

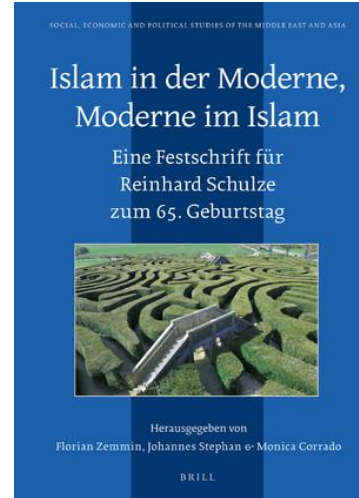


Islam in Modernity

A tribute to Reinhard Schulze on his 65th birthday

To honor the eminent historian of Islam Reinhard Schulze's retirement from the Swiss University of Bern, [twenty-eight](#) scholars address "Islam in modernity, modernity in Islam" a challenging topic that mirrors Schulze's works on the history of the Muslim World [League](#), the Islamic Enlightenment, and the Islamic world in the twentieth century.

One of Schulze's key theses is that there was a Middle Eastern modernity under Islam before the eighteenth century, commonly known as trends of an-Nahda, النهضة, which were subdued or deflected by Europe's colonialism. Islamic Enlightenment then collided with Western and Soviet versions. But the previous Islamic ways percolated in residual streams, swayed by forms of Jewish, Western, Eastern, and Christian fundamentalism, modernism, or revolutionism.



Creating this mosaic requires an inter-disciplinary approach. In her contribution, Gudrun Krämer describes the local modernity of Muslim Brotherhood founder Hasan al-Banna while Stephan Guth explores Islamic studies in the eras of neoliberalism, the Islamic State, and, U.S. president Donald J. Trump.

Other essayists offer interesting insights as well: Albrecht Hofheinz on sub-Saharan Africa; Jürgen Paul on Carl Heinrich Becker and semi-feudal relations in the Orient or al-Iqta (الإقطاع, land grant); Ahmad Dallal on trends in eighteenth-century hadith studies; Armando Salvatore on civility and charisma in the genesis of political modernity within the Islamic world.

Notes by his colleagues on the academic personality of Schulze and his [list of publications](#) make this book a scholarly compendium. Notably, his most recent article of 2017 deals with a new and disputed trend: the establishment of Islamic centers of theological studies at secular universities, for instance, in Germany.^[1]

This tribute does a double service to Schulze and the academic community: it offers plenty nourishing food for thought.

Wolfgang G. Schwanitz

[1] "Anmerkungen zur Einrichtung islamischer theologischer Studien an säkularen Universitäten."

Florian Zemmin, Johannes Stephan, and Monica Corrado, eds.: *Islam in der Moderne, Moderne im Islam. Eine Festschrift für Reinhard Schulze zum 65. Geburtstag*, Leiden: Brill 2018. 603 pp.

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