RUSSIAN, CHINESE, AND JAPANESE calendar systems have been converted to the Gregorian calendar. Names, places, and terms that have entered into the common mode of expression appear in their more prevalent Western spellings. Generally, places that have changed national affiliations over time are referred to in their present forms; but in describing rivers under shared Chinese and Russian ownership, and that have been given dual names, I have settled on the Russian versions. Chinese terms in Russian sources are often opaque. Whenever I was unable to identify the original, I have used the transliteration of the Russian. All translations are my own unless otherwise indicated.
BEYOND THE STEPPE FRONTIER
**Figure 0.1.** Inner and Northeast Asia with present-day international borders.