

Global Perspective of Islam
CBCS course for Ist year Student
M.A. (International Relations- West Asian Studies)
Course No:
Semester: 1
Centre for West Asian Studies
Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi

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Course Description

This paper will focus to introduce the student to historical as well as ongoing debates about the nature and characteristics of the politics of Islam. It introduces the foundational political concepts in classical Islamic political thought as well as later developments in Islamic political ideas and practices, from the middle of the 18th century to the contemporary period. It further put the focus on both key institutions (such as states), epistemic communities (such as the ‘ulama), and key thinkers, ideologues, activists and movements. This paper will cover the diverse cases of Political Islam/Islamic Movements in the West Asia, North Africa, South Asia, Southeast Asia, Europe and America.

Unit 1. Different Perspective of Islam

- What is Islam in Contemporary world
- Why Study Political Islam
- Intellectual origins of Political Islam
- Relationship with the colonialism, theology, nationalism, democracy, liberalised

Unit 2, The Origins of Modern Islamist Movements

- Origins and various Dimensions of Islamic Movements in the Muslim world
- Islamic Movements in WANA: Wahabism in Saudi Arabia, Hezbollah of Lebanon, Hizb-ut Tahrir, Islamic Action Front of Jordan, The Fethullah Gulen Movement of Turkey, Muslim Brotherhood in Egypt, Islamic Salvation Front in Algeria etc,

- Islamic Movements in South Asia, Jama'at-e Islami, Tablighi Jamat, Salafi Movement, Barelvi Movements etc.
- Islamic Movements in South East Asia, Prosperous Justice Party of Indonesia, Pan Malaysian Islamic Party etc.

Unit. 3. Islamists Revival and Reform

- Inb Taymiyya, Jamaluddin Afghani, Hasan al Banna, Sayyid Qutub, Sayyid Abul Ala Mawdudu, Ali Shariati, and Fazlur Rahman
- Modernists - Muhammad Abduh, Taha Hussain etc
- Faith in Politics – Saudi Arabia,
- Faith in Politics – since 1969, Iran

Unit 4. Islam in West

- Islam in Europe
- Western view of Islamic Fundamentalism
- Islam in West after 9/11
- Understanding the Islam by Western authors
- Islam and Refugee Crisis

Reading

1. Amr Hamzawy. 2005. The Key to Arab Reform: Moderate Islamists. Washington, DC: Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, 1-8.
2. Anthony Black, 2001, The History of Islamic Political Thought: From the Prophet to the Present. NY: Routledge
3. Graham. E Fuller, 2003. The Future of Political Islam, NY Palgrave and Mc Millian
4. Hamid Enayat, 1982, Modern Islamic Political Thought, University of Texas press.
5. Jenny B. White. 2005. The End of Islamism? In Remaking Muslim Politics: Pluralism, Contestation, Democratization, ed. Robert W. Hefner. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 87-111.
6. John Esposito and Ibrahim Kalin. 2009. 500 Most Influential Muslims in the World. Washington, DC: Georgetown University, 4-16.
7. Nathan J Brown and Amr Hamzawy. 2010. Between Religion and Politics. Washington, DC: Carnegie Endowment for International Peace.
8. Nazih Ayubi, 1993. Political Islam: Religion and Politics in the Arab world. NY: Routledge
9. Nikkie R Keddie. 2005. Sayyid Jamal al-Din 'al-Afghani.' In Pioneers of the Islamic Revival, ed. Ali Rahnama, London: Zed Books, 11-29.

10. Peter Mandaville. 2007. Global Political Islam. New York: Routledge.
11. Richard P. Mitchell. 1969. Hasan Al-Banna and the Founding of the Society of Muslim Brothers, Cairo: The Rise to Power. In The Society of the Muslim Brothers, London: Oxford University Press, 1-34.

Method of Instruction:

Lectures and tutorial will be held on a weekly basis. Questions, discussion and debate during classes will be strongly encouraged. Students are expected to keep informed of the current events in the West Asian region.

Method of Assessment:

A mid-term exam would consist of essay questions based upon the topics covered up to that point. It will be of 25 marks and student must answer two questions out of 4 of 12.5 marks each. The final exam conducted according to a schedule at the end of the semester will be of 75 marks. In the final exam, students must answer 5 out of 10 questions.