

Contents



Foreword	XIII
Preface	XVII

Introduction · 1

Part One: Historic Perspective

1 *Islām and Poetry · 15*

Power of the Poet	15
Islām on Poetry	19
Early Muslims and Poetry	24
Islām's Influence on Arabic Poetry	26

2 *Music Before and After Islām · 37*

Ḥudā' and Rajaz	37
The Many Uses of Music	39
The Age of Kings	45
The Music Debate in History	52
Musician in the Muslim Society	54

3 *Music and the Media Revolution* • 57

Gramophone: The Making of Gauhar Jān	58
Radio: The Reign of Umm Kulthūm	61
Film: The Melody Queen of the Islāmic Republic	67
Television	69
Perspective on Technology	71
Mass Culture for the Mass Market	74
“Winning the Hearts and Minds”	75

4 *The Orientalists* • 79

Farmer’s History of Arabian Music	81
Shiloah’s “Great Musical Tradition”	92
Islām versus Christianity on Music	96

Part Two: Clearing the Fog

5 *Islāmic Source Texts: The Qur’ān* • 105

Verses Indicating Prohibition	107
Verses Indicating Permission	122

6 *Islāmic Source Texts: The Ḥadīth* • 133

Aḥādīth Indicating Prohibition	134
Aḥādīth Indicating Permission	153
The Issue of Weak Aḥādīth	163

7 *The Views of Early Muslims* • 167**8** *Samā’ī: The Sufi Perspective* • 175

Imām Ghazālī (d. 505/1111)	187
Aḥmad al-Ghazālī (d. 520/1126)	194
‘Abd al-Ghanī al-Nābulī (d. 1141/1729)	197

9 *The Case for Malāhī* • 205

Ibn Ḥazm (d. 456/1064)	205
Ibn Ṭāhir al-Maqdisī (d. 507/1113)	210
The Fatwa of al-Azhar	217

10 *The Rulings of the Jurists* • 227

Ḥanafī School	228
Mālīkī School	232
Shāfi’ī School	234
Ḥanbalī School	242
Salafī Position	245
Shī’ah Position	246
Conclusion	251

Part Three: Where Now?

11 *Music in Muslim Society Today* • 255

The Sound Arts Hierarchy of Lois al-Faruqī	256
Saving the Youth	260
The Nashīd Artists	262
Music and the Qur’ānic Recitation	267

12 *Beyond the Debate* • 273

APPENDIX 1: Rulings on Nashīds	281
APPENDIX 2: The Music Debate in History	285
APPENDIX 3: Biographical Notes	301
APPENDIX 4: Glossary	331



Bibliography	337
Index	349