

## *Contents*

<i>List of Figures</i>	<i>page</i> vii
<i>Acknowledgements</i>	viii
<i>Note on Transliteration, Dates and Abbreviations</i>	x
Introduction	1
1 Who Made the Nahda?	18
1.1 Modes of Production, Nodes of Connection	19
1.2 Capitalist Intensification and Expansion	23
1.3 The Rise of Beirut and Its Bourgeoisie	27
1.4 The Beiruti Nahda: Early Iterations of the Syrian Scientific Society	30
1.5 Other Cultural Sociabilities: <i>Majālis</i> , Theatre, Addressed Verse	37
1.6 The Syrian Scientific Society, 1868–9	42
1.7 Mehmed Ali and His Officials	47
1.8 Rifa'a al-Tahtawī and the Languages School	50
1.9 Catholics of Aleppo	59
1.10 The Marrāsh–Dallāl Circle of the 1850s and 1860s	65
1.11 The Wider Nahda	73
2 The Discourse of Civilisation	79
2.1 Introduction	79
2.2 The City, the <i>Polis</i> and Human Sociability: Prehistories of <i>Tamaddun</i>	81
2.3 Khalil al-Khūrī's Introduction to <i>Hadīqat al-Akhbār</i>	87
2.4 Civilisation in the Crisis of 1860	93
2.5 The Scope of <i>Tamaddun</i> in <i>Nafir Sūriyya</i>	96
2.6 <i>Tamaddun</i> for Whom?	100
2.7 <i>Tamaddun</i> as External or Internal Standard?	110
2.8 Consolidation in the 1860s; Civilisation and Society	118
2.9 Class Confidence: Beirut 1869	124
3 A Place in the World	129
3.1 Introduction	129

3.2 Among the Geographers	131
3.3 The Old Geography and the New	139
3.4 ‘A Picture of What His Rule Contained’: A Geography of Mehmed Ali’s Domains	143
3.5 Islam and the Ottomans	153
3.6 Civilisation and Savagery	160
3.7 Ancient Geographies	171
3.8 Great Men and <i>Translatio Studii</i>	175
3.9 Civilisation’s Expansion: Foreign News in <i>Hadiqat al-Akhbār</i>	180
4 An Arab Utopian	188
4.1 Utopian Thinking in the Nahda	188
4.2 Literary Utopias in Arabic	197
4.3 In the Forest of Justice	200
4.4 Dream, Allegory and War: The Framing of the Utopia	204
4.5 The Philosopher and the King	208
4.6 Dialogue and Polyvalence	211
4.7 The Trial and Yāqūt’s Tale	217
4.8 Freedom and the Laws of Nature	223
4.9 Aspiration and Actuality	232
4.10 Discontents: Barbarous Civilisation	238
Conclusions	245
Bibliography	256
Index	290