

CONTENTS

List of Figures	vii
List of Tables	x
Contributors	xi
Preface	xvii
Introduction: Is There a Middle East? Problematizing a Virtual Space Abbas Amanat	1
PART I THE MIDDLE EAST: DEFINED, OBLIGED, AND DENIED	
1 The Eastern Question and the Ottoman Empire: The Genesis of the Near and Middle East in the Nineteenth Century Huseyin Yilmaz	11
2 British and U.S. Use and Misuse of the Term “Middle East” Roger Adelson	36
3 Of Maps and Regions: Where Is the Geographer’s Middle East? Michael E. Bonine	56
4 Why Are There No Middle Easterners in the Maghrib? Ramzi Rouighi	100

**PART II HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVES OF IDENTITIES AND
NARRATIVES IN THE REGION REFERRED TO
AS THE MIDDLE EAST**

- 5 When Did the Holy Land Stop Being Holy? Surveying
the Middle East as Sacred Geography 119
Daniel Martin Varisco
- 6 The River's Edge: The Steppes of the Oxus and the
Boundaries of the Near / Middle East
and Central Asia, c. 1500–1800 139
Arash Khazeni
- 7 An Islamicate Eurasia: Vernacular Perspectives
on the Early Modern World 152
Gagan D. S. Sood
- 8 Scorched Earth: The Problematic Environmental
History That Defines the Middle East 170
Diana K. Davis

**PART III CHALLENGING EXCEPTIONALISM: THE CONTEMPORARY
MIDDLE EAST IN GLOBAL PERSPECTIVE**

- 9 American Global Economic Policy and the Civic Order
in the Middle East 191
James L. Gelvin
- 10 The Middle East Through the Lens of Critical
Geopolitics: Globalization, Terrorism,
and the Iraq War 207
Waleed Hazbun
- Conclusion: There *Is* a Middle East! 231
Michael Ezekiel Gasper
- Notes 243
- Bibliography 277
- Index 307