In the early 1840s, Ottoman rulers launched a new imperial project, partly in order to reassert their authority over their lands and subjects, crucially including the Arab nomads. By examining the evolution of this relationship between the Ottoman Empire and Arab nomads in the modern era, M. Talha Çiçek puts forward a new framework to demonstrate how negotiations between the Ottomans and the Arab nomads played a part in making the modern Middle East. Reflecting on multiple aspects of Ottoman authority and governance across Syria, Iraq, Arabia, Transjordan and along their frontiers, Çiçek reveals how the relationship between the imperial centre and the nomads was not merely a brutal imposition of a strict order, but instead one of constant, complicated, and fluid negotiation. In so doing, he highlights how the responses of the nomads made a considerable impact on the ultimate outcome, transforming the imperial policies accordingly.

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Negotiating Empire in the Middle East
Ottomans and Arab Nomads in the Modern Era, 1840–1914

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To my dear beloved, Öznıl
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Note to the Reader

It is always an issue for the historians of the Middle East to transliterate the Ottoman Turkish and Arabic terms. In this book, with a few minor exceptions, I followed the Modern Turkish transliteration to minimize the problematic distortion of the Ottoman era pronunciation – for example – ‘Mehmed’, not ‘Mehmet’ or ‘Muhammad’. For the Arabic terms, the International Journal of Middle East Studies transliteration system is employed. For well-known place names, I use English and the transliteration from Turkish or Arabic depending on the common language of each place: Istanbul, not Istanbul; Hawran, not Havran; but Deir al-Zor, not Der Zor. The names of the tribes are transliterated with reference to the most common usage in English; Anizah, not Anazeh or Anazee; but Wuld ’Ali, not Walad ’Ali.
## Abbreviations

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Abbreviation</th>
<th>Full Form</th>
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<tr>
<td>A.AMD</td>
<td>Sadaret Amedi</td>
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<tr>
<td>A.MKT</td>
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<td>A.MKT.MHM</td>
<td>Sadaret Mektubi Mühimme</td>
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<td>DH.EUM.EMN</td>
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