

**The
SECULAR
and the
SACRED**

Nation, Religion and Politics

Edited by
WILLIAM SAFRAN

Secular And The Sacred Nation Religion And Politics

Michelle Hale Williams



Secular And The Sacred Nation Religion And Politics:

The Secular and the Sacred William Safran, 2004-08-02 What is the place of religion in modern political systems This volume addresses that question by focusing on ten countries across several geographic areas Western and East Central Europe North America the Middle East and South Asia These countries are comparable in the sense that they are committed to constitutional rule have embraced a more or less secular culture and have formal guarantees of freedom of religion Yet in all the cases examined here religion impinges on the political system in the form of legal establishment semi legitimation subvention and or selective institutional arrangements and its role is reflected in cultural norms electoral behaviour and public policies The relationship between religion and politics comes in many varieties in differing countries yet all are faced with three major challenges modernity democracy and the increasingly multi ethnic and multi religious nature of their societies

Religion, Secularism and Politics Jeffrey Haynes, Guy Ben-Porat, 2018-10-24 Political debates in many Mediterranean countries today are increasingly framed in dichotomous terms highlighting divisions between religious and secular worldviews The role of religion in public life or put another way the public return of religion is a pertinent and controversial political question everywhere in the Mediterranean region How do we explain this phenomenon On the one hand we can point to both economic and demographic changes while on the other we can trace the impact of continuing secularisation Together these two sets of developments produce new challenges to existing political arrangements This book examines the contemporary interaction of religion and politics in the Mediterranean region with a specific focus on democratization and democracy and the role in this context of selected religious actors Individual contributions focus on several European countries France Italy and Turkey while others are concerned with states in the Middle East and North Africa Egypt Israel Morocco and Tunisia Among European countries France is widely regarded as a highly secular country with over 50% of people regarding themselves as without religion Morocco on the other hand is a much more religious country measured by the fact that an estimated 94.5% of Moroccans self identify themselves as Muslims The specific country studies were selected because whether they are religious or not each case has current controversies involving both religious and secular actors which impact upon key political relationships centrally involving religion secularization and democratization democracy This book was published as a special issue of Mediterranean Politics

Secularism and State Policies toward Religion Ahmet T. Kuru, 2009-04-20 Why do secular states pursue different policies toward religion This book provides a generalizable argument about the impact of ideological struggles on the public policy making process as well as a state religion regimes index of 197 countries More specifically it analyzes why American state policies are largely tolerant of religion whereas French and Turkish policies generally prohibit its public visibility as seen in their bans on Muslim headscarves In the United States the dominant ideology is passive secularism which requires the state to play a passive role by allowing public visibility of religion Dominant ideology in France and Turkey is assertive secularism which demands that

the state play an assertive role in excluding religion from the public sphere Passive and assertive secularism became dominant in these cases through certain historical processes particularly the presence or absence of an ancien régime based on the marriage between monarchy and hegemonic religion during state building periods

World Religions and Democracy Larry Diamond, Marc F. Plattner, Philip J. Costopoulos, 2005-03-02 Can religion be compatible with liberal democracy World Religions and Democracy brings together insights from renowned scholars and world leaders in a provocative and timely discussion of religion's role in the success or failure of democracy An essay by Alfred Stepan outlines the concept of twin tolerations and differentiation and creates a template that can be applied to all of the religion democracy relationships observed and analyzed throughout the volume Twin tolerations means that there is a clear distinction and a mutual respect between political authorities and religious leaders and bodies When true differentiation is accomplished the religious sector enjoys freedom of activity and the ability to peacefully influence its members but does not wield direct political power A country's ability to implement the principle of differentiation directly affects the successful development of democracy Part two focuses on eastern religions Confucianism Hinduism and Buddhism and includes contributions from Nobel Prize winner Aung San Suu Kyi and His Holiness the Dalai Lama The third part addresses democracy in relationship to Judaism and the three branches of Christianity Catholicism Protestantism and Eastern Orthodoxy Sociologist Peter Berger offers a global perspective of Christianity and democracy The volume's final section discusses what is perhaps the most challenging example of the struggling relationship between religion and democracy today Islam and the governments of the Muslim nations Abdou Filali Ansary Bernard Lewis and others present a comprehensive exploration of Muslim thought and faith in an increasingly secular modern world It is in this volatile political and religious climate that solutions are most urgently needed but also most elusive Contributors Alfred Stepan Hahm Chaibong Francis Fukuyama Pratap Mehta His Holiness the Dalai Lama Aung San Suu Kyi Hillel Fradkin Daniel Philpott Tim Shah Robert Woodberry Elizabeth Prodromou Peter Berger Abdou Filali Ansary Bernard Lewis Robin Wright Abdelwahab El Affendi Radwan A Masmoudi Laith Kubba Ladan Boroumand Roya Boroumand

The Crisis of Secularism in India Anuradha Dingwaney Needham, Rajeswari Sunder Rajan, 2007-01-18 In this timely nuanced collection twenty leading cultural theorists assess the contradictory ideals policies and practices of secularism in India

Religion and Politics in Europe, the Middle East and North Africa Jeffrey Haynes, 2009-10-16 This book examines the political activities of selected religious actors in Christian Muslim and Judaist contexts in Europe and the Middle East It explores the challenges these religious actors face in terms of citizenship democracy and secularisation

The Multicultural Dilemma Michelle Hale Williams, 2013 This work seeks to explore the contemporary challenge of government in multicultural societies drawing together a wide range of contributors to examine how ethnic difference could be better understood and mediated by modern nation states Divided into three sections the book centres round the notion that changing patterns of migration bring escalating obstacles to integration or assimilation In the

first section contributors focus on the theory that immigrants are the actors that catalyze contemporary multicultural dilemmas within states with a particular focus on diaspora and how a diaspora community may differ in some ways from other kinds of immigrant community Section two identifies key factors in shaping ethnic identity before moving on to examine the state of the debate over whether identity can be changed or manipulated The contributors to this section provide valuable insights into the catalysts and causes of ethnic division and tension by showing factors in the development of ethnic identity In the third section the focus turns to strategies for mediating multicultural challenges and managing internal diversity in multicultural society offering structural and institutional solutions with evidence of application in specific cases and country contexts Offering a comprehensive overview of this pressing issue and drawing on a wide range of case studies this work will be of interest to students and scholars of migration political sociology race and ethnic studies **Religion**

and Democratizations Jeffrey Haynes, 2013-09-13 This book examines key debates on religion and democratization from three main perspectives Religious traditions have core elements which are more or less conducive to democratization and democracy Religious traditions may be multi vocal but at any moment there may be dominant voices more or less receptive to and encouraging of democratization Religious actors rarely if ever determine democratization outcomes However they may in various ways and with a range of outcomes be of significance for democratization The contributions are divided into two sections 1 Religion democratization and democracy and 2 Secularization democratization and democracy Overall they examine the three assertions in the bullet points above The book's starting point is that in general around the world religions have left their assigned place in the private sphere This means they have in many cases become recognisably politically active in various ways and with assorted outcomes This re emergence from political marginality dates back until at least the 1980s At that time the US sociologist Jose Casanova noted that what was new and became news was the widespread and simultaneous refusal of religions to be restricted to the private sphere This involved a remodelling and re assumption of public roles by religion which theories of secularisation had long condemned to social and political marginalisation This book was published as a special issue of *Democratization* *Religion, Politics and International Relations* Jeff Haynes, 2011-04-07

Bringing together in one collection his most influential essays spanning two decades of research Jeffrey Haynes seeks to explore the complex relationship between religion politics and international relations *Muslims and Political Participation in Britain* Timothy Peace, 2015-05-01 This new volume showcases the latest research into Muslim political participation both in terms of electoral politics and civil society initiatives Muslims play a prominent role in British political life yet what do we actually know about the involvement of British Muslims beyond the existence of a handful of Muslim MPs What is unique about political participation in Muslim communities All the major parties actively seek to court a Muslim electorate but does such a phenomenon exist Despite the impact that Muslims have had on election campaigns and their roles in various political institutions research on this topic remains scant Indeed much of the existing work was couched within the broader areas of

the participation of ethnic minorities or the impact of race on electoral politics The chapters in this volume address this lacuna by highlighting different aspects of Muslim participation in British politics They investigate voting patterns and election campaigns civil society and grassroots political movements the engagement of young people and the participation of Muslims in formal political institutions Written in an accessible style this book will be of interest to students and scholars of political participation and religious studies

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