

## THE MODERN MUSLIM WORLD

Series Editor: Dietrich Jung

"In this timely and illuminating book, Gozde Hussain explores whether observant Muslims can join the 'overlapping consensus' on liberal ideals and principles theorised by John Rawls, or whether any Islamic endorsement of liberal institutions will inevitably be more contingent and contextual than Rawls hoped. To do so, Hussain helpfully maps out a range of positions within Islamic political thought and their level of orthodoxy, ultimately arguing that devout Muslims can find theologically acceptable justifications for a liberal political order. In this way, the book significantly advances our understanding of the relationship between Islam and liberalism."

—Paul Billingham, Associate Professor of Political Theory, University of Oxford.

"Most Muslims in Muslim-majority and Muslim-minority countries across the globe desire democracy, but to what extent is this just a pragmatic position? Gozde Hussain, informed by an understanding of liberalism and of Islamic scholarly positions in ethics and politics inquires to what extent can faithful Muslims and liberal theorists be in intellectual agreement. Her answers are nuanced and worth studying."

—Tariq Modood, FBA, University of Bristol

The central question addressed is the realism of observant Muslims endorsing a liberal democratic state from within their doctrinal tradition. By examining a range of Islamic orthodoxy positions, the book demonstrates that Muslims can theoretically find Islamic reasons, rooted in acceptable interpretations of divine sources, to justify their commitment to a liberal state. Furthermore, it provides moral reasons and strategies for the liberal state to address incompatible Islamic doctrines, ensuring Muslims can maintain religious practices without an Islamic political authority. This theoretical framework offers insights for future empirical and theoretical studies on Muslims navigating pluralistic liberal societies, making it a vital contribution to the discourse on Islam and liberalism.

Gozde Hussain earned a PhD at Royal Holloway, University of London, where they are currently a visiting lecturer and affiliated with the Centre for Islamic and West Asian Studies.

ISBN 978-3-031-72266-0



9 783031 722660

www.palgrave.com

palgrave  
macmillan



Islamic Doctrines and Political Liberalism  
Gozde Hussain

palgrave  
macmillan

THE MODERN MUSLIM WORLD

# Islamic Doctrines and Political Liberalism Muslim's Sincere Support

Gozde Hussain

palgrave  
macmillan