

## Contents

Contributors

Acknowledgment

Preface

Introduction

*Mohammad Jafar Amir Mahallati*

## **I Friendship in Primary Sources: Definitions, Epistemological Realms and Conceptual Frameworks**

1 Friendship in Arabic: Its Synonyms, Etymologies, and Transformations

*A.Z. Obeidat*

2 Treatment of Friends by Ibn al-Muqaffa‘

Translated from Arabic by *Ali Yedes*

3 Friendship and Love in Islamic Spirituality

*William C. Chittick*

4 Aristotle and Iranian Ethicists: Friendship as a Moral and a Political Paradigm

*Mohammad Jafar Amir Mahallati*

5 The Mystery of Friendship: A View from Islam

*Paul L. Heck*

6 Three Dimensions of Friendship: A Qur’anic Perspective

*Mohammad Jafar Amir Mahallati*

## **II Friendship within and between Religions, Nations, and Civilizations**

7 Friendship in Pre-Islamic Iranian Writings

*Jamsheed K. Choksy*

8 On Friendship

*Rabbi Zalman Schachter-Shalomi*

9 Friendship in Confucian Islam

*Sachiko Murata*

10 Friendship between Islamic and Christian Civilizations

*Richard Bulliet*

11 Friendship in the Muslim World

*Abdulaziz Othman Altwajri*

12 Friendship between Religions and Cultures: The Foundation for Friendship between Civilizations

*Seyyed Hossein Nasr*

13 Friendship in International Relations

*Iqbal Riza*

**III Friendship as an Agent of a Paradigm Shift in Human Relations**

14 Will to Friendship: Rumi's Perspective

*Abdolkarim Soroush*

15 Friends without Borders: A Case Study

*John Marks*

16 Global Loneliness and the State of Human Mental Health: How Religion Can Promote Friendship as a Paradigm of Peace in Post-Modernity

*Mohammad Jafar Amir Mahallati*

Epilogue: A Friendship Manifesto

*Mohammad Jafar Amir Mahallati*

## Appendix: Friendship Resolution

## Bibliography