LIST OF MAPS AND FIGURES

1. Figure 2.1: Different definitions of Central Asia 81
2. Figure 2.2: Central Asia in a larger setting 24
3. Figure 2.3: Tajikistan with its neighbour 29
4. Figure 2.4: Dushanbe is in the western part of Tajikistan 31
5. Figure 2.5: The southern gate of Dushanbe city 32
6. Figure 2.6: Sughd region of Tajikistan 33
7. Figure 2.7: The Khatlan region of the Republic of Tajikistan 34
8. Figure 2.8: The region under direct Republican jurisdiction 35
9. Figure 2.9: Badakhshan or Pamir region of Tajikistan 36
10. Figure 1.10: The national flag of the Republic of Tajikistan 39
11. Figure 2.11: The Coat of Arm of Tajikistan - 37
12. Figure 2.11: Statue of Babajan Gafurov - 57
13. Figure 3.1: Sample of the cuneiform script 76
14. Figure 3.2: Sample text in Avestan 78
15. Figure 3.3: Naqshe Rustam 80
16. Figure 3.4: Ka'bai Zartosht 81
17. Figure 3.5: Two tombs; right and left, of the Achaemenid kings. 81
18. Figure 3.6: Language map of Tajikistan 88
19. Figure 3.7: Sample Cuneiform Inscription, at Behistun 89
20. Figure 4.1: Tomb of Firdausi in Tus, Iran 124
21. Figure 4.2: Sadruddin Aini 138
22. Figure 4.3: Picture of Aini after he was lashed 139
23. Figure 4.4: Aini recuperating in the hospital 140
24. Figure 4.5: ID card of Babajan Ghafoor 145
25. Figure 5.1: Largest statue 'sleeping' Buddha in the world 178
26. Figure 5.2: People leaving the masjid after the Friday prayer 185
27. Figure 5.3: Couple leaving after registering their marriage 186
28. Figure 5.4: 'Rahat Chaikhân', Dushanbe 188
29. Figure 5.5: Tajik Man and Woman in traditional attire 190
30. Figure 5.6: Tajik young girls in traditional dresses 191
31. Figure 5.7: In this picture a Tajik woman driving bus 193
32. Figure 5.8: The Mausoleum of Shiekh Maslehuddin in Khujand 195
33. Figure 5.9: Women performing jalak 197
34. Figure 5.10: Rudaki Ballet and Themeatre, Dushanbe 199
35. Figure 5.11: Osh 203
36. Figure 5.12: Indian film actor Katrina Kaif on a billboard 205
37. Figure 6.1: Ethnic groups in Central Asia 209
38. Figure 6.2: Written 'twenty years of independence' of Tajikistan 235
LIST OF TABLES

1. Table-3.1 shows the points mentioned by both the groups 99
2. Table 4.1: List of Newspapers published in Tajikistan 151
3. Table 4.2: Libraries in Tajikistan 151
4. Table 5.1: Social Clubs in Tajikistan 189
5. Table 5.1: Opera and Ballet in Tajikistan 200
6. Table 6.1: Population Distribution in Tajikistan 211
7. Table 6.2: People of other nationalities living in Tajikistan 212
8. Table 6.3: From the last groups same are mentioned 212