

# Islam And The Secular State Negotiating The Future Of Sharia

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what should be the place of shari a islamic religious law in predominantly muslim societies of the world in this book a muslim scholar and human rights activist envisions a positive and sustainable role for shari a based on a profound rethinking of the relationship between religion and the secular state in all societies

what should be the place of shari a islamic religious law in predominantly muslim societies of the world in this ambitious and topical book a muslim scholar and human rights activist envisions a positive and sustainable role for shari a based on a profound rethinking of the relationship between religion and the secular state in all societies an na im argues that the coercive enforcement of shari a by the state betrays the qur an s insistence on voluntary acceptance of islam just as the state should be secure from the misuse of religious authority shari a should be freed from the control of the state state policies or legislation must be based on civic reasons accessible to citizens of all religions showing that throughout the history of islam islam and the state have normally been separate an na im maintains that ideas of human rights and citizenship are more consistent with islamic principles than with claims of a supposedly islamic state to enforce shari a in fact he suggests the very idea of an islamic state is based on european ideas of state and law and not shari a or the islamic tradition bold pragmatic and deeply rooted in islamic history and theology islam and the secular state offers a workable future for the place of shari a in muslim societies

dedicated to increasing our knowledge and awareness of the ever growing diversity and pluralism of global society forum a a leysen has initiated a debate lecture series with a focus on islam in today s world and in europe in particular well known influential authorities each an active participant in the public debate on the global role of islam past present and future presented papers at the several intercultural relations meetings sponsored by forum a a leysen these important contributions are collected in islam and europe crises are challenges a common message emerges from the contributors and all their different points of view only dialogue on the one hand between the west countries that manifest themselves as western democratic constitutional states and islam and on the other hand within and among societies historically identified with islam will overcome entrenched confrontation and negative animosity such dialogue will engender new possibilities and understandings and by encouraging free and critical thinking pave the way to social equity and the scientific innovation that may lead to more prosperity in the course of the meetings all talks led to fascinating debates this book includes the papers presented during the period january 2008 to january 2009 although the question of how to actually construct the dialogue remains unsettled this pioneering book takes a giant step toward an answer contributors ahmed aboutaleb durre s ahmed a s a al saify mohamed benzakour helge daniëls nadia fadil silvio ferrari marie claire foblets fouad laroui paul lemmens rashida manjoo ziba mir hosseini bhikhu parekh mathias rohe cedric ryngaert shaheen sardar ali prakash shah paul scheffer amina wadud sami zemni

the events of 9 11 prompted questions as to the origins nature and purpose of international jihadist organisations in particular why had they chosen to target the us and the west in general turner s book provides a unique holistic insight into these debates taking into account historical perceptions and ideology as key factors

human rights and reformist islam critiques traditional islamic approaches to the question of compatibility between human rights and islam and argues instead for their reconciliation from the perspective of a reformist islam the book focuses on six controversial case studies religious discrimination gender discrimination slavery freedom of religion punishment of apostasy and arbitrary or harsh punishments explaining the strengths of structural ijtihad mohsen kadivar s draws on the rational classification of islamic teachings as temporal or permanent on the one hand and four criteria of being islamic on the other

reasonableness justice morality and efficiency he rejects all of the problematic verses and hadith according to these criteria the result is a powerful solutions based argument based on reformist islam providing a scholarly bridge between modernity and islamic tradition in relation to human rights

this book presents an intellectual history of today s muslim world surveying contemporary muslim thinking in its various manifestations addressing a variety of themes that impact on the lives of present day muslims focusing on the period from roughly the late 1960s to the first decade of the twenty first century the book is global in its approach and offers an overview of different strands of thought and trends in the development of new ideas distinguishing between traditional reactionary and progressive approaches it presents a variety of themes and issues including the continuing relevance of the legacy of traditional islamic learning as well as the use of reason the centrality of the qur an the spiritual concerns of contemporary muslims political thought regarding secularity statehood and governance legal and ethical debates related current issues like human rights gender equality and religious plurality as well as globalization ecology and the environment bioethics and life sciences an alternative account of islam and the muslim world today counterbalancing narratives that emphasise politics and confrontations with the west this book is an essential resource for students and scholars of islam

this book fills a gap in authoritative analyses of the causes of inter religious conflict and the practice of religious toleration the rise of more overt expressions of islamic piety and greater bureaucratization of islam in both indonesia and malaysia over several decades have tested the live and let live philosophy which used to characterize religious expression in these nations the analyses in each chapter of the book break new ground with contextualized studies of particular and recent incidents of conflict or harassment in a variety of areas from urban centres to more remote and even complex locations as these studies show legislation stands or falls on the ability and determination of local authorities to enforce it this volume is essential reading for understanding the dynamics of state religious interaction in muslim majority nations and the crucial role civil society organizations play in negotiating interfaith toleration emeritus professor virginia hooker faha department of political social change college of asia the pacific the australian national university a most welcome contribution to the academic discourse of political islam in indonesia and malaysia for this volume focuses not on islamic resurgence as many others have done but on the impact

of islamic resurgence upon its non muslim minority counterparts buddhists christians hindus and also the syiah muslims in the two plural societies and the varying responses of those minorities themselves often fragmented to islamic resurgence the rich case studies highlight the changing character of politics in the two countries and their capacities to deal with religious diversity an aspect of politics often ignored because of the usual concern for economic and political institutional capacities the juxtaposition of malaysian and indonesian cases in a single volume and comparisons of contrasting developments in the two countries challenges readers not to resort to easy conclusions and overgeneralizations about rising inter religious tensions but to give more scholarly attention to this politics religion diversity nexus emeritus professor francis loh kok wah department of political science universiti sains malaya

this anthology contains a variety of southern perspectives on human rights and contemporary issues relating to islam african custom constitution making and abuses of the language of human rights

through networking and globalized modes of interaction and communication women s organizations in muslim countries negotiate global development concepts such as human rights and gender equality thereby differentiating and reconstructing local visions of muslim society and po

this issue considers the emotional complexities of intergroup conflict the chapter authors examine the relational challenges that youth encounter in dealing with conflict and combining innovative theory with ambitious practical application identify conflict management strategies these interventions have affected millions of youth across the continents

contributed papers on political conditions maoist insurgency and peace building options in nepal post 1990 earlier presented at a seminar

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