

Contents

List of contributors xi

Foreword: the heritage of Soviet Oriental studies xiii

STEPHAN CONERMANN

1 Introduction: integrating Soviet Oriental studies 1

MICHAEL KEMPER

PART I

Metropolitan Oriental studies 27

2 The imperial roots of Soviet Orientology 29

DAVID SCHIMMELPENNINCK VAN DER OYE

**3 Profiles under pressure: Orientalists in Petrograd/
Leningrad, 1918–1956** 47

MIKHAIL RODIONOV

**4 Between the “language of humanity” and *latinizatsiia*:
Nikolai Marr and the Oriental Department of the State
Public Library in Leningrad** 58

ALEKSEI ASVATUROV

**5 The contribution of Oriental scholarship to the Soviet
anti-Islamic discourse: from the Militant Godless to the
Knowledge Society** 66

VLADIMIR BOBROVNIKOV

6 Soviet Kurdology and Kurdish Orientalism 86

MICHIEL LEEZENBERG

7	Evgenii M. Primakov: Arabist and KGB middleman, director and statesman	103
	MIKHAIL ROSHCIN	
8	The Leningrad/St. Petersburg School of Scientific Islamology	112
	STANISLAV M. PROZOROV	
9	Hijacking Islam: the search for a new Soviet interpretation of political Islam in 1980	124
	HANNA E. JANSEN AND MICHAEL KEMPER	
10	Scholars, advisers and state-builders: Soviet Afghan studies in light of present-day Afghan development	145
	ANNA R. PATERSON	
PART II		
	Oriental studies and national historiography in the republics	167
11	The struggle for the reestablishment of Oriental studies in twentieth-century Kazan	169
	MIRKASYM A. USMANOV	
12	Arabic historical studies in twentieth-century Dagestan	203
	AMRI R. SHIKHSAIDOV	
13	The politics of scholarship and the scholarship of politics: imperial, Soviet, and post-Soviet scholars studying Tajikistan	217
	LISA YOUNTCHI	
14	Conceiving a people's history: the 1920–1936 discourse on the Kazakh past	241
	ZIFA-ALUA AUEZOVA	
15	Ahmad Yasavi and the <i>Divan-i hikmat</i> in Soviet scholarship	262
	DEVIN DEWEESE	
16	Kyrgyz – Muslim – Central Asian? Recent approaches to the study of Kyrgyz culture in Kyrgyzstan	291
	TILL MOSTOWLANSKY	

**17 The transformation of Azerbaijani Orientalists into
Islamic thinkers after 1991**

306

ALTAY GOYUSHOV, NAOMI CAFFEE AND ROBERT DENIS

Index

320