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Nota di contenuto	Introduction: Towards a new perspective of Islamic urban societies from a suburban quarter of Damascus -- 1. Madrasas and waqfs in Damascus: the basis of urban development -- 2. Formation of the Salihiyya quarter in the northern suburbs in the Ayyubid and Mamluk periods -- 3. The structure and transformation of the Salihiyya quarter -- 4. Administrative networks in the late Mamluk period: taxation and

bribery -- 5. Urban society in Damascus at the end of the Mamluk period: emergence of *jama'a* (factions) and *zu'r* (outlaws) -- 6. Ambiguous relations between religious institutions and waqf properties at the beginning of Ottoman rule -- 7. Personal networks surrounding the Salihiyya court in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries -- 8. Formality and reality in *shari'a* court records: socio-economic relations in the Salihiyya quarter in the nineteenth century -- 9. Changes in waqf institutions and the internal organisation of the quarter at the beginning of the twentieth century -- Conclusion: Dynamism of personal networks and social justice.

Sommario/riassunto

This book presents a new perspective on Islamic urban society: a dynamism of social networking and justice which caused both rapid development and sudden decay in the *liyya* quarter. Founded in the northern suburbs of Damascus by Hanbali ulama who migrated from Palestine to Syria in the mid-12th century, the quarter developed into a city through waqf endowments. It has attracted the attention of historians and travelers for its unique location, popular movements and religious features. Through the study of local chronicles, topographies and archival sources and through modern field research, Toru Miura explores the history of the *liyya* quarter from its foundation to the early 20th century, comparing it to European, Chinese and Japanese cities.
