CONTENTS

Acknowledgments ix
Note on People, Places, and Languages xiii
Prologue: The Moon and the Highway xvii
Introduction: Traveling into Thin Air 1
PART I. Modern Places
Chapter 1. Modernity and the Road 19
Chapter 2. Making Murghab 36
PART II. Sites of Engagement
Chapter 3. Nasha–Vasha: Ours and Yours 69
Chapter 4 . Muslims on the Roof of the World 90
Chapter 5 . The Golden Gate of Tajikistan 118
Epilogue 148
Notes 155
References 173

Index 205