

IX. Muslim Network Typologies: significant frameworks of networking

It is impossible to reduce diverse Muslim networks to neat paradigms. However, through case studies, indications can be found which enable readers and researchers to build on the fragments of knowledge, and create a fuller picture.

In effect, there is no conclusion to the research and analysis of diverse Muslim networks. They regularly offer new affiliations and mutations, in diverse forms. Many have *not* been covered in detail in this module, for reasons of space, for example certain organisational links, affiliations between disenfranchised Muslim groups, and associations based on lines of gender. However, the following chapters from the *Muslim Networks* book should be read to fill in some of these 'gaps':

The chapter by David Gilmartin is important, as it speculates upon "the network metaphor" when asking (in the context of Pakistan) : "What do such modern Islamic movements suggest about the value of maintaining an image in the modern world as a distinctly networked civilization?" (David Gilmartin, "A Networked Civilization?", chapter in cooke & Lawrence, 2005, 55)

Chapters by Tayba Hassan Al Khalifa Sharif, Samia Serageldin and Jamillah Karim provide an insight into networks associated with disparate groups of Muslim women.

The chapter by H. Samy Alim offers a new area for further research, based around hip hop music.

Within a contemporary context, no reading of 'Muslim networks' can occur without reference to 'extremist' positions and transnational networks belonging to activists, who have synthesised religious interpretations and traditions and applied them to fulfil political-religious agendas. These cannot be reduced to a single model or campaign. The *Muslim Networks* book offers a useful chapter by Quintan Wiktorowicz, giving his interpretation of al-Qaeda being part of "a broader network and movement." (Quintan Wiktorowicz, "The Salafi Movement: Violence and the Fragmentation of Community", chapter in cooke & Lawrence, 232) For the purposes of this module, this topic will not be expanded upon here, but will be referred to in more detail in the *Muslim Politics* module of this programme.

Further reading

"Rights and Roles of Woman." *Oxford Islamic Studies Online*,
<http://www.oxfordislamicstudies.com/article/book/islam-9780195174304/islam-9780195174304-chapter-31>

Esposito, John L. . "Customs and Culture." In *What Everyone Needs to Know About Islam*. *Oxford Islamic Studies Online*,
<http://www.oxfordislamicstudies.com/article/book/acprof-9780199794133/acprof-9780199794133-div1-72>

It is recommended that you view the film clips from the Muslim Networks seminars:

http://www.duke.edu/web/muslimnets/csmn_vid.html