

CONTENTS

Foreword by Annemarie Schimmel ♦ vii
A Note on Dates and Citations from the Koran ♦ xi

Introduction ♦ 1

The Intellectual Tradition in Islam 2 / The Feminist Critique of Islam 4 / The Background of the Present Book 4 / Chinese and Islamic Thought 6 / Theological Polarity 8 / Signs of God 10 / Cosmic Correspondences 14 / Human Equilibrium 15 / The Plan of the Book 17

PART 1

1 The Three Realities ♦ 23

Signs in the Horizons and the Souls 23 / Qualitative Correspondence 27 / Qualitative Levels 31 / Human All-Comprehensiveness 33 / Children of the Elements 37 / The Myth of Adam's Creation 39 / Human Becoming 43 / The Cosmic and Human Books 45

PART 2: Theology

2 Divine Duality ♦ 49

God and the Essence 49 / Incomparability and Similarity 51 / Complementary Names 55 / God and His Vassal 57 / The One and the Two 58 / The Creation of the Many 61 / The Differentiation of the Undifferentiated 62 / Being and Knowledge 66 / Majesty and Beauty 69 / Awe and Intimacy 74 / Social Implications of Divine Duality 76

3 The Two Hands of God ♦ 81

Right and Left 82 / The Views of Koran Commentators 84 / Fingers and Feet 85 / The Two Hands in the *Futūḥāt al-makkiyya* 88 / The *Fuṣūṣ al-ḥikam* 91 / Mu'ayyid al-Dīn Jandī 92 / 'Abd al-Razzāq Kāshānī 96 / Dāwūd Qayṣarī 99 / Ṣadr al-Dīn Qūnawī 101 / Sa'īd al-Dīn Farghānī 105 / Farghānī on the Two Handfuls 109

PART 3: Cosmology

4 Heaven and Earth ♦ 117

The Creation of the Cosmos 118 / The Tao of Heaven and Earth 121 / Heaven and Earth as Correlative Terms 123 / Similitudes 127 / Shifting Relationships 130 / The Seven Heavens 133 / The Four Elements 135 / The Virtues of the Earth 139

- 5 Macrocosmic Marriage** ♦ 143
 Fathers and Mothers 144 / Universal Marriage 147 / Triplicity 151 / The Pen and the Tablet 153 / The Intellect and the Soul 155 / Natural Children 158 / Changing Relationships 161 / The Faces of the Intellect 164 / The Two Wings of Gabriel 168
- 6 Human Marriage** ♦ 171
 Marriage in Society 171 / Man's Degree over Woman (I) 173 / Man's Degree over Woman (II) 177 / Mutual Love 181 / Women Made Lovable 183 / The *Fuṣūṣ al-ḥikam* 188 / Mutual Longing 190 / Witnessing God in Women 191 / Marriage and Creation 193 / Perfect Sexual Union 195 / The Symbolism of Grammatical Gender 196 / Spiritual Counsel 199
- 7 The Womb** ♦ 203
 Universal Worship 203 / The Mercy of Existence 206 / Nature as Wife and Mother 209 / Love for Parents 212 / The Womb as Microcosm 215 / The Womb as Nature 218

PART 4: Spiritual Psychology

- 8 Static Hierarchy** ♦ 225
 Principles of *Ta'wīl* 225 / Names of the Unseen 229 / Signs of the Microcosm 229 / Spirit 232 / Soul 236 / Intellect 238 / The Spirit's Kingdom 242 / Heaven and Earth 243
- 9 Dynamics of the Soul** ♦ 249
 Struggle on the Path to God 249 / The Soul's Evil 254 / Conflicting Character Traits 257 / The Soul's Receptivity 260 / Manliness and Chivalry 266 / Negative Masculinity 269 / Adam, Eve, and Iblis 273 / The Soul's Animals 277 / Purifying the Soul 283
- 10 The Heart** ♦ 289
 In the Koran and the Hadith 289 / Between Spirit and Soul 292 / The Heart in the School of Ibn al-'Arabī 299 / The Birth of the Heart 304 / The Heart's Birth According to 'Izz al-Dīn Kāshānī 306 / The Heart's Birth According to Ibn al-'Arabī's School 311 / The Soul as Virgin Mother 313 / The Perfected Heart 314 / True Men and True Women 316
- Postscript ♦ 321
 Appendix I Chronological List of Authors Cited ♦ 327
 Appendix II Notes on Authors Cited ♦ 329
 Notes ♦ 333
 Bibliography ♦ 357
 Index of Koranic Verses ♦ 363
 Index of Hadiths and Sayings ♦ 379
 General Index ♦ 385