



Islam and Politics in Contemporary Middle-East

Olivier Roy

Autumn 2011

Tuesdays 11:00 – 13:00
Seminar Room 2, Badia Fiesolana

Please register with Monika.Rzemieniecka@eui.eu

The course will try to cover the broad issue of “Islam and politics” by focussing on the contemporary Muslim world. Nevertheless the first classes will outline the classical paradigms under which the debate is framed, compare these paradigms with the actual practices, and study the impact of western encroachments and intellectual influence on the evolution of political thought in the Muslim world.

- 1) The theological corpus and the legal paradigms concerning power and politics in Islam : the religious sources, the first community until the fourth Calife.
- 2) The exercise of power through History.
Empires, sultanates, monarchies: the de facto separation of *syassat* and *din*.
- 3) The trauma of colonialism:
The enlightened despot: from the he conquest of Egypt to Sultan Abdul Hamid and Atatürk.
Nahdat and secularism
- 4) The Muslim brothers and Islamism: the recasting of the debate in terms of modern ideologies. Is Islamism a valid concept?
- 5) The Iranian Islamic revolution and the geo-strategy of Islamism.
- 6) Takfiris and jihadists: the dissidents of main stream Islamism; violence and globalization. From Qotb to Ben Laden.
- 7) The developments of Islamist main-stream parties: 1980-2010.
- 8) What is post-islamism? We will study the evolution of “religiosity” as opposed to “theological corpus”, and show how the debate on “what does Islam say?” should give way to “How do Muslims practice?”
- 9) What about Islam in a democratic state? The reference to identity, values and sharia in the contemporary debate on Islam and democracy.
- 10) Wrap-up session and discussion.



Basics

Bernard LEWIS : *The political language of Islam*, University of Chicago Press

Antony BLACK *The History of Islamic Political Thought: From the Prophet to the Present*,
Edinburgh University press 2011

The Cambridge Encyclopedia of the Middle East and North Africa

General debate

Dale Eickelman and Jon Anderson, *New Media in the Muslim world*. Bloomington University Press, 2003.

Asad Talal 2003. *Formations of the Secular: Christianity, Islam, Modernity*. Stanford: Stanford University Press

FRANÇOIS BURGAT, *Islamism in the shadow of Al Qaida*, University of Texas Press, 2008.

SALWA ISMAIL, [Rethinking Islamist Politics: Culture, the State and Islamism](#)

Mansoor Moaddell: *Islamic Modernism, Nationalism, and Fundamentalism*, Episode and Discourse

MOHAMMED AYOUB, *The many faces of Political Islam*, University of Michigan Press, 2008

TAREK MASOUD, "Are They Democrats? Does It Matter?", *Journal of democracy*, July 2008.

CHARLES HIRSHKIND, "What is Political Islam", *Middle East Report*, October-December 1997.

LUIS MARTINEZ, [Enigma of Islamist Violence](#), New York, Columbia University Press, 2007.

Youssef Courbage and Emmanuel Todd: *A Convergence of Civilizations: The Transformation of Muslim Societies Around the World*

Seteney Shami Publics, *Politics and Participation: Locating the Public Sphere in the Middle East and North Africa*

John Calvert: *Sayyid Qutb and the Origins of Radical Islamism*



Islam and Liberalism

Andrew MARCH: 2006. "[Liberal Citizenship and the Search for Overlapping Consensus](#)"
[Oxford UP 2011](#)

Fevzi Bilgin Political Liberalism in Muslim Societies
Routledge –

Andrew MARCH, 2007. "[Reading Tariq Ramadan: Political Liberalism, Islam and 'Overlapping Consensus](#).'" Ethics & International Affairs, Vol. 21, No. 4 (Winter), pp. 399-413.

FILALI-ANSARY Abdou 2003. Chap 23 and 24: "The challenge of secularization" AND "the sources of Muslim Enlighthened Thought", in Islam and Democracy in the Middle East. Larry Diamond, Marc Plattner and Daniel Brumberg (eds.) Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press.

Abdelkarim SURUSH, Reason, Freedom and Democracy in Islam, Oxford University Press, 2000.

POST-ISLAMISM AND GLOBALIZATION

Olivier ROY, Globalized Islam, Hurst/ Columbia UP, 2004.

Martin van BRUINESSEN and Julia DAY HOWELL (ed). [Sufism and the 'modern' in Islam](#), London, I.B. Tauris, 2006, CHAP 11, 12 et 13.

Faysal DEVJI, Terrorist in search of humanity : militant Islam and global politics, Columbia University Press, 2008. Chap 2. The perfect victim. Chap 5. GWOT

Marc SAGEMAN, Understanding terror networks, University of Pennsylvania Press, 2004. Chap 5. Social networks and the jihad.

Roel MEIJER: Global Salafism: Islam's New Religious Movement

Bettina GRÄF and Jakob SKOVGAARD-PETERSEN: The Global Mufti: The Phenomenon of Yusuf al-Qaradawi

Islam and economy

Charles TRIP, Islam and the Moral Economy: the challenge of capitalism, Cambridge University Press, 2006. Chap. 4, Islamic economics and Islamic banks; Chap 5. Repertoire of resistance, Islamic anticapitalism.

Timur KURAN, Islam and Mammon, the economic predicament of Islamism. Chap 2. Islamic economics and the Islamic subeconomy. Chap 5. The notion of economic justice in contemporary Islamic thought.

Adam Hanieh Capitalism and Class in the Gulf Arab States
Palgrave Macmillan
June 2011



ON SECULARISM

Follow the debate on the website IMMANENT FRAME

Markus Dressler and Arvind Mandair, *Secularism and Religion-Making*
Oxford University Press Sept 2011

Bryan S. Turner, *Religion and Modern Society: Citizenship, Secularisation and the State*
City University of New York, Cambridge University Press – 2011

AN-NAIM Abdullahi, *Islam and the secular state: negotiating the future of Sharia*, Harvard University Press, 2008,

BAYAT Assef, “*The Coming of a Post-Islamist Society*”, *Critique: Critical Middle East Studies*, n°9, Fall 1996

TAREK Masoud, “*Are They Democrats? Does It Matter?*”, *Journal of democracy*, July 2008.

HALLIDAY Fred *The Middle East in International Relations*, Cambridge UP, 2005

SPECIFIC CASES:

Brynjarr LIA *The Society of the Muslim Brothers in Egypt* Ithaca Press 2006

MITCHELL Richard P. *The Society of the Muslim Brothers* Oxford UP 1993

NASR Vali *Shia Revival* Norton 2007

Mahmood SABA, *Politics of Piety, the Islamic revival and the feminist subject*, Princeton University Press, 2005.

TAMIMI Azzam S. *RACHID GHANNOUCHI a Democrat within Islamism*, Oxford University Press, 2001