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'What he now wanted to achieve was an aim the idea of which sprang from his humanity, from the noblest part of himself. What he now wanted to achieve was an ideal, the ideal of the Westerner in the east and of the Westerner who sees the east as he wishes to see it and as he could but see it.'
Louis Couperus, *The Hidden Force*

‘In the end, we are just passing through.’
Dutch Special Forces captain, July 2007
Contents
## Contents

Prologue .....................................................................................................................11

Introduction ................................................................................................................15

**Part I: An analytical framework for understanding co-option of local power-holders as a tool for obtaining control over the population in counterinsurgency campaigns in weblike societies**

Chapter 1: The logic underlying population-centric counterinsurgency: population control through collaboration .............................................................. 33

Chapter 2: Co-option of local power-holders in weblike societies ......................... 63

Chapter 3: Co-option in counterinsurgency: a conceptual exploration in historiographical perspective ................................................................. 107

**Part II: The Aceh War**

Chapter 4: Aceh and the first decades of the war, 1873-1893 .................................... 177

Chapter 5: The Teuku Uma policy ........................................................................... 217

Chapter 6: Pacification at last: the emergence of the Aceh strategy and the establishing of Dutch control ................................................................. 255

Chapter 7: The Aceh War as a case study of co-option of local power-holders in colonial warfare ................................................................. 305

**Part III: The Uruzgan campaign**

Chapter 8: Afghanistan, Uruzgan, and the War from 2001 until 2006 ..................... 329

Chapter 10: 2008-2010: Counterinsurgency as an underpinning for long-term stability ... 427

Chapter 11: The Uruzgan campaign as a case study of co-option of local power-holders in modern counterinsurgency warfare ................................................................. 495

Conclusion: The course of co-option in theory and reality ............................................. 525

Acronyms ..................................................................................................................551

Glossary ....................................................................................................................557

Bibliography ..............................................................................................................561

Maps ........................................................................................................................599

Annexes ................................................................................................................... 607

Summary .................................................................................................................. 611

Samenvatting ............................................................................................................619

Acknowledgments ................................................................................................. 627