The idea for this reader was born during the conference “Reading into Islamization,” which was convened at Ben-Gurion University of the Negev by the Center for the Study of Conversion and Inter-Religious Encounters (an I-Core initiative), January 4–6, 2016. We would like to thank the center’s directors, Chaim (Harvey) Hames and Ephraim (Effie) Shoham-Steiner, for their encouragement and financial support. Support for portions of Luke Yarbrough’s work on this project was provided by the New York University Abu Dhabi Institute and by Saint Louis University.

We are also grateful to the Barr Ferree Publication Fund of Princeton University, which aided us in funding the production of the book’s maps, and we express our gratitude to Shane Kelley for plotting these fine maps. The Metropolitan Museum of Art of New York City is also deserving of thanks for making freely available the image on the cover.

We would also like to extend our appreciation to Hanna Siurua and Marian Rogers for editing the manuscript and saving us from many mistakes.

We would like to thank Eric Schmidt and Austin Lim of the University of California Press for guiding us through the intricacies of this project. We have also benefited from the comments made by the five anonymous readers who reviewed the book proposal and the two anonymous readers who read the full manuscript, and would like to express our gratitude for their remarks. Finally, we are indebted to the nearly five dozen contributors who lent the project their time and expertise.