



THE AGA KHAN UNIVERSITY
(International) in the United Kingdom
Institute for the Study of Muslim Civilisations

AKU-ISMC Publications Newsletter December 2020

Publications News

New Journal

This month sees the publication of the inaugural double issue of AKU-ISMC's new peer-reviewed, academic Journal of Material Cultures in the Muslim World (MCMW) in full open access, in partnership with Brill and the Aga Khan Museum (Toronto, Canada) and edited by our faculty member, Stéphane



Pradines. The journal aims to be a new reference for field archaeologists, (art) historians, anthropologists, curators, and scholars and students of the archaeology, (art) history, architecture, anthropology and ethnography of the Muslim world, in particular un(der)explored regions outside of the Middle East and North Africa: sub-Saharan Africa, the Indian Ocean, Central Asia, India, Southeast Asia and Europe.

Special Christmas Offer!

In association with Gingko, we're delighted to offer Bahia Shehab's *At the Corner of a Dream* at 50% discount for a week – free shipping included. Please enter code AKU20 at [check-out](#)



Read our faculty member Sanaa Alimia's [review](#) of this book which show-cases well-known Egyptian artist, activist and academic Bahia Shehab's latest street art which focuses on the resistance poetry of Mahmoud Darwish. When revolution swept through Egypt in 2011, Bahia Shehab began spray-spraying the Arabic script for 'no' in the streets of Cairo saying no to dictators, no to military rule and no to violence: a thousand times no. Her new book takes her powerful message of resistance to walls around the world.

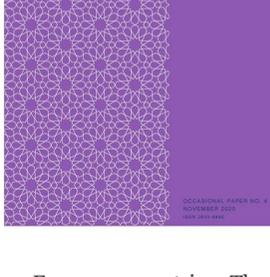
Latest Issue of the Abdou Filali-Ansary Occasional Paper Series

ABDOU FILALI-ANSARY OCCASIONAL PAPER SERIES

UK Think-Tanks, the War on Terror and the Radicalisation Debate

Hadi Enayat

We are pleased to announce the publication of *UK Think-Tanks, the War on Terror and the Radicalisation Debate* by Hadi Enayat – the 4th issue of our Abdou Filali-Ansary Occasional Paper series. [This paper](#) forms the foundation for a series of forthcoming papers on Islam, the role of think-tanks and security in various European countries. The paper will be launched with an [online talk](#) on 7th December by Hadi Enayat and Sami Zubaida.



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PUBLICATIONS CATALOGUE



New Publications Catalogue

Our new publications catalogue is now [online](#) containing details of all of our new, forthcoming and current publications.

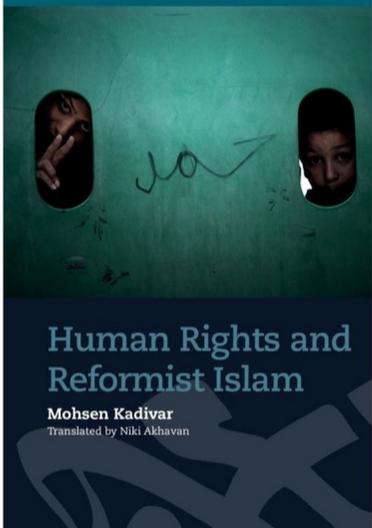
New Series

AKU-ISMC and the Aga Khan Music Programme are delighted to announce a new joint series



entitled Music and Performance in Muslim Contexts published in association with Edinburgh University Press and edited by Jonas Otterbeck (AKU-ISMC) and Theodore Levin (AKMP). The first two volumes in the series will be *The Awakening of Islamic Pop Music* by Jonas Otterbeck and *From Rumi to the Whirling Dervishes* by Walter Feldman.

Forthcoming Books



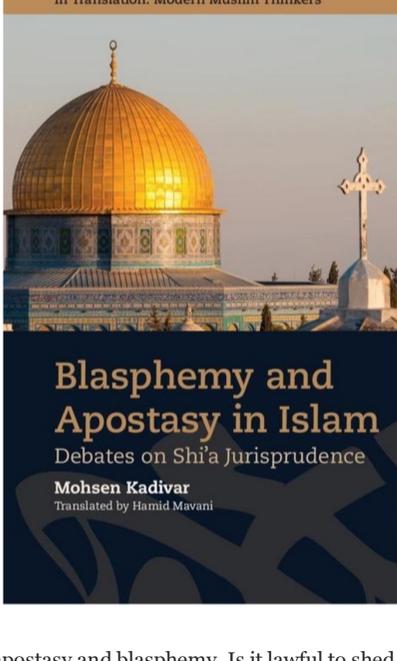
Human Rights and Reformist Islam

By Mohsen Kadivar

February 2021

This book 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. Explaining the

strengths of structural *ijtihad*, Mohsen Kadivar's approach is based 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. In the book, all of the verses and Hadith that are problematic in relation to human rights are abrogated rationally 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. [Read more](#)



Blasphemy and Apostasy in Islam

By Mohsen Kadivar

February 2021

Take a front-row seat to the debate on blasphemy and apostasy in Islam. This book presents a back-and-forth debate between two modern Shi'a jurists (one conservative, one reformist) that locates the exact points of controversy surrounding

apostasy and blasphemy. Is it lawful to shed the blood of someone who insults the Prophet Muhammad? Does the Qu'ran stipulate a worldly punishment for apostates? Delving into the Qu'ran and Hadith – the most sacred sources for all Muslims – Kadivar explores the subject of blasphemy and apostasy from the perspective of Shi'a jurisprudence to articulate a polarisation between secularism and extremist religious orthodoxy. [Read more](#)



Any questions about this issue? Get in touch: Charlotte.Whiteing@aku.edu

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