# THE ENCYCLOPAEDIA OF ISLAM THREE

# THE ENCYCLOPAEDIA OF ISLAM

## **THREE**

## Edited by

Kate Fleet, Gudrun Krämer, Denis Matringe, John Nawas, and Everett Rowson

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# LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

### A. PERIODICALS

AI = Annales Islamologiques

AIUON = Annali dell' Istituto Universitario Orientale di Napoli

AKM = Abhandlungen für die Kunde des Morgenlandes

AMEL = Arabic and Middle Eastern Literatures

AO = Acta Orientalia

AO Hung. = Acta Orientalia (Academiae Scientiarum Hungaricae)

ArO = Archiv Orientální

AS = Asiatische Studien

 $AS\mathcal{J} = Arab \ Studies \ \mathcal{J}ournal$ 

ASP = Arabic Sciences and Philosophy

ASQ = Arab Studies Quarterly

BASOR = Bulletin of the American Schools of Oriental Research

BEA = Bulletin des Études Arabes

BEFEO = Bulletin de l'Ecole Française d'Extrême-Orient

BEO = Bulletin d'Études Orientales de l'Institut Français de Damas

BIE = Bulletin de l'Institut d'Égypte

BIFAO = Bulletin de l'Institut Français d'Archéologie Orientale du Caire

BKI = Bijdragen tot de Taal-, Land- en Volkenkunde

BMGS = Byzantine and Modern Greek Studies

BO = Bibliotheca Orientalis

BrisMES = British Journal of Middle Eastern Studies

BSOAS = Bulletin of the School of Oriental and African Studies

BZ = Byzantinische Zeitschrift

CAJ = Central Asiatic Journal

DOP = Dumbarton Oaks Papers

 $EW = East \ and \ West$ 

IBLA = Revue de l'Institut des Belles Lettres Arabes, Tunis

IC = Islamic Culture

IHQ = Indian Historical Quarterly

IJAHS = International Journal of African Historical Studies

IJMES = International Journal of Middle East Studies

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ILS = Islamic Law and Society

IOS = Israel Oriental Studies

IQ = The Islamic Quarterly

JA = Journal Asiatique

JAIS = Journal of Arabic and Islamic Studies

 $JAL = Journal \ of \ Arabic \ Literature$ 

 $\mathcal{J}AOS = \mathcal{J}ournal\ of\ the\ American\ Oriental\ Society$ 

 $\mathcal{J}ARCE = \mathcal{J}ournal\ of\ the\ American\ Research\ Center\ in\ Egypt$ 

 $7AS = 7ournal \ of \ Asian \ Studies$ 

7ESHO = Journal of the Economic and Social History of the Orient

JIS = Journal of Islamic Studies

IMBRAS = Journal of the Malaysian Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society

*7NES* = *7ournal of Near Eastern Studies* 

 $JOS = Journal \ of \ Ottoman \ Studies$ 

JQR = Jewish Quarterly Review

7RAS = 7ournal of the Royal Asiatic Society

JSAI = Jerusalem Studies in Arabic and Islam

JSEAH = Journal of Southeast Asian History

7SS = 7ournal of Semitic Studies

MEA = Middle Eastern Affairs

ME7 = Middle East Journal

MEL = Middle Eastern Literatures

MES = Middle East Studies

MFOB = Mélanges de la Faculté Orientale de l'Université St. Joseph de Beyrouth

MIDEO = Mélanges de l'Institut Dominicain d'Études Orientales du Caire

MME = Manuscripts of the Middle East

MMIA = Majallat al-Majma' al-'Ilmi al-'Arabi, Damascus

MO = Le Monde Oriental

MOG = Mitteilungen zur Osmanischen Geschichte

MSR = Mamluk Studies Review

MW = The Muslim World

OC = Oriens Christianus

OLZ = Orientalistische Literaturzeitung

 $OM = Oriente \ Moderno$ 

QSA = Quaderni di Studi Arabi

REI = Revue des Études Islamiques

RE7 = Revue des Études Juives

REMMM = Revue des Mondes Musulmans et de la Méditerranée

RHR = Revue de l'Histoire des Religions

RIMA = Revue de l'Institut des Manuscrits Arabes

RMM = Revue du Monde Musulman

RO = Rocznik Orientalistyczny

ROC = Revue de l'Orient Chrétien

RSO = Rivista degli Studi Orientali

 $SI = Studia\ Islamica\ (France)$ 

SIk = Studia Islamika (Indonesia)

 $SIr = Studia\ Iranica$ 

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TBG = Tijdschrift voor Indische Taal-, Land- en Volkenkunde (of the Bataviaasch Genootschap van Kunsten en Wetenschappen)

VKI = Verhandelingen van het Koninklijk Instituut voor Taal-, Land en Volkenkunde

WI = Die Welt des Islams

WO = Welt des Orients

WZKM = Wiener Zeitschrift für die Kunde des Morgenlandes

ZAL = Zeitschrift für Arabische Linguistik

ZDMG = Zeitschrift der Deutschen Morgenländischen Gesellschaft

ZGAIW = Zeitschrift für Geschichte der Arabisch-Islamischen Wissenschaften

ZS = Zeitschrift für Semitistik

#### B. OTHER

ANRW = Aufstieg und Niedergang der Römischen Welt

 $BGA = Bibliotheca\ Geographorum\ Arabicorum$ 

BNF = Bibliothèque nationale de France

CERMOC = Centre d'Études et de Recherches sur le Moyen-Orient Contemporain

CHAL = Cambridge History of Arabic Literature

 $CHE = Cambridge \ History \ of \ Egypt$ 

CHIn = Cambridge History of India

 $CHIr = Cambridge\ History\ of\ Iran$ 

Dozy = R. Dozy, Supplément aux dictionnaires arabes, Leiden 1881 (repr. Leiden and Paris 1927)

EAL = Encyclopedia of Arabic Literature

EI1 = Encyclopaedia of Islam, 1st ed., Leiden 1913–38

EI2 = Encyclopaedia of Islam, 2nd ed., Leiden 1954-2004

EI3 = Encyclopaedia of Islam Three, Leiden 2007-

 $EIr = Encyclopaedia\ Iranica$ 

E71= Encyclopaedia 7udaica, 1st ed., Jerusalem [New York 1971–92]

 $EQ = Encyclopaedia of the Qur'\bar{a}n$ 

ERE = Encyclopaedia of Religion and Ethics

GAL = C. Brockelmann, Geschichte der Arabischen Litteratur, 2nd ed., Leiden 1943–49

GALS = C. Brockelmann, Geschichte der Arabischen Litteratur, Supplementbände I-III, Leiden 1937-42

GAP = Grundriss der Arabischen Philologie, Wiesbaden 1982-

GAS = F. Sezgin, Geschichte des Arabischen Schrifttums, Leiden 1967-

GMS = Gibb Memorial Series

GOW = F. Babinger, Die Geschichtsschreiber der Osmanen und ihre Werke, Leipzig 1927

 $HO = Handbuch \ der \ Orientalistik$ 

İA = İslâm Ansiklopedisi

IFAO = Institut Français d'Archeologie Orientale

7E = 7ewish Encyclopaedia

Lane = E. W. Lane, Arabic-English Lexicon

RCEA = Répertoire Chronologique d'Épigraphie Arabe

TAVO = Tübinger Atlas des Vorderen Orients

TDVİA = Türkiye Diyanet Vakfı İslâm Ansiklopedisi

UEAI = Union Européenne des Arabisants et Islamisants

van Ess, TG = J. van Ess, Theologie und Gesellschaft

WKAS = Wörterbuch der Klassischen Arabischen Sprache, Wiesbaden 1957-

# Encyclopaedia of Islam, THREE

## **Get access**

# al-Faruqi, Ismail

(2,435 words)

Ismail Raji al-Faruqi (Ismāʿīl Rājī al-Fārūqī, 1921–86) was a distinguished scholar of Islam and religion and one of the most prolific and influential Muslim scholars of the modern age. He made lasting contributions to the study of Islam and comparative religion in the areas of the history and phenomenology of religion, Islamic thought, and interfaith dialogue.

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Joseph A. Kéchichian

## al-Faruqi, Ismail

Ismail Raji al-Faruqi (Ismāʿīl Rājī al-Fārūqī, 1921–86) was a distinguished scholar of Islam and religion and one of the most prolific and influential Muslim scholars of the modern age. He made lasting contributions to the study of Islam and comparative religion in the areas of the history and phenomenology of religion, Islamic thought, and interfaith dialogue.

# 1. Early life and academic career

Ismail al-Faruqi was born in Jaffa in 1921 into a religiously influential family. After obtaining a bachelor's degree in the humanities from the American University of Beirut in 1942, he was appointed a Registrar of Cooperative Societies under the British Mandate government in Jerusalem. In 1945, he was appointed district governor of Galilee, Palestine. With the 1948 creation of Israel, al-Faruqi migrated to Beirut, enrolling briefly at the American University of Beirut. In 1949, he entered Indiana University and obtained a master's degree in philosophy. In 1951 he earned a second master's degree in philosophy, from Harvard University. In 1952, he was awarded a Ph.D. in philosophy in the Department of Philosophy of Indiana University for his dissertation titled *Justifying the good. Metaphysics and epistemology of value.* 

From 1954 to 1958, al-Farugi attended al-Azhar University, in Cairo, to further his knowledge of the traditional understanding of Islam. From 1959 to 1961, he was a visiting professor at the Institute of Islamic Studies at McGill University, in Montreal, where he also studied Christianity and Judaism in the Faculty of Divinity. At McGill, he met Professor Fazlur Rahman (1919-88) from Pakistan who was then teaching at the Institute of Islamic Studies. They became friends and shared a mission to raise the level of Islamic studies in the Muslim world. Shortly thereafter, Ismail al-Farugi and Fazlur Rahman were invited by I. H. Qureshi, the director of the Central Institute of Islamic Research in Karachi, Pakistan, to join that Institute. Ismail al-Faruqi taught there from 1961 to 1963 as a visiting professor and returned to the United States in 1964 to become associate professor of Islamic studies in the Department of Religion of Syracuse University. In 1968, he was appointed professor of Islamics in the newly established Department of Religion at Temple University, Philadelphia, and remained there until his death, in 1986.

In 1973, Ismail al-Faruqi established the Islamic Studies Group in the American Academy of Religion and chaired it for ten years. He also served as vice-president of the Inter-Religious Peace Colloquium and the Muslim-Jewish-Christian Conference and as president of the American Islamic College in Chicago.

#### 2. Contributions

Ismail al-Faruqi's main contributions were in combining the academic study of

Islam with the study of Christianity; the history and phenomenology of religion; and interreligious dialogue. He is best known for his contribution to the "Islamisation of knowledge" in the Muslim world. As a scholar-activist, al-Faruqi studied the contribution of Islam to the world of knowledge and global civilisation.

Al-Faruqi's approach to *tawhād* (the unicity of God) was that of a modern rationalist. He was critical of Ṣūfism, which he blamed for the stagnation and corruption of Muslim societies since the Middle Ages. He was captivated by the Islamic rationalism of Muʿtazilī theologians such as al-Nazzām (158–230/775–845) and al-Qaḍī ʿAbd al-Jabbār (323–416/935–1025), the ethics of the Ikhwān al-Ṣafāʾ (Brethren of Purity), and the *tawhīdī* theology of Muḥammad b. ʿAbd al-Wahhāb (1115–1206/1703–92).

Al-Faruqi, who wrote in English, viewed Islam as an Arabist (in the sense of someone devoted to the study of the Arabic language, literature, and culture) without being an Arab nationalist. His Islam-based understanding of 'urūba (Arabism) contrasted with modern ethnic Arab nationalism. Al-Faruqi preferred the term "Arabs" over "Semites" for the inhabitants of the Middle East, as the latter term was an invention of European Biblical scholars. In his controversial view, all the people of the region have always referred to themselves as Arabs. For al-Faruqi, monotheistic Arabism was the essence of Semitism, comprising the traditions of Judaism, Christianity, and Islam, which together constituted "the Arab stream of being" (al-Faruqi, On Arabism, 210). He saw Arabism as the source of Muslim civilisation and Islamic monotheism as the gift of the Arab stream of consciousness to humanity.

For al-Faruqi, 'urūba is an integral part of the Arab consciousness; it is an Arab view of the world based on a monotheistic view of religion. 'Urūba is rooted in the emergence of monotheism through the poetic reflections and religious meditations of Arab hanīfs (followers of the religion of Abraham), monotheists, and prophets who transformed the Arabs from a tribal culture to a global religious community. According to him, all Arabs and indeed all inhabitants of the Near East have carried the divine message of monotheism since antiquity.

In the field of Islamic thought, al-Farugi stressed the themes of tawhīd (God's oneness) and 'adl (justice). These topics were of paramount importance for him, as a displaced Palestinian Muslim. In the area of history and phenomenology of religion, al-Faruqi offered a Muslim perspective on religion based on a historical critical study of classical Muslim thinkers, such as al-Bīrūnī (d. after 442/1050), Ibn Ḥazm (d. 456/1064), al-Shahrastānī (d. 548/1153), and Ibn Taymiyya (d. 728/1328), making his own contributions to the issues of 'urūba (religious Arabism), pre-hijra Islam, Qur'ānic exegesis, Mu'tazilī thought, Christian ethics, Muslim-Christian dialogue, science and traditional values in Islam, Islam and art, the essence of religious experience in Islam, Islam and culture, and Islam and human rights. Al-Faruqi was the foremost modern Muslim phenomenologist of religion, following in the footsteps of eminent Muslim scholars, such as al-Bīrūnī and Ibn Ḥazm. In his English-language Kitāb al-tawhīd, addressed to the new generation of English-speaking Muslims, he laid the foundation for a new analysis of tawhīd and its relevance to human life, thought, and practice in the modern age.

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In the area of Islamic education, al-Faruqi held that it was necessary to construct a system of knowledge consistent with Islamic doctrines. Al-Farugi was concerned with the post-colonial state of Muslim education from the 1960s to the 1980s, when Western secular, capitalist, orientalist, and Marxist approaches to knowledge were presented to Muslim and Third-World academics as the only valid paths to knowledge. According to him, this harmed the state of mind of Muslims and their approach to knowledge, especially in religion, politics, economics, anthropology, and agro-business, undermining the foundations of the Islamic worldview, way of life, thought, practice, and civilisation. Like contemporary Muslim thinkers such as Fazlur Rahman and Seyyed Hossein Nasr, who like him resided in the United States and engaged with Western modernity intellectually and practically, he advocated the adoption of the Islamic worldview by Muslims residing in their homelands. Such an adoption required educational reform in the Muslim world. The Islamisation of Knowledge movement, which he founded in Pakistan in 1982, did not aim at subordinating knowledge to dogmatic religious principles but at testing every truth claim according to its intrinsic coherence, correspondence with reality, and enhancement of human life and morality. As an Islam-based ideological project aimed at countering both Judeo-Christian theological and secular ideological approaches to modern knowledge and epistemology, the Islamisation of Knowledge has been subject to serious debate within and outside Muslim scholarship.

Al-Faruqi developed practical plans for alleviating Muslim educational problems through the reconstruction of higher education in Muslim countries. He called for the First World Conference on Muslim Education in Mecca, between 31 March and 8 April 1977, which was directed towards reforming the educational system in Muslim countries. He also contributed to curriculum reform and faculty development, designing research programmes in the Islamic Universities sponsored by the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) in Malaysia, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Niger, and Uganda.

During the 1970s and 1980s, al-Faruqi was an adviser to Muhammad Zia-ul-Haq's dictatorial government of Pakistan (1976–88). He had a central role in the building of the International Islamic University in Islamabad in 1980, which was an outcome of the 1977 First World Conference on Muslim Education held in Mecca.

Al-Faruqi also visited Malaysia as adviser to the second Mahathir Mohamad government (formed in 1982), where his conceptualisation of the Islamisation of Knowledge project translated into the establishment of the International Islamic University Malaysia in 1983. He also played an important role in the establishment of the International Institute of Islamic Thought (IIIT) in Herndon, Virginia in 1981. The objectives of the IIIT are the revival and reform of Islamic thought through the Islamisation of Knowledge project,

In Malaysia, he served also as an adviser to the Angkatan Belia Islam Malaysia (Malaysian Islamic Youth Movement) led at the time by Anwar Ibrahim (b. 1947). Al-Faruqi played an important role in Anwar Ibrahim's political career by advising him to join the United Malays National Organisation, Malaysia's largest political party, in 1981. Anwar Ibrahim

became deputy prime minister of Malaysia from 1993 until 1998, when he was ousted on accusations of corruption and homosexuality.

From the 1970s onwards, when the interreligious-dialogue movement was still in its infancy, al-Faruqi, acted as a pioneer and active participant in Muslim dialogues with members other religions, including Jews, Hindus, Buddhists, and especially Christians in the West. He adapted Muslim epistemology to changing political and world affairs in the post-colonial era. For him, the prospects for finding common religious and moral ideas in Muslim-Christian dialogue were limitless. He was, however, pessimistic about that dialogue in light of the Vatican Council document Nostra aetate, Declaration on the Relation of the Church with Non-Christian Religions, issued on 28 October 1965 by Pope Paul VI. He thought the document could have gone further, for Muslims still continued to feel excluded from the Catholic doctrine of salvation. In al-Faruqi's view, the interreligious dialogue between Christians and Muslims should start with the Nicene Creed (which was adopted at the Council of Nicaea in 325 C.E. and emphasises the doctrine of the Trinity and divinity of Jesus as co-eternal with God the Father) and take into account the lifeaffirming views of modern subjects for whom Christian notions of justification were inadequate.

Al-Faruqi left a lasting influence on Muslim research into religious studies in general and Muslim educational reform for contemporary times in particular.

He and his wife, Lois Lamya al-Faruqi, were murdered in their home in Wyncote, Pennsylvania on 27 May 1986, by an African-American convert to Islam named Joseph Louis Young, also known

as Yusuf Ali. Yusuf Ali knew al-Faruqi, as he had been accustomed to socialise with his Muslim students at Temple University, in Philadelphia, for many years.

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