Tafsīr</i>	145
	The Epistemology of Sufi Metaphysics	146
	Philosophical Knowledge and Esoteric Hermeneutics	149
	Celestial Agency and the Mystical Ascent	157
	Ibn Barrajān's Reform of Philosophy	162
5	A New Political Model and Its Sufi Dimensions	178
	A Sufi Debate about Communal Leadership	178
	Ibn Qasī's <i>Doffing of the Sandals</i>	182
	The Platonizing Ascent to the Universals	186
	A Philosophical Sufi Cosmology	193
	Sufis in Politics	199
6	The Transformation of Caliphal Politics	211
	The Almohads' Articulation of a New Caliphal Legitimacy	213
	Mysticizing Aristotle in a Platonizing Sufi Treatise	216
	Ḥayy ibn Yaḳzān's Celestial Promenade	221
	An Enduring Dialectic of Political and Religious Authority	225
	Conclusion	238
	<i>Bibliography</i>	241
	<i>Index</i>	259