

IRCPPL

institute for religion, culture, and public life
at Columbia University in the City of New York

2013-14 Annual Report



Mission Statement

The revitalization of religion in the last four decades has taken many scholars and analysts by surprise. They believed that modernization, secularization, and the privatization of religion would have global impact, leading to overall patterns of religious decline. What has happened is quite different and more complex. While religion has declined in some societies and grown in others, it has also changed and evolved in different ways in a variety of contexts. This transformation of religion, long-standing or novel, impacts our world in key ways. From the rise of religious movements, to the role of religion in politics and to the much more spirited engagement of religion in the public sphere and the public lives of adherents we experience religion in many different ways.

To address this unexpected and rapidly changing situation, the Institute for Religion, Culture, and Public Life brings together scholars and students in religion, cultural anthropology, history, political science, economics, sociology and social psychology, and other allied fields to support multi-disciplinary analysis, reflection, and response to historical and contemporary issues of great significance. Founded in 2008, the Institute also engages in its programs political and economic figures and policy practitioners, as well as religious and cultural leaders. The scope of the Institute encompasses a broad range of phenomena, and while seeking to understand the bases of conflict and unrest across and within religions, it also examines beliefs, practices, and historical examples that demonstrate the potential for understanding, tolerance, and ecumenical values within religious traditions, as well as patterns of social institutions that may facilitate coexistence and mutual support. By taking an expansive rather than a restricted view of religious thought and practice, the Institute recasts the traditional opposition between the secular and the religious in ways that promote innovative approaches to familiar problems.

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Contents

3 - 5	People
6 - 7	Projects & Centers
8 - 10	Selected Events
11	Rethinking Religion Radio Series
12	Publications

Director



[Karen Barkey](#) is Professor of Sociology and History and Director of Undergraduate Studies in the Sociology Department at Columbia University. Her work is in comparative and historical sociology, focusing particularly on the study of states, empires, and movements of opposition to the state, with special emphasis on their transformation over time. Professor Barkey has written about state society relations with focus on the religious and ethnic groups in the Ottoman empire as well as the rise of nationalism in the Balkans. Professor Barkey's latest work, *Empire of Difference* (Cambridge UP, 2008), is a comparative study of the flexibility and longevity of imperial systems, and was awarded the 2009 Barrington Moore Award from the Comparative Historical Sociology section at American Sociology Association, as well as the 2009 J. David Greenstone Book Prize from the Politics and History section at the Political Science Association. She is co-editor of a forthcoming book, *Choreography of Sacred Spaces: State, Religion and Conflict Resolution* (Columbia UP, 2014), which explores the history of shared religious spaces in the Balkans, Anatolia, and Palestine/Israel.

Advisory Committee

[Courtney Bender](#) is Professor of Religion at Columbia University.

[Souleymane Bachir Diagne](#) is Professor of French in the Department of French and Romance Philology.

[Elazar Barkan](#) is Professor of International and Public Affairs at Columbia University, Director of SIPA's Human Rights Concentration, and Director of Columbia's Institute for the Study of Human Rights.

[Jean Cohen](#) is the Nell and Herbert M. Signer Professor of Contemporary Civilization in the Core Curriculum.

[Mamadou Diouf](#) is the Leitner Family Professor of African Studies and the Director of Columbia University's Institute for African Studies.

[Ira Katznelson](#) is the Ruggles Professor of Political Science and History and Director of the Social Science Research Council.

[Sudipta Kaviraj](#) is Professor of Indian Politics and Intellectual History at Columbia University.

[Claudio Lomnitz](#) is the Campbell Family Professor of Anthropology.

[Nadia Urbinati](#) is the Kyriakos Tsakopoulos Professor of Political Theory and Hellenic Studies.



Distinguished Visiting Scholars



[George Rupp](#) is Columbia University President Emeritus; senior fellow at the Carnegie Council for Ethics in International Affairs; adjunct professor of religion, public health, and international affairs at Columbia University; and a founding principal at NEXT: Transition Advisors, a consulting partnership for academic, cultural, and social service organizations. Dr. Rupp served as President of the International Rescue Committee from 2002 to 2013. As the IRC's Chief Executive Officer, Dr. Rupp oversaw the agency's relief and development operations in over 40 countries and its refugee resettlement and assistance programs in 22 cities in the US. Before joining the IRC, Dr. Rupp served as President of Columbia University for nine years, where he focused on enhancing undergraduate education, on strengthening campus ties to surrounding communities and New York City as a whole, and on increasing the university's international orientation.



[Emad Shahin](#) is Professor of Public Policy at the School of Global Affairs and Public Policy (GAPP), the American University in Cairo (AUC) and editor-in-chief of *The Oxford Encyclopedia of Islam and Politics*. He is currently a Public Policy Scholar at Woodrow Wilson Center. Before rejoining the AUC faculty in 2012, Shahin was the Henry R. Luce Associate Professor of Religion, Conflict and Peacebuilding at the University of Notre Dame's Kroc Institute for International Peace Studies (2009-2012). He was Visiting Associate Professor in the Department of Government at Harvard University (2006-2009), a faculty affiliate with the Kennedy School of Government, and visiting scholar in the Islamic Legal Studies Program at Harvard Law School (2006-2007).

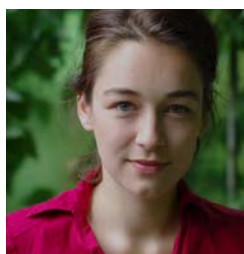
Visiting Scholars

[George Gavrillis](#) recently served as Executive Director of the Hollings Center for International Dialogue (Washington, DC and Istanbul, Turkey). Previously, he was an International Affairs Fellow with the Council on Foreign Relations, taught international relations and comparative politics at the University of Texas-Austin, and earned his Ph.D. in political science from Columbia University.

[Saskia Schäfer](#) completed her doctorate at the Graduate School of Muslim Cultures and Societies at Freie Universität Berlin. Her research interests include political and media discourses on orthodoxy and deviance, as well as changes in Islamic and political authority and the relationship between religion and the state in Indonesia and Malaysia.

[Yüksel Sezgin](#) is an assistant professor of political science at Maxwell School of Public Affairs, Syracuse University. His research and teaching interests include legal pluralism, comparative religious law, democratization, and human and women's rights. At IRCPL, he will continue working on his new book, tentatively entitled *Democratizing Shari'a: How Do Non-Muslim Democracies Apply and Regulate Islamic Law?*

[Kate Walbert](#) received an M.A. in English from New York University. She is the author of such acclaimed books as *A Short History of Women*, *Our Kind*, and *The Gardens of Kyoto*, as well as *Where She Went*, a collection of linked stories. She is the recipient of a National Endowment for the Arts Fiction Fellowship.



Research Fellow & Graduate Fellows

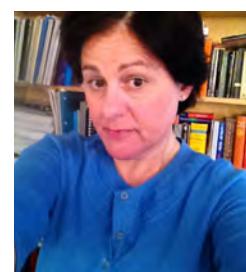
Research Fellow [Claudia E. Haupt](#) is a doctoral candidate at Columbia Law School, where she also holds a teaching appointment as a Preceptor. Her research focuses on constitutional theory, the First Amendment, and comparative constitutional law. Her recent work explores themes of nonestablishment in domestic and comparative perspective.

[John Chen](#) is a Ph.D. candidate in the Department of History at Columbia University. His dissertation, tentatively titled "Re-Orientation: The Chinese Azharites between Islamic World and Third World, 1931-55," is a history of a group of Chinese Muslim scholars who studied at Cairo's Azhar University in the 1930s and 1940s.

[Susanna Ferguson](#) is a Ph.D. candidate in the Department of History at Columbia University. Her research focuses on the social and intellectual history of women and gender in the modern Arab world, Arab feminist thought and practice in the 20th century, and questions about women and gender in modern Islamic movements.

[Wendell Hassan Marsh](#) is a doctoral student in the Department of Middle Eastern, South Asian, and African Studies and the Institute of Comparative Literature and Society. His research interrogates the Islamic library in Africa as a locus of knowledge production and circulation, and he is particularly interested in milieux associated with the Tijaniyya Sufi brotherhood.

[Deborah Shulevitz](#) is a Ph.D. candidate in the Department of History at Columbia University. Her research centers on the intersection between economic development and religious dissent in thirteenth century France and Italy. Her dissertation will address the relationship between the sins of heresy and usury in that period.



Staff



Assistant Director [Melissa Van](#) has worked at the Institute for Religion, Culture, and Public Life since 2012; prior to that, she was the Assistant Director at the Center for Democracy, Toleration, and Religion at Columbia University. She received her BA and MS from Columbia University.



Program Coordinator [Jessica Lilien](#) has been involved in academic event and media coordination for nearly ten years, including previous experience at Brown University and with the Institute for Research on Women, Gender, and Sexuality at Columbia University.

Centers & Projects

The IRCPL is host to a multitude of projects, groups, and centers that bring together scholars, students, policy practitioners, and religious and cultural leaders to explore different facets of the current worldwide resurgence of religion, and to apply careful analysis and constructive criticism to new forms of intolerance as well as to new approaches to tolerance, respect, mutual understanding, and accommodation. These groups produce new scholarship which culminates in conferences, workshops, book and journal publications, documentaries, radio broadcasts, blogs, exhibitions, and more.

Islam, Democracy, and Pluralism

Funded by the Henry R. Luce Initiative on Religion and International Affairs, this project attempts to create a discussion on democracy, liberalism, and pluralism between leaders and academics in an attempt to encourage the development of greater moderation and accommodation within political discourse. Led by Sudipta Kaviraj and Alfred Stepan, two workshops will bring academics and political leaders from India, Senegal, and Indonesia together with leaders from Pakistan, Turkey, Egypt, and Tunisia to facilitate greater understanding of different ways countries have successfully (and unsuccessfully) related to pluralism while negotiating with the beliefs and demands of religious populations. The first workshop will be held at Columbia University in 2015, and will bring together leaders from Egypt, Tunisia, and Indonesia to discuss how they think about, and subsequently craft, political ideologies that are inclusive while remaining respectful to local norms and beliefs. The second workshop, to be held in 2016, will bring together journalists, academics, and politicians from states which have historically faced the challenge of fashioning democratic institutions in societies with long-standing, pervasive religious traditions, and will include speakers on Pakistan, India, Senegal, and Turkey.



Sufi Islam in 21st Century Politics

This project is funded by the Henry R. Luce Initiative on Religion and International Affairs. Led by Professor Diouf, Professor Diagne, and Professor Ewing, this group examines the nature of Sufi Islam in the modern era, and asks what has made Sufism successful and effective at managing religious pluralism, as well as ethnic and regional diversity, in places including Senegal, the Ottoman Empire/Turkey, and India. The group also studies the role of Sufism in Pakistan where Sufi orders' influence in shaping political theologies has been far more limited than the previously mentioned countries. Additionally, the project seeks to understand the relationship between Sufism and modern Islamic movements and to explore the reasons why Sufism is now seen as an antidote to political Islam.



Shared Sacred Spaces and the Politics of Pluralism

This project, funded by the Henry R. Luce Initiative on Religion and International Affairs, examines the significance of shared sacred spaces between multiple religions, the conflicts which emerge at these sites, and the day-to-day lives of multi-religious actors who interact with each other around these shared spaces. Led by Karen Barkey and Elazar Barkan, this project examines particular sacred sites, primarily in former Ottoman Empire areas, to look at historical as well as present-day issues surrounding these shared spaces. By delving into the past more carefully, they show we can provide the legacy of shared sites and lived experience to inform contemporary events. The product of this project is the forthcoming book *Choreographies*

of Shared Sacred Sites, published through Columbia University Press, due out in 2014.

Arabic Translation Project

IRCPL has teamed up with All Print Publishers, based in Beirut, to translate into Arabic a dozen essential English language texts on democracy and democratic transitions, and to publish and distribute these texts in the Middle East and North Africa. Led by Karen Barkey and Melissa Van, the aim of this project is to make more accessible some of the nuanced literature available on varieties of representative government, paths and pitfalls to democratization, and detailed case studies about democratic transitions. The first book in the series, Alfred Stepan's *Democracies in Danger*, was released in the spring of 2014. Two forthcoming translations are in the process of translation, Robert Dahl's *On Democracy* and Arend Lijphart's *Patterns of Democracy*.



The Working Group on Toleration

The Working Group on Toleration has set itself the daunting task of producing works to answer questions on what toleration is and how it has developed and is practiced in various societies, as well as what contributes to its creation and its breakdown. The group's primary focus has been the development of a source book on toleration from different traditions around the world, spanning some two and a half millennia between roughly 400 BC and the modern era. Overall, the volume will be presented as a conversation, organized temporally between various regions and cultures. This conversation will reveal the highly diverse origins of toleration and the different contributions various cultures have made to our understanding of toleration over time. We have confidence that this volume, which has no peer in scale and range, will become a classic. Participating faculty include Alfred Stepan, Karen Barkey, Akeel Bilgrami, Souleymane Bachir Diagne, Ira Katznelson, Sudipta Kaviraj, Claudio Lomnitz, Nadia Urbinati, and Hossein Kamaly.



Religions of Harlem

Harlem has long been the subject of African American cultural and political history, yet a comprehensive account of Harlem's religious milieu (historical and contemporary) has yet to be developed. The Religions of Harlem project is led by professors Josef Sorett (IRCPL Associate Director; assistant professor of Religion and African-American Studies at Columbia University), and Obery Hendricks (Visiting Scholar, Religion and African-American Studies at Columbia University). In partnership with the New York Public Library's Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture, this project uses archival and ethnographic research, as well as digital media, to provide a unique view of the wide range of religious expressions, leaders, and communities that have been and continue to be central to the cultural worlds of Harlem. These materials, and commentary about them, will be highlighted on the Religions of Harlem and Schomburg Center websites.

Center for the Study of Religion and Sexuality

The academic year 2013-14 saw the inauguration of the new Center for the Study of Religion and Sexuality. Led by Katherine Pratt Ewing, Coordinator of the MA Program at the South Asia Institute and Professor of Religion at Columbia University, the Center aims to provide forums and resources for the interdisciplinary study of the rapidly evolving and often troubled intersections of religion and sexuality across the world. The Center, also affiliated with the Institute for Women, Gender, and Sexuality and the Barnard Center for Research on Women, will address the historical specificity of these intersections of religion and sexuality by considering changing historical perspectives on the place of sexuality within various religious traditions, as well as debates over religious and ethical implications of emerging technological procedures involving the sexual body.



Selected Events

The IRCPL hosts approximately 50 public events each year, including lectures, conferences, and open workshops. Below is a selection of our events, including our two major event series during the 2013-14 academic year.

Religion and Politics in American Public Life Lecture Series

The IRCPL, led by Karen Barkey, Jean Cohen, and John Torpey, engaged six speakers to discuss current issues in the United States revolving around the intersection of religion, politics, and public discourse:

September 27, 2013: Philip Hamburger: “The Ku Klux Klan and the Separation of Church and State”

October 17, 2013: David Campbell: “The Politics of Irreligion: The Political Causes of America’s Growing Secularism”

November 7, 2013: Winnifred F. Sullivan: “Religion and the Roberts Court”

February 12, 2014: Marci Hamilton: “The Oppression of Women by Religious Organizations in the United States”

February 26, 2014: Joseph Blankholm: “The Challenge of Being Secular: Nonbelievers as a Precarious Religious Minority”

April 10, 2014: Alan Koenig: “‘How I Do Love to Hear the Wolves Howl’: American Theocracy and the Apocalyptic Political Theology of Joseph Smith”

Spirit and Sound: A Concert Series

In partnership with the Glicker-Milstein Theatre at Barnard College, the IRCPL produced four performances showcasing the importance of music in fashioning and reshaping distinct religions traditions:

November 1, 2013: Rashida Bumbray and the Dance Diaspora Collective, “Run, Mary, Run: Ring Shout” Choreographer Rashida Bumbray led a performance of the ring shout, followed by a panel discussion with Ebony Golden, Adenike Sharpley, Imani Uzuri, and Jawole Zollar. Currated by Courtney Bryan.



November 25, 2013: Najib Shaheen, with special guests Rabbi Rolando Matalon and Deacon Naji Yousuf Oudist Najib Shaheen performed with members of Simon Shaheen’s Near East Music Ensemble, followed by a discussion moderated by event currator Nili Belkind, featuring special guests Rabbi J. Rolando Matalon and Deacon Naji Yousu on the shared musical histories of Jewish, Islamic, and Christian traditions in the context of Israel and Palestine.



April 17, 2014: Ashwini Bhide Deshpande: “Signing to Krishna in Court: Rethinking God, Gender, and Genre in North Indian Classical Music” A performance of Hindustani Classical and Bhakti music was followed by a panel discussion hosted by event currator Yogi Trivedi and featuring Akeel Bilgrhmi, Shayoni Mitra, and Tyler Williams, on the bifurcation of the genres.

May 1, 2014: “Heaven and Earth: Sacred Music from the Byzantine Greek and Slavic Eastern Orthodox Christian Traditions” Chanter Eleftherios Eleftheriadis performed liturgical chant accompanied by St. Vladimir’s Seminary Chorale, followed by a panel discussion with Spyridon Antonopoulos, Peter Bouteneff, Nina Glibetic, John A. McGuckin, and event currator Lisa Radakovich Holsberg.





Conferences and Speakers

October 16, 2013: “Walls & Bridges: Says Who? Writing from a Global Perspective”

Hosted by Khalil Gibran Muhammad and featuring Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie, Romain Bertrand, Siddhartha Deb, and Farah Griffin, this panel discussed the importance of giving voice to “invisible people” in an era of globalization. “Says Who” was held at the Shomburg Center of the New York Public Library, and was co-organized with Villa Gillet, a French organization dedicated to cultural research.

October 21, 2013: “Rethinking the Secular Public: A Discussion with Etienne Balibar and Stathis Gourgouris”

Balibar, Professor Emeritus of Moral and Political Philosophy at Université de Paris X-Nanterre and Distinguished Professor of Humanities at the University of California, Irvine, engaged with Gourgouris, Director of the Institute for Comparative Literature and Society at Columbia. To discuss the ways in which their recently published books, *Saeculum: Culture, religion, idéologie* and *Lessons in Secular Criticism* respectively, tackle the issue of what it means to have or to be a “secular public.” Moderated by Jean Cohen, Professor of Political Science at Columbia.

November 6, 2013: Fabrice Balanche, “Minorities in the Syrian Crisis”

Fabrice Balanche, Director of the Research Group in Mediterranean and Middle Eastern Studies at the University of Lyon, discussed the ongoing Syrian Civil War and addressed the religious tensions between the majority Sunni Arab population and other religious minorities.



December 3, 2013: “Constitutions and Cultural Pluralism: How Can Legal Frameworks Foster Tolerance and Peace in Multireligious Societies? Cases from the Middle East”

This conference tackled the ongoing struggle in constitutional regimes to negotiate peace and toleration among religious sects, many of whom are bitterly divided. Karen Barkey, Director of IRCPL, and Giancarlo Bosetti, co-founder of Reset-DoC, opened the remarks. The panelists included Asli Bali, Abdullahi An-Na’im, Marc Lynch, Seyla Benhabib, Jean Cohen, Nader Hashemi, and Michael Walzer.

February 20, 2014: Yüksel Sezgin, “How Non-Muslim Democracies Engage Shari’a: Lessons for Democratizing Muslim Nations”

Yüksel Sezgin, Visiting Research Scholar at the IRCPL and Assistant Professor of Political Science at the Maxwell School of Public Affairs, examined the efforts of four non-Muslim-majority countries - Ghana, Greece, India, and Israel - to integrate shari’a into a democratic framework. He evaluated the results of their efforts and suggested that the lessons from these countries suggest fully integrating shari’a into democratic legal systems. Karen Barkey acted as respondent.

March 7, 2014: Alfred Stepan, “The State of Myanmar’s Democratic Transition: A Field Report”

Alfred Stepan, Wallace Sayre Professor of Government and Director of CDTR, engaged with interlocutor Jack Snyder, Robert and Renee Belfer Professor of International Relations at Columbia University, to discuss his three trips to Myanmar in 2013, including his work on the negotiations between the rebels and the military government, and the route to democratic transition.

March 25, 2014: Alfred Stepan and Duncan McCargo, “The Theravada Buddhist Puzzle: Inclusionary Doctrines, Exclusionary Contemporary Politics”

Alfred Stepan, in conversation with Duncan McCargo, Professor of Southeast Asian Politics at the University of Leeds and a Senior Research Affiliate at the Weatherhead East Asian Institute, confronted the conundrum surrounding Theravada Buddhist-centric politics in Thailand, particularly the ways in which the religion-centric politics of inclusion have been used there to promote exclusivity and violence.

March 26, 2014: “Democracy Disfigured”

A panel discussion on the publication of Nadia Urbinati’s new book, *Democracy Disfigured* was held in co-sponsorship with the Blinken European Institute and the Heyman Center for the Humanities. The panelists included Federico Finchelstein, Ira Katznelson, Maria Pia Lara, Victoria Murillo, and author Nadia Urbinati.

April 1, 2014: “Tunisia’s Transition to Democracy: A Discussion with Prime Minister Mehdi Jomaa”

Mehdi Jomaa, Prime Minister of Tunisia, came to Columbia to discuss the democratic transition Tunisia underwent following the wave of democratic protests in the Middle East and North Africa in 2011. He answered questions about the transition process and spoke about upcoming elections.

April 18, 2014: “Islamic Urbanism? Space, Consumption, and Development in Istanbul and Jakarta”

Organized by Karen Barkey and IRCPL Visiting Scholar Saskia Schäfer, this one-day conference sought to juxtapose the cities of Istanbul and Jakarta, as well as other urban examples from Turkey and Indonesia, through an exploratory discussion of the ways in which Islamic values and ideology are linked to new forms of urban development and urban lifestyle. The participants included Professor Barkey, Asu Aksoy, Ayse Cavdar, Adrian Favell, Carla Jones, Sarah Moser, Saskia Schafer, and Hew Wai-Weng.



May 22, 2014: “Covering Egypt: Media and Politics in the Post-Mubarak Period”

Organized by Emad Shahin, IRCPL Distinguished Visiting Scholar, and Karen Barkey, IRCPL Director, the panelists at this one-day conference discussed the role of the media during and after Egypt’s political transition in 2011, especially after the military coup of July 3, 2013. Speakers presented on the influence of the media, the state of free expression in military-controlled Egypt, and possible changes to the press system which will be necessary in order to facilitate a transition to democracy.



Rethinking Religion Radio Series



New Directions in Prayer is a three-part series of one-hour radio episodes produced by the Institute for Religion, Culture, and Public Life for its media project Rethinking Religion. All episodes of the series have been made available to public radio broadcast stations nationwide, and can be downloaded at ircpl.org.

New Directions in Prayer is unique for engaging both practitioners and scholars of religion to create a dialogue necessary for an informed public discussion on the role of prayer in people's lives. Bringing interviews with scholars, professionals, and clergy members together with archival audio, the series is unique in its diverse approach to understanding what prayer is and the roles it plays.

from the Social Science Research Council, with support of the John Templeton Foundation.

This program was made possible through a grant

"Trauma and Prayer," the first episode in the series, explores the role prayer plays in the lives of people who have experienced abuse or extreme trauma. With Dr. Norris J. Chumley as Series Host and Executive Producer and Rev. Dr. Serene Jones, author of *Trauma and Grace*, as featured commentator, the episode focuses not only on distinct forms of prayer, but also on the varied areas in which prayer is used to mitigate the impact of abuse and/or trauma.



"The Jesus Prayer: An Ancient Christian Prayer in the Context of Community," the second episode in the series, utilizes a vast collection of existing ethnographic field studies recorded at the world's oldest active monasteries and hermitages

in Egypt, Mt. Sinai, Mt. Athos, Greece, Romania, and Russia to bring the virtually unknown Jesus Prayer and the ancient practice of hesychia (silence and stillness) to American audiences.

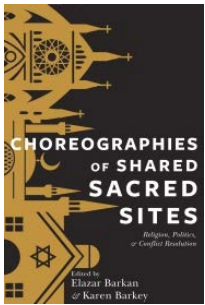


"Islamic Prayer: Body, Community, and Spirit," the final episode in the series, investigates the mechanics of prayer and the roles prayer plays in the lives of Muslims, as individuals and as a community, from phenomenological, historical, and theological perspectives. This episode features, among others, Souleymane Bachir Diagne.

Publications

In order to promote serious scholarship and informed debate, the Institute for Religion, Culture, and Public Life and Columbia University Press sponsor a book series devoted to the investigation of the role of religion in society and culture today. This series includes works by scholars in religious studies, political science, history, cultural anthropology, economics, social psychology, and other allied fields whose work sustains multidisciplinary and comparative as well as transnational analyses of historical and contemporary issues.

The 2013-14 academic year saw six new titles published in the series:



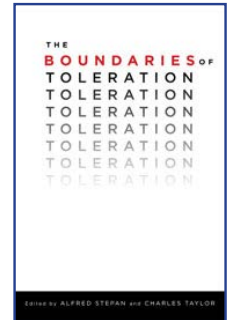
Choreographies of Shared Sacred Sites: Religion, Politics, and Conflict Resolution **Edited by Elazar Barkan and Karen Barkey, 2014**

This anthology explores the dynamics of shared religious sites in Turkey, the Balkans, Palestine/Israel, Cyprus, and Algeria, indicating where local and national stakeholders maneuver between competition and cooperation, coexistence and conflict. Contributors probe the notion of coexistence and the logic that underlies centuries of “sharing,” exploring when and why sharing gets interrupted - or not - by conflict, and the policy consequences.

Boundaries of Toleration

Edited by Alfred Stepan and Charles Taylor, 2014

How can people of diverse religious, ethnic, and linguistic allegiances and identities live together without committing violence, inflicting suffering, or oppressing each other? In this volume, contributors explore the limits of toleration and suggest we think beyond them to mutual respect.



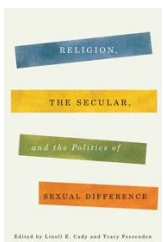
Recovering Place: Reflections on Stone Hill **By Mark C. Taylor, 2014**

In a world where speed is the measure of success and place is disappearing, Mark C. Taylor’s work slows down thought and brings life back to earth to give readers time to ponder the importance of place before it slips away.

Blood: A Critique of Christianity

By Gil Anidjar, 2014

Blood, according to Gil Anidjar, maps the singular history of Christianity. Engaging with a variety of sources, Anidjar explores the presence and the absence, the making and unmaking of blood from ancient Greece to medieval Spain, from the Bible to Shakespeare and Melville.



Religion, the Secular, and the Politics of Sexual Difference **Edited by Linell E. Cady and Tracy Fessenden, 2013**

Global struggles over women’s roles and rights increasingly cast the secular and the religious in tense if not violent opposition. Rather than position secularism as the answer to conflicts over gender and sexuality, this volume shows both religion and the secular collaborate in creating the conditions that generate them.

Democracy and Islam in Indonesia

Edited by Mirjam Künkler and Alfred Stepan, 2013

Political scientists, religious scholars, legal theorists, and anthropologists examine the theory and practice of Indonesia’s democratic transition and its ability to serve as a model for other Muslim countries.

