

# Islam in International Relations

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## Week 1: Introduction to Political Islam

- Esposito, John L., *Political Islam: Revolution, Radicalism, or Reform* (London: Lynne Rienner), 1997.
- Kepel, Gilles, *Jihad: The Trail of Political Islam* (London: IB Tauris), 2004.
- Piscatori, James, *Islam in a World of Nation-states* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press), 1986.
- Piscatori, James and Dale F. Eickelman, *Muslim Politics* (Princeton: Princeton University Press), 1996.
- Qaradawi, Yusuf al-, *Priorities of the Islamic Movement in the Coming Phase* (Swansea: Awakening Publications), 2000.

### Question:

- Is Islam inherently political? Is it necessarily international?

## Week 2: The Islamic Law of War and Peace

- Cook, David, *Martyrdom in Islam* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press), 2007, pp.135-164.
- Fatwa archive, [www.islamonline.net](http://www.islamonline.net).
- Hamidullah, Muhammad, *Muslim Conduct of State* (Lahore, Ind.: M. Ashraf), 1945.
- Kelsay, John, *Arguing the Just War in Islam* (Cambridge, Mass.: Harvard University Press), 2007.
- Khadduri, Majid, *War and Peace in the Law of Islam* (Baltimore: Johns Hopkins Press), 1955.
- Mutahhari, Murtada, 'Jihad in the Quran', in Mehdi Abedi and Gary Legenhausen, eds., *Jihad and Shahadat: Struggle and Martyrdom in Islam* (Houston: Institute for Research and Islamic Studies), 1986, pp.81-124.
- Qutb, Sayyed, *In the Shade of the Quran (Fi Dhilal Al-Quran)*, M. A Salahi and A. A. Shamis, eds., vol. 1 (Leicester: Islamic Foundation), 2001, pp.265-294.
- Zawahiri, Ayman al-, 'Jihad and the Superiority of Martyrdom', reprinted in Raymond Ibrahim, *The Al-Qaeda Reader* (New York: Broadway Books), 2007, pp.141-171.

### Question:

- Is John Kelsay apologetic when he argues that 'the notion of a just war is an aspect of the foundational narrative of Islam'?

### **Week 3: Regional Rivalry- The Iranian Revolution and Wahabism in Saudi Arabia**

- Bakhash, Shaul, *The Reign of the Ayatollahs: Iran and the Islamic Revolution* (London: Tauris), 1985.
- Keddie, Nikki, *Roots of Revolution: An Interpretive History of Modern Iran* (Yale: Yale University Press), 1981, pp.183-276.
- Nasr, Vali, *The Shia Revival: How Conflicts Within Islam Will Shape the Future* (New York: Norton), 2006.
- Ochsenwald, William, 'Saudi Arabia and the Islamic Revival', *International Journal of Middle East Studies*, vol. 13, no. 3, August 1981, pp.271-286.
- Pollack, Kevin M., 'Securing the Gulf', *Foreign Affairs*, July/August 2003.
- Vassiliev, Alexei, *The History of Saudi Arabia* (London: Saqi Books), 1997.
- Vogel, Frank E., 'Islamic Governance in the Gulf', in Gary Sick and Lawrence Potter, eds., *The Persian Gulf at the Millennium: Essays in Politics, Economy, Security and Religion* (New York: St. Martin's Press), 1997.

#### Question:

- Is the Persian Gulf big enough for Wahabi Saudi Arabia and Shia Iran?

### **Week 4: Case Study- The Persian Gulf War, 1990-1991**

- Barnett, Michael N., *Dialogues in Arab Politics: Negotiations in Regional Order* (New York: Columbia University Press), 1998.
- Freedman, Lawrence and Efraim Karsh, eds., *The Gulf Conflict, 1990-1991: Diplomacy and War in the New World Order* (London: Faber), 1993.
- Hallaj, Muhammad, 'Taking Sides: Palestinians and the Gulf Crisis', *Journal of Palestinian Studies*, vol. 20, no. 3, 1991, pp.41-47.
- Halliday, Fred, *Islam and the Myth of Confrontation: Religion and Politics in the Middle East* (London: IB Tauris), 2003, pp.76-106.
- Matthews, Ken, *The Gulf Conflict and International Relations* (London: Routledge), 1993.
- Piscatori, James, *Islamic Fundamentalisms and the Gulf Crisis* (Chicago: The Fundamentalism Project), 1991.
- Sifry, Micah L. and Christopher Cerf, *The Gulf War Reader: History, Documents, Opinions* (New York: Times Books), 1991.

#### Question:

- What, if anything, does the Gulf War tell us about Islam in International Relations?

### **Week 5: Modern Islamist Movements- Hamas and Hizballah**

- Chehab, Zaki, *Inside Hamas: The Untold Story of the Militants, Martyrs and Spies* (London: IB Tauris), 2007.
- Fadlallah, Mohammad Hussein, 'Islam and Violence in Political Reality', *Middle East Insight*, vol. 4, no. 4, 1986, pp.5-13.
- Hroub, Khaled, *Hamas: Political Thought and Practice*, (Washington, DC: Inst for Palestine Studies), 2000.

- Norton, Augustus Richard, *Hezbollah: A Short History* (Princeton: Princeton University Press), 2007.
- Noe, Nicholas (ed), *Voice of Hezbollah: The Statements of Sayed Hassan Nasrallah* (London: Verso), 2007.
- 'The Charter of Allah: The Platform of the Islamic Resistance Movement (Hamas)', 1988,  
<http://www.palestinecenter.org/cpap/documents/charter.html>
- 'An Open Letter: The Hizballah Program', 1985,  
<http://www.ict.org.il/apage/8013.php>

Question:

- Are Hamas and Hizballah 'foreign terrorist organisations', as designated by the US Department of State?

### **Week 6: Islamic Movement in the West**

- Husain, Edward, *The Islamist: Why I Joined Radical Islam in Britain, What I Saw Inside and Why I Left* (London: Penguin), 2007.
- Kepel, Gilles, *Allah in the West: Islamic Movements in America and Europe* (Cambridge: Polity Press), 1997.
- Sageman, Marc, *Understanding Terror Networks* (Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press), 2004.
- \_\_\_\_\_, *Leaderless Jihad: Terror Networks in the Twenty-first Century* (Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press), 2008.
- Wiktorowicz, *Radical Islam Rising: Muslim Extremism in the West* (Lanham: Rowman and Littlefield), 2005.

Question:

- Do movements which seek to bring Allah to the West represent a threat to the West?

### **Week 7: Al-Qaeda- Ideology and Strategy**

- Abrahms, Max, 'What Terrorists Really Want: Terrorism Motives and Counterterrorism Strategy', *International Security*, vol. 32, no. 4, 2008, pp.78-105.
- Lawrence, Bruce, *Messages to The World: The Statements of Osama Bin Laden* (London; New York: Verso), 2005.
- Lia, Brynjar, *Architect of Global Jihad: The Life of Al-Qaeda Strategist Abu Musab Al-Suri* (New York: Columbia University Press), 2007.
- Mansfield, Laura, *In His Own Words: A Translation of the Writings of Dr. Ayman Al-Zawahiri* (United States: TLG Publications), 2006.
- Naji, Abu Bakr al-, *The Management of Savagery: The Most Critical Stage Through Which the Umma Will Pass*,  
[http://ics.leeds.ac.uk/papers/pmt/exhibits/2800/Management\\_of\\_Savagery.pdf](http://ics.leeds.ac.uk/papers/pmt/exhibits/2800/Management_of_Savagery.pdf).
- Scheuer, Michael, 'Abu Yahya Al-Libi: Al-Qaeda's Theological Enforcer' (parts I & II), *Terrorism Focus*, vol. 4, no. 25, July 31, 2007,  
<http://www.jamestown.org/terrorism/news/article.php?articleid=2373586>.

- Letter from Atiyeh abd al-Rahman to Abu Musab al-Zarqawi, December 11 2005, [www.ctc.usma.edu/harmony/CTC-AtiyahLetter.pdf](http://www.ctc.usma.edu/harmony/CTC-AtiyahLetter.pdf).

Question:

- Why does Osama bin Laden want to kill you?

**Week 8: Understanding Transnational Islamic Extremism**

- Cook, David and Olivia Allison , *Understanding and Addressing Suicide Attacks: The Politics and Faith of Martyrdom Operations* (London: Praeger Security Intl), 2007.
- Devji, Faisal, *Landscapes of the Jihad: Militancy, Morality, Modernity* (London: Hurst), 2005.
- Gerges, Fawaz, *The Far Enemy: Why Jihad Went Global* (Cambridge: CUP), 2005.
- Kermani, Navid, 'A Dynamite of the Spirit: Why Nietzsche, Not the Koran, is the Key to Understanding the Suicide Bombers', *TLS*, March 29 2002, pp.13-15.
- Pape, Robert A., *Dying to Win: The Strategic Logic of Suicide Terrorism* (New York: Random House), 2005.
- Roy, Olivier, *The Failure of Political Islam* (London: Tauris), 1994.
- \_\_\_\_\_, *Globalised Islam: The Search for a New Ummah* (London: Hurst), 2004.

Question:

- How helpful is Nietzsche's 'will to nothingness' thesis in accounting for transnational Islamic extremism?