

Table of Contents

FOREWORD	i
PREFACE	v
INTRODUCTION	1
Chapter 1: The Cultural Milieu and Its <i>Fiqhī</i> Relevance	7
The Debate over the Prayer Timings and the Direction of the Qiblah	8
The Debate about the Unity or Variety of the Horizons	12
An Analysis of the Selective Insistence and the Issue of <i>Ta'wīl</i>	19
Allegorical Interpretations and Christianity	20
Allegorical Interpretations and Some Muslim Sects	22
Allegorical Interpretations and Muslim Philosophers	25
Allegorical Interpretations and the <i>Salaf</i>	26
Chapter 2: Analysis	30
The Qur'an Never Required Naked-Eye Sighting of the Moon	30
The Qur'anic Use of <i>Shahida</i>	31
Some Wrong Interpretations of <i>Shahida</i>	35
The <i>Mawāqīt</i> Argument	56
Moon-Sighting Supplications Are Based upon Weak Reports	57
Chapter 3: Analysis of the Hadith Arguments	61
The Sunnah in Reality Requires "Certainty": The Legal Cause Is the "Coming of Ramadan"	61
Multiple Connotations of <i>Ra'ā</i>	71
Defining the Islamic Legal Cause	80
Chapter 4: A Brief Historical Exposition of the Classical Debate about Sighting the Moon and Calculations	85
Classical Islamic Scholarship and Naked-Eye Sighting as the Cause of Ramadan	91
The Muslim Ummah Is Unlettered	94
A Summary of the Classical Majority's Arguments against Calculations	103
Chapter 5: Weakness of the Argument for <i>Ikmāl</i> (Completing Thirty) Days	106
Significance of the Variations in Transmission	114
Some Very Practical Challenges	121
Weakness of the <i>Ijma'</i> (Consensus) Argument	122

Chapter 6: Arguments for Astronomical Calculations	133
The Moon: The Divine Source of Precise Calculations	133
The Three Accepted Interpretations of These Hadiths	134
The Hadith of the Dajjal	136
The “Estimation” Interpretation of the Hadith Is More Accurate	138
Modern Jurists and Calculations	143
Conclusions	150
Endnotes	152
Bibliography	167