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## Observations on the Scholarly Study of Religions as Pursued in some Muslim Countries

**Author:** [Jacques Waardenburg](#)<sup>1</sup>

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The article examines the study of religions at scholarly institutions in Muslim countries. As far as Islam and Islamic traditional and overly ideological approaches are problematic from a scholarly point of view. With regard to the study interesting initiatives have been taken in several countries. Difficulties on a practical level include a lack of good historians in the languages, while books published in the West are mostly too expensive to acquire. Training in the languages of the East is virtually absent. History of religions or religious studies have rarely been institutionalized. The study of some religions is hampered by political conflicts.

Among the positive developments at present is, first, the increased interest in “religions” among students and the

anthropological and sociological research carried out in several Muslim countries pays attention to the social role of students enrolled at Western universities take courses in religions.

The conclusion contends that the medieval tradition of Muslim studies of other religions could be a source of inspiration. Much needed are competent staff, material facilities, a positive climate for intellectual pursuits, technical training, meanings, and mental training for the pursuit of scholarly truth are needed. While perhaps acting as catalysts, Western absolute authority. The author considers the pursuit of knowledge which is useful both to Muslims and to the scholars important.

**Affiliations:** 1: Département interfacultaire d'histoire et de sciences des religions Université de Lausanne, BFSH

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