

CHAPTER THREE

TEACHING ISLAMIC LITERATURE AT THE TERTIARY LEVEL

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Abstract

Literature is not necessarily a religious domain. It can reflect rich human experiences and ideas that are not based on revelations. Religion, on the other hand, can enrich these experiences and ideas with its values and worldview. Therefore, religious literature can offer unique and meaningful insights into human lives. In this sense, this chapter stresses the importance of Islamic literature and examines the need to re-introduce it not only as a collection of literary works by Muslims from the past but as a body of dynamic literary works that are not limited to historical and geographical borders. Accordingly, the chapter calls for a restructured and reorganized study course specific to the level of tertiary education to ensure that the visions and ideals of Islamic literature are critically appreciated. The study of Islamic literature is not limited to one language or a certain culture. It also can be included as an important component in comparative and world literature courses.