

# Contents

Preface .....	9
<b>Part I: Concepts and Worldview</b>	
1 Twelver Shi'ite Islam: Concepts and Practices. ....	19
2 Some Reflections on Twelver Shi'ite Attitudes Toward the Integrity of the Qur'ānic Text .....	49
<b>Part II: Shi'ism in the Muslim Heartlands – Past and Present</b>	
3 The Buyid Period as the Historical Background for the Flourishing of Classical Shi'ite Muslim Scholarship. ....	69
4 Between 'Greater Iran' and 'Shi'ite Crescent': Reconsidering the Nature of Iran's Ambitions in the Middle East .....	81
5 Rethinking Shi'ite Islam: Contemporary Iraq and its Seminaries. ....	103
6 The Lebanese Connection: Some Thoughts on the Post-2006 Setting .....	135
<b>Part III: Shi'ism in the Diaspora: The Southeast Asian Experience</b>	
7 Facets of the Historical Presence of Shi'ism in Southeast Asia. ....	145
8 Aspects of Shi'ism in Contemporary Southeast Asia .....	181
<b>Postscript</b>	
Christian-Muslim Relations in the Age of Terror: Prospects for the Catholic-Shi'ite Project? .....	221
Glossary .....	233
Select Bibliography .....	253
On the Author .....	285