

## A NOTE ON TRANSLITERATION

THE PERSIAN TRANSLITERATION used in this book follows the Library of Congress system without the diacritical marks. Exceptions are the names of places and people, such as Herat and Shahsevan, which are spelled in their common form, and terms such as *tayafa*, which are spelled without the *h*. In quoting from older European sources, I have reproduced the language and spellings used in the texts. Dates are given in the Common Era Calendar, except in cases where there is a reason to include the Islamic *hijri* calendar. All Persian translations in the text are my own, except for those otherwise credited in the notes.

