

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

“Teamwork makes the dream work.” This motto holds undeniably true for this particular occasion. To bring into life a historical enterprise of this kind, a great many people have brought in their labor, to all of whom we are grateful. We first discussed the idea for this book eight years ago over a dinner at an Indian restaurant in Florence. Sitting in the midst of the colorful and earthen colors of Haveli, we came up with the idea of editing a volume on the religious history of medieval Italy. We drew up a list of topics to be included in this book and paired them with the scholars whom we thought would deliver an excellent discussion of that topic.

We were not mistaken. We owe tremendous thanks and gratitude to the marvelous team of contributors to this book, all of them distinguished scholars in their field. It was not an easy task we asked them to do, which was to give an overview of the important historical and historiographical points on these vast topics complete with a bibliography for further reading. They all generously agreed and delivered their chapters in due time. We would like to thank them all not just for their contributions, but also for their patience as the work proceeded over the years slowly amid teaching and administrative duties and family obligations, with a big disruption during the years of the pandemic.

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