CONTENTS

List of Major Characters ix

Introduction: My Syrian Muslim Heartland 1

PART I: 1900 TO WORLD WAR I

1. Muslim South Dakota from Kadoka to Sioux Falls 19
2. Homesteading Western North Dakota 43
3. Peddling in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, a Town of Ethnic Tradition 66
4. Michigan City, Indiana, and Syrian Muslim Industrial Workers 87

PART II: 1920S TO WORLD WAR II

5. Muslim Life and the Agricultural Depression in North Dakota 109
6. Cedar Rapids’ Grocery Business and the Growth of a Muslim Midwestern Town 132
7. From Sioux Falls and Michigan City to Detroit, Capital of the Muslim Midwest 163

Conclusion: A Big Party in the 1950s 193

Acknowledgments 201
Notes 205
Index 229
About the Author 239
Heartland Muslim Map. Created by Scott Schiller.