



Breaking Apart the Monolith: The Many Ways of Being Muslim

A Conference Exploring the Dynamics of Muslim Identity in Today's World

March 10-11, 2007

The Friend Center Convocation Room (Rm. 113), Princeton University

Conference Schedule

10:00 – 12:15 AM

Opening Remarks:

Harvey Stark, Princeton University

Panel 1: Muslims in the West: Defining Islam in a North American Context
Chair/Discussant – Abdellah Hammoudi, Princeton University

Panelists:

Kecia Ali, Boston University – *Islamic Law and Female Religious Authority in the United States*

Liyakat Takim, University of Denver – *Preserving or Extending Boundaries: The Black Shi'is of America*

Jamillah Karim, Spelman College – *Ummah or Ethnicity? African American and Immigrant Imams Navigate Tradition, Gender, and Difference in Atlanta Mosques*

Karen Leonard, University of California Irvine – *Finding Places in the Nation: Indigenous & Immigrant Muslim Reversals*

2:00 - 4:00 PM

Panel 2: Adding Muslims to a “Secular” Liberal Pluralism: The Challenges of the Social and Textual
Chair/Discussant - TBA

Panelists:

Imam Mohamad Bashar Arafat, Civilizations Exchange and Cooperation Foundation (CECF) – *Engaging Muslim Youth in American Society: The Influence of the Madrassas and the Challenges of Practice and Assimilation*

Father Patrick J. Ryan, S.J., Vice President for University Mission and Ministry, Fordham University - *Faith,*

Untitled Document

Secularism and Secularity: Challenges for Jews, Christians and Muslims

Ahmed Abbadi, President of the Mohamadia League of Moroccan Ulama - *On Peace within: Negotiating Spirituality and Politics in Times of Conflict*

Brother David Carroll, Undersecretary of the Catholic Near East Welfare Association – *The Nature of Interfaith Dialogue: Concerns for Cultural Roots*

March 11

10:00 – 12:00 PM

**Panel 3: *Contrasting Concepts of Reform and Democracy and the Transmission of Islamic Practice*
Chair/Discussant – Julie Taylor, Princeton University**

Panelists:

Ahmed Kostas, Director of Islamic Affairs, The Kingdom of Morocco – *Moroccan Sufism: Reform through Tradition*

Amaney Jamal, Princeton University – *The Crisis of State Legitimacy and its Effect on Islamic Engagement in the Arab World*

Karen Bauer, Princeton University- *Categorizing Clerics: What Does It Mean to Be “Reformist” or “Traditional”?*

Ahmed Herzenni, Secretary General of the Moroccan Council for Higher Education - *Is Islam Compatible with Democracy?*

1:30-3:30PM

**Panel 4: *Overcoming Traditionalism: Muslim Women Defining Gender and Feminism*
Chair/Discussant – Shaun Marmon, Princeton University**

Laury Silvers, Skidmore University – *Against the Divine Feminine: A Critique of Social Gender Roles in the Tao of Islam*

Carolyn Rouse, Princeton University – *The Use of Media as a Method for Building Consensus about Gender and Exegesis*

Shahnaz Khan, Wilfrid Laurier University – *From Rescue to Recognition: Rethinking the Afghan Conflict*

Aicha El Hajjami, Faculty of Law, University of Qadi Ayyad, Marrakesh - *Principles of Equality and Perspectives on Gender in Islam: The Case of Morocco*

Closing Speaker (Time TBA)

Moroccan Murshida – *The Mudawanna Reforms in Morocco: Women as Religious Leaders*