

M

ma'ād

the Return of the souls to the bodies: the Hereafter

ma'ānī, sg. *ma'nā*

spiritual entities; concepts, ideas

madhhab, pl. *madhāhib*

legal school; method of traversing the *ṣūfī* Path; doctrine; view

madrasa

college for higher studies.

māhiyyāt, sg. *māhiyya*

quiddities; realities of the possible phenomena; that what makes phenomena what they are, and not something else.

majāzī

not real: being in existence by way of a trope only; earthy

majdhūb

the *ṣūfī* who undergoes the divine attraction (*jadhb*), the opposite of a *sālik*

majūs

Zoroastrians

mala a'lā

'High Council'. These are supreme angels and the souls of departed prophets and other specifically qualified men. Just as a nervous system regulates the body of a human individual, so the *mala a'lā* regulate the affairs of the human species and its individuals

malakūt

see 'alam al-malakūt

mala sāfil

'Low Council'. These are auxiliary angels. The sole occupation they are charged with is looking out for what may filter down of orders given by the *mala a'lā* from above

maqām(at)

stage on the **ṣūfī** Path; moral habit

ma'rifa

true knowledge gained by direct experience of enlightenment: gnosis

maṣlaḥa

salutary purpose; universal expediency

mawāḥid

the three (mineral, vegetable, and animal) kingdoms of nature

mawjūd(āt)

being found by means of the intellect, i.e. by argumentation and inference: conceptual being; existent

milla, pl. *milal*

institutionalized religion; religious community

mi'rāj

Muḥammad's midnight journey to the seven heavens in which he reached the immediate presence of God

mu'adhḥin

announcer of the hour of prayer

mubashshira

annunciation in a vision of a joyful event

mufahham

person who is informed by the *mala a'lā*

muftī

jurisconsult who gives an authoritative opinion (*fatwā*). He is not allowed to formulate his response as his personal advice, because the *fatwā* must have an absolutely objective character

muḥaddath

inspired person

muḥaddith

technical specialist in traditions

muḥkamāt

unambiguous verses of the Qur'an

mujaddid

renewer who is supposed to appear on the eve of every century

mujarrad(āt)

separate (from bodily material): incorporeal

mu'jiza

evidentiary miracle

munāfiqūn

hypocrites, lukewarm followers

murāqaba

constant awareness of God; spiritual communion with the divine Attributes

muṣannaf

arranged: collection of traditions in which the traditions are arranged in chapters according to their subject-matter

mushāhada

contemplation

musnad

collection of traditions organized on the basis of (usually) the last transmitter before the Prophet

mutakallimūn

scholars in the field of speculative theology. They are intent on supplying discursive and reasoned apologia

mutashābihāt

not clearly intelligible passages in the Qurʾān, treating of the divine Attributes, matters concerning the Hereafter, obscure details in prophetic tales

mutawātir

handed down by large-scale dissemination which guarantees the authenticity of a tradition having so many different chains of transmitters that forgery is regarded as inconceivable