Sufi Masters and the Creation of Saintly Spheres in Medieval Syria

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A NOTE ON TRANSLITERATION, NAMES, AND DATES

IN GENERAL, I have adopted the system of transliteration of Arabic words and names used by the new edition of the Encyclopedia of Islam (EI3). For certain Arabic words and names that are commonly found in English texts or dictionaries and atlases, I have preferred the less technical form: for example, Sufi, not Şûfi; Ayyubids, not Ayyûbids; Baalbek, not Ba’albek. I have also frequently indicated the plural Arabic nouns simply by adding an “s” rather than giving the correct Arabic form (e.g. ṭariqas rather than ṭuruq; zāwiyas rather than zāwāyā).

For the sake of convenience and the accessibility of the book to a wide readership in the field of medieval history, dates are generally given according to the Western calendar; except for dates of birth and death for which I have used both the Islamic (AH) and Western systems of dating.