

# Contents

Preface *ix*

Acknowledgments *xiii*

A Note on Orthography and Transcription *xvii*

A Note on Terminology *xxi*

## PART ONE

### UNDERSTANDING LAW AND LANGUAGE IN HONG KONG

- 1 The Challenge of Legal Bilingualism in Hong Kong 3
- 2 Juridical Formalism and the Mechanism  
of Legal Rearticulation 33
- 3 The Practices of English and Cantonese  
in Colonial Hong Kong 50

## PART TWO

### HOW CANTONESE AND ENGLISH WORK IN THE COURTS

- 4 English Courtrooms in Hong Kong: The Haven of Formalism 79
- 5 Marshaling the Legal Boundaries: Court Interpreters  
and Juridical Formalism 120
- 6 Cantonese Courtrooms: Formalism in Flux 163

## PART THREE

### LEGAL BILINGUALISM AND THE RULE OF LAW

- 7 Language Ideology and Legal Bilingualism 203
- 8 Institutional Adaptation to Legal Bilingualism 235
- 9 Legal Bilingualism and the Postcolonial Dilemma 254

CONTENTS

Appendix: Methodology 273

List of Abbreviations 281

Notes 283

List of Cases Cited 301

Bibliography 303

Index 319