

Contents

Acknowledgements — VII

Preface — XI

Introduction — 1

What Were the Persian and Latin Worlds? — 1

A Shared Heritage — 6

Divine Law as Law — 10

Why These Three Proscriptions? — 16

Consciousness — 17

Organisation of the Book — 22

1 Justifying Sodomy — 24

Introduction — 24

A Short History of Definition and Enforcement in the Persian World — 28

Circumvention in the Persian World — 41

Exception in the Persian World — 52

Compensation in the Persian World — 57

Stridency in the Persian World — 62

A Short History of Definition and Enforcement in the Latin World — 74

Circumvention in the Latin World — 81

Exception in the Latin World — 92

Compensation in the Latin World — 98

Stridency in the Latin World — 101

Conclusion — 122

2 Justifying Idolatry — 126

Introduction — 126

A Short History of Definition and Enforcement in the Persian World — 130

Circumvention in the Persian World — 135

Exception in the Persian World — 143

Compensation in the Persian World — 155

Stridency in the Persian World — 158

A Short History of Definition and Enforcement in the Latin World — 163

Circumvention in the Latin World — 169

Exception in the Latin World — 174

VI — Contents

Compensation in the Latin World — **183**

Stridency in the Latin World — **185**

Conclusion — **195**

3 Justifying Usury — 198

Introduction — **198**

A Short History of Definition and Enforcement in the Persian
World — **202**

Circumvention in the Persian World — **208**

Exception in the Persian World — **217**

Compensation in the Persian World — **225**

A Short History of Definition and Enforcement in the Latin World — **226**

Circumvention in the Latin World — **233**

Exception in the Latin World — **240**

Compensation in the Latin World — **256**

Conclusion — **260**

4 Patterns and Trends — 263

Two Camps — **263**

Public and Private Spaces — **275**

Formalism and Its Discontents — **277**

Different Proscriptions, Different Treatments — **289**

Consciousness Revisited — **298**

Coda — 309

A Note on Usage — 314

Bibliography — 315

Index — 335