

Acknowledgments

I once told a friend that I felt isolated defending my work. She responded, “At some point, you have to believe in your ideas,” meaning that I had to continue if I wanted those ideas to have life. I have remembered those words for years. I am grateful for her advice and confidence, as well as that of other friends and colleagues, during the period from dissertation research to book publication.

The research for the dissertation was funded by the Social Science Research Council, American Institute of Maghrib Studies, and the Fulbright IIE Fellowship. I received financial support during the writing period from the Department of Sociology at the University of California, Berkeley, as well as the Institute of International Studies. While in Morocco, I developed ideas for the thesis through many, many conversations with Aziz, Fatimah, Sofia, Mouna, Saïd, Omari, Chaoui, Katya, Aïcha, and my English-language students. I also relied on the counsel and intellectual guidance of Khalid Jamaï, Larbi Jaïdi, Nourredine El Oufi, Abdelhafid Boutaleb, Ahmed ben Chemsî, Amina Yazimi, Susan Ossman, Stefania Pandolfo, and Driss Benzekri. Susan helped as a friend and as a colleague, especially through her persuasion to reconsider a few conceptual ideas.

Anyone who has conducted research in a foreign country, particularly in a foreign language(s), knows how important it is to be able to turn to other researchers, even, or especially, regarding the simplest experiences. I am glad that I was in Morocco at the same time as David Zaffran, Sarah Levin,

Raffaele Cattedra, Katherine Hoffman, Bryan Daves, Luz Martin del Campo, Diana Davis, Jim Housefield, and Jamila Bergach.

To Marti, Rafi, and most of all Amina B. and Driss, I owe much more than gratitude.

In the United States, during the arduous and rewarding period of writing and revising, Nancy, Jane S., Jane T., Iona, Steve, Susan L., Jackie, Lynne, Will, Michelle, Eddy, Matt, Sarah, Emily, Gil A., and Barb provided generous encouragement. Todd Gitlin expressed appropriate doubt about some of my conceptual innovations but enthusiasm and conviction about the subject and its importance. Intellectually, I never would have taken the risks I did, struggled to articulate blurred ideas or refine immature theoretical instincts, had Peter Evans not been my advisor. His opinions and his advice contributed fundamentally to the theoretical framework presented here. Natasha Kraus, Jonathan Cutler, and Charles Lemert offered camaraderie and professional support during the process of revising for publication. Natasha, Jonathan, and Charles in particular played a critical role in maintaining the life of those ideas. Tracie and Annie pushed me to continue while handling phone calls and seeking job placements at Jubilee Jobs. Diana Bauer and Will Tiao just pushed me to continue, believing wholeheartedly in the necessity of the effort.

During the last stage of revision, Ivy Kennelly, Fran Buntman, Tom Medvetz, Matt Wray, and two anonymous reviewers for *Comparative Studies in Society and History* wrote insightful and very useful critiques of either specific chapters, related talks, or an article I published that was derived from the dissertation. Muhammed Kassab helped in translating both the quote from Nezar Qabbani at the beginning of the preface and the quote from Mahmud Darwish at the beginning of chapter 1. Our discussions concerning contemporary Arabic literature and Arab thought proved invaluable in refining and improving the theoretical framework of the book. My editor at Duke University Press, Raphael Allen, whose smile and teasing nature always proved reassuring, demonstrated a genuine integrity in his job. As I came to the end, relieved, happy, and surprised at hitherto unknown qualities of endurance and resistance, I met Rupert. He and my family have helped me to appreciate what this process can bring.