## GLOSSARY OF ARABIC TERMS

Adab belles lettres, humanities, literature; culture or

refinement; culturally prescribed manners and

behaviors

Akhlaq manners, practice of morals, ethics

Injil New Testament or gospel (injili, fem. injiliyya

means Evangelical or Protestant)

Jabal Lubnan Mount Lebanon

Kanisa Church, as in al-kanisa al-injiliyya (Evangelical

Church)

Madrasa school

Masihi (fem. masihiyya, Christian. Masih means Messiah or Christ

pl. masihiyyun)

Matba'a printing press

Mu'allim(a) teacher

Mubashir (pl. mubashirun) male evangelist or preacher

Mubashira (pl. mubashirat) female evangelistic preacher, Biblewoman

Nahda renaissance or awakening (adj. nahdawi)

Nizam system or organization; used to refer to the

governing system of churches in Syria

Shammas deacon; a Christian office in Protestant, Greek

Orthodox and Catholic churches

Shaykh(a) an honorific title, occasionally appearing in

the feminine, that designates a chief, venerable scholar or head of a religious order; used for

Presbyterian church elders in Syria

Suriyya Syria

Ta'ifa (pl. tawa'if) religious sect, usually formally recognized by

the Ottoman administration

Tarbiya upbringing or the raising of children

Tanzimat (Ottoman reorganization; term used for the Ottoman Turkish) government's modernizing reforms from 1839

to 1876

Tawra Torah or first five books of Moses in the

Hebrew Bible; also used in reference to the Hebrew Bible or Christian Old Testament

more generally

Umm mother; rendered as "Im" in colloquial Syro-

Lebanese Arabic

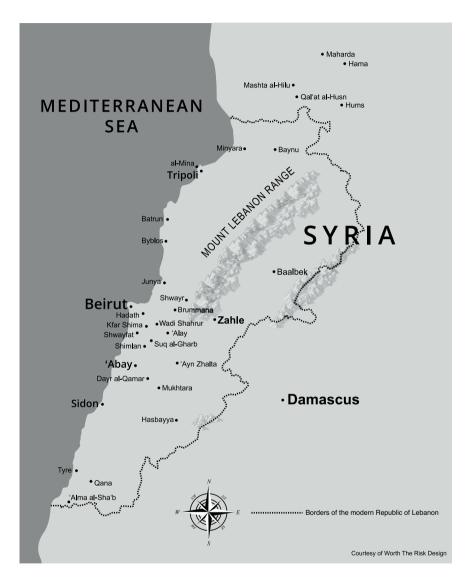
Waqf (pl. awqaf) religious or charitable endowment, often of a

building or land

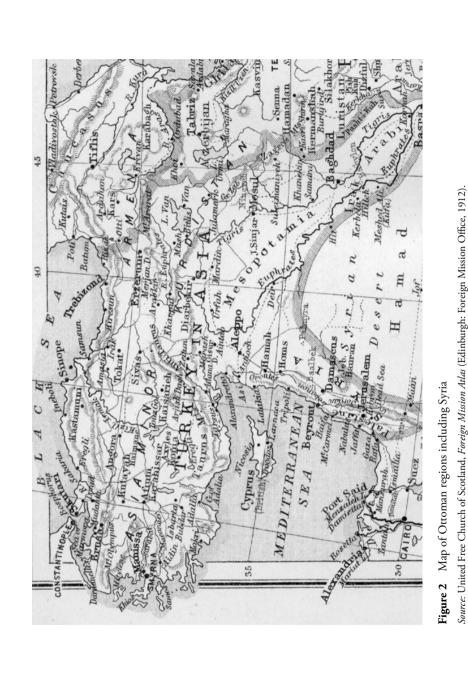
Watan homeland (adj. wataniyya signifies

nationalism, patriotism, indigenous

autonomy)



**Figure 1** Map of key sites for the American Syria Mission and British Syrian Mission in Ottoman Syria



## *For* Mike, Lilyan and Willa

*In memory of* Melody Ann Ferree