ISLAMIC THOUGHT THROUGH PROTESTANT EYES

Mehmet Karabela
Islamic Thought Through Protestant Eyes

Early modern Protestant scholars closely engaged with Islamic thought in more ways than is usually recognized. Among Protestants, Lutheran scholars distinguished themselves as the most invested in the study of Islam and Muslim culture. Mehmet Karabela brings the neglected voices of post-Reformation theologians, primarily German Lutherans, into focus and reveals their rigorous engagement with Islamic thought. Inspired by a global history approach to religious thought, *Islamic Thought Through Protestant Eyes* offers new sources to broaden the conventional interpretation of the Reformation beyond a solely European Christian phenomenon.

Based on previously unstudied dissertations, disputations, and academic works written in Latin in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, Karabela analyzes three themes: Islam as theology and religion; Islamic philosophy and liberal arts; and Muslim sects (Sunni and Shi’a). This book provides analyses and translations of the Latin texts as well as brief biographies of the authors.

These texts offer insight into the Protestant perception of Islamic thought for scholars of religious studies and Islamic studies as well as for general readers. Examining the influence of Islamic thought on the construction of the Protestant identity after the Reformation helps us to understand the role of Islam in the evolution of Christianity.

**Mehmet Karabela** is an internationally recognized writer and scholar of religion. He teaches at Queen’s University in Canada.
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Islamic Thought Through Protestant Eyes

Mehmet Karabela
Dedicated to the memory of Prof. Fuat Sezgin (1924–2018)
- Memento mori -
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