

Islam and Government (RG ST 119E)

Winter 2010

Ahmad Atif Ahmad

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Office Hours: T/R 12:30-1:30 pm; Office 3032 HSSB

Reading List

Secondary

- 1) Rebellion and Violence in Islamic Law by Khaled Abou El Fadl (Author),
Hardcover: 404 pages Publisher: Cambridge University Press (December 3, 2001,
Language: English ISBN-10: 0521793114, ISBN-13: 978-0521793117

Primary in Translation

- 2) The Ordinances of Government by Al-Mawardi (d. 1057) (trans. Wafa Wahba)
(Center for Muslim Contribution to Civilization; Garnet and Ithaca Press, Reading,
UK, 1986):

Additional readings will be provided in class

Grading

- 40% regular class participation—both the **quantity and quality** of the participation will be taken into account + an oral presentation (either a solo presentation or a debate with a partner).
- 60% two essays of 1,000 words, due at the end of the 5th and 10th week—**punctuality of submission, organization, accuracy, and originality** are taken into account.

Topics of Discussion

Tuesday	Jan 5	→	General Introduction: What is government? What for? Theories of authority. Revolution. Economies. Old and new.
Thursday	Jan 7	→	Evolution of the history of the discourse on revolution I Abou El Fadl 1-61
Tuesday	Jan 12	→	Evolution of the history of the discourse on revolution II Abou El Fadl 1-61
Thursday	Jan 14	→	Classical doctrine and trends I Abou El Fadl 62-161
Tuesday	Jan 19	→	Classical doctrine and trends II Abou El Fadl 62-161
Thursday	Jan 21	→	Reversals and reconsiderations I Abou El Fadl 162-233
Tuesday	Jan 26	→	Reversals and reconsiderations II Abou El Fadl 162-233
Thursday	Jan 28	→	Reversals and reconsiderations III Abou El Fadl 162-233
Tuesday	Feb 2	→	Modern Trends I Abou El Fadl 234-342
Thursday	Feb 4	→	Modern Trends II Abou El Fadl 234-342
Tuesday	Feb 9 (first paper due)	→	Modern Trends III Abou El Fadl 234-342

Thursday	Feb 11	→	The fiction of contractualism in establishing a government Mawardi 3-22
Tuesday	Feb 16	→	Ministerial appointments Mawardi 23-71
Thursday	Feb 18	→	Judges Mawardi 72-86
Tuesday	Feb 23	→	Redress of wrongs Mawardi 87-106
Thursday	Feb 25	→	Treasury I: Alms, taxes, etc) Mawardi 127-172
Tuesday	Mar 2	→	Treasury II: Land grants and concession Mawardi 208-237
Thursday	Mar 4	→	Crime and Punishment Mawardi 238-280
Tuesday	Mar 9	→	Selected topics for discussion
Thursday	Mar 11	(final paper) →	Selected topics for discussion