

Contents

Introduction	vii
1. A Vanishing Heritage	1
<i>Ijtihād</i>	3
The Role of the Intellectual Tradition	5
The Current Situation	8
The Gods of Modernity	12
The Goal of Intellectual Understanding	16
The Rejection of Tradition	18
2. Intellectual Knowledge	23
Verifiable Knowledge	25
Intellect	29
Basic Findings	30
A Visitor from the Past	33
3. The Rehabilitation of Thought	39
Thought	40
The Intellectual Tradition	44
<i>Taqlīd</i> and <i>Tahqīq</i>	45
Premodern Science	47
The Reign of <i>Takthīr</i>	52
The Goal of Thought	55

4. Beyond Ideology	59
The Omnipresence of Transmission	60
Breaking the Shell of Dogmatism	62
Asserting Absoluteness	65
Mythic Imagination	69
Self-Understanding	73
5. The Unseen Men	75
Sufism	79
Cosmos and Soul	82
Naming Reality	84
The One and the Many	90
The Living Universe	92
Islamic Science	94
The Efficacy of Names	96
Inadequate Names	99
The Myth of the Unseen Men	101
6. The Anthropocosmic Vision	109
Ahistorical and Historical Knowledge	110
The Philosophical Quest	114
The Methodology of <i>Tahqīq</i>	118
Understanding the Soul	121
Origin and Return	125
Omniscience	128
7. The Search for Meaning	133
Two Modes of Knowing	134
Subject and Object	136
The Worldview	138
The Self	142
Meaning	144
<i>Notes</i>	151
<i>Index</i>	153