Contents

| | Acknowledgements | ix |
|------|--|-----|
| | Introduction | I |
| Part | ONE GENERAL CONSIDERATIONS | |
| 1 | The Eunuchs in Islam: Basic Characteristics | 13 |
| 2 | Eunuchs and Mamlūks: The Eunuchs' Impact | 39 |
| 3 | No Opposition to the Introduction of the Eunuchs | 61 |
| 4 | The Establishment of the Eunuch Institution in Islam | 66 |
| Part | Two* THE 'ABĀSSID CALIPHATE IN ITS HEYDAY | |
| 5 | The First 'Abbāsids (up to Hārūn al-Rashīd) | 71 |
| 6 | The Role of the Eunuchs in | |
| | Hārūn al-Rashīd's Reign (170-193/786-809) | 80 |
| 7 | The Caliphal Relay Post and the Caliphal Insignia | 96 |
| 8 | The Eunuchs and the Byzantine Frontier | 104 |
| 9 | Al-Amīn: Hārūn al-Rashīd's Continuator | 128 |
| Part | THREE THE LATER PERIOD | |
| 10 | Some Remarks on the Fāṭimid Eunuchs | 139 |
| 11 | The Seljuks | 144 |
| 12 | The Zengids | 166 |
| | | |

| 13 | Ayyūbids and Mamlūks | 175 |
|-----|--|-----|
| | Conclusion: The Great Triangle | 195 |
| | Addendum: The Earliest Contemporary Evidence for Khādim in the Sense of Eunuch | 200 |
| App | ENDICES | |
| A. | The Synonymy of Khādim and Khaṣī | 207 |
| В. | Eunuchs Who Are Hard to Identify: Unidentified Eunuchs | 285 |
| C. | Names, Related Designations and Camouflage (Names of Eunuchs: the Eunuch having a "Son," a "Family," and a "Father") | 289 |
| D. | Khadam Who Might Be Non-Eunuchs | 296 |
| E. | Prices of Eunuchs; Age of Castration; Castration | 300 |
| F. | Sex, Romances and Marriages | 316 |
| G. | Eunuchs as Influential | |
| | Educators and Arbiters (Some Instances) | 326 |
| H. | Functions and Occupations of the Eunuchs | 330 |
| I. | Eunuchs as Commanders (and Besiegers) of Fortresses (Supplementary Data) | 339 |
| J. | The Fatimids and the Exchange of Prisoners | 345 |
| K. | 'Abd al-Jabbār's Evidence on the Byzantines' Attitude to Muslim Prisoners of War | 347 |
| L. | The Ṣaqāliba | 349 |
| | Bibliography | 353 |
| | Index | 363 |