The Fall and Rise of the ISLAMIC STATE
This page intentionally left blank
The Fall and Rise of the Islamic State

NOAH FELDMAN

WITH A NEW INTRODUCTION BY THE AUTHOR

A Council on Foreign Relations Book

PRINCETON UNIVERSITY PRESS
PRINCETON AND OXFORD
In memory of Muhsin Mahdi, 1926–2007
The order, the discipline, the temporal and spiritual ambition of the clergy, are unknown to the Moslems; and the sages of the law are the guides of their conscience and the oracle of their faith. From the Atlantic to the Ganges the Koran is acknowledged as the fundamental code, not only of theology but of civil and criminal jurisprudence; and the laws which regulate the actions and the property of mankind are guarded by the infallible and immutable sanction of the will of God.

Gibbon, *The Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire*, chap. 50 (5:325)

The scholars are the heirs of the prophets.

*Sunan Abi Dawud*, book 25:3634