Contents

Preface	vii
Acknowledgments	хi
Glossary of Essential Terms	xiii
Notes on Transliteration and Translation List of Illustrations	xv xvii
Map of the Ottoman Empire and Its Vassals	
during the Reign of Süleyman the Magnificent (1520-1566)	xix
Introduction: Myths and Realities of the Harem	3
Part I The Politics of Reproduction	
The House of Osman	15
Wives and Concubines: The Fourteenth and Fifteenth Centuries	28
The Age of the Favorite: 1520-1566	57
The Age of the Queen Mother: 1566-1656	91
The Imperial Harem Institution	113
Part II Women and Sovereign Power	
Shifting Images of Ottoman Sovereignty	153
The Display of Sovereign Prerogative	186

2.
 3.
 4.
 5.

6. 7. vi CONTENTS

8. The Politics of Diplomacy	· 219
9. The Exercise of Political Power	229
Conclusion: Women, Sovereignty, and Society	267
Appendix: Genealogical Charts	287
Notes	289
Bibliography	345
Index	363