Writers and Rebels: The Literature of Insurgency in the Caucasus (Yale University Press, Table of Contents)

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In the great criminal, violence confronts the law with the threat of declaring a new law. . . . The state fears this violence simply for its lawmaking character. [The state] is obliged to acknowledge [violence] as lawmaking whenever external powers force it to concede the right to wage war.

—Walter Benjamin, “Zur Kritik der Gewalt” (1921)

Colonialism orients itself to the past of an oppressed people and aims for its distortion, disfiguration, and annihilation. The devaluation of precolonial history acquires a dialectical significance today.

—Frantz Fanon, Les damnés de la Terre (1961)
Contents

Note on Transliteration and Method  xxx
Map of the Caucasus Region, 1871–1888  xxx

INTRODUCTION  The Caucasus as Region, Literature as Method  1

ONE   The Abrek in Soviet Chechen Literature  000

TWO    Regulating Rebellion: Miracles, Insurgency, and Daghestani Modernity  000

THREE   The Georgian Poetics of Insurgency: Redeeming Treachery  000

FOUR    From Text to Image: Seeking Recognition Violently  000

EPILOGUE  Transgression as Sanctity?  000
Appendix I: The Abrek in Caucasus Vernacular Literatures 000
Appendix II: Georgian Text of “Gunib” 000
Chronology 000
Notes 000
Glossary 000
Bibliography 000
Acknowledgments 000
Index 000