



Understanding Central Asian Islam – Contemporary Perspectives on Research

BISHKEK, 25-26 AUGUST 2011

Programme

Wednesday 24 August: Arrival of Participants: Ak Keme Hotel, Bishkek and Sayakat Hotel, Bishkek

Thursday 26 August: Invited presentations

0900 – 09:05 **Welcome to the Seminar and Participants: Dr. Maxim Ryabkov, Director, OSCE Academy**

9:05-10:15 **Contested concepts of Central Asian Islam**
Dr. Johan Rasanayagam, Anthropology University of Aberdeen: *“Islam: defining an ‘object’ of analysis”*

Dr. John Heathershaw, University of Exeter: Comments

Comments and questions from the panel and the audience

10:30–12: 00 **Politics of Research in Central Asian Islam**
Prof. Dr. Anke von Kügelgen Universität Bern Institut für
Islamwissenschaft und Neuere Orientalische Philologie: *“Institutional
problems of the study of Islam in Central Asia and its impact on current
research designs”*

Parviz Mullojanov (Tajikistan): Comments

Comments and questions from the panel and the audience

12:00-13:30 **Lunch**

13:30 – **Theoretical frameworks on political Islam in Central Asia**

15:30

- Prof. Dr. Tim Epkenhans, University of Freiburg: *“Islam and the State: Soviet and post-Soviet Episteme”*
- Dr. Emmanuel Karagiannis: *“Researching Political Islam in Central Asia: The Use and Limits of Social Movement Theory”*
- Dr. David Abramson, State Department: *“Research on Islam in Central Asia: Foreign Religious Education and Regime Responses”*

Comments and questions from the panel and the audience

15:45-17:15 **Anthropological approaches to Central Asian Islam**

Dr. Maria Louw, Assistant Professor Department of Anthropology and
Ethnography Aarhus University: *“Islam in Central Asia: Analytical and
vernacular categories”*

Dr. Julie McBrien, Sociology & Anthropology Department, University of
Amsterdam: *“Central Asians or Muslims? The politics of academic
categories”*

Comments and questions from the panel and the audience

18:30-20:00 *Reception (venue to be announced)*

Friday 26 August: Group work on research design

09:00 – 09:30 **Splitting into groups, appointing group moderators and setting the agenda: Dr. Maxim Ryabkov**

09:30-12:30 Group work:

Group 1: Political Islam

Group 2: Sociological and historical approaches to Central Asian Islam

Group 3: Anthropological approaches to Central Asian Islam

12:30 – 14:00 Lunch at Dolce Vita café (close to the OSCE Academy)

14:00-15:30 Group presentations

Saturday 27 August: Departure