

Contributors

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Babak Rahimi received his Ph.D from the European University Institute in 2004 and is now an Assistant Professor, Department of Literature, Program for the Study of Religion, at the University of California, San Diego. His research interests include public sphere and state formation in Islamic societies. He has published articles in the *Journal of Iranian Studies* and *Thesis Eleven*. He is currently working on a book project entitled, "The Isfahani Public: the Emergence of the Early Modern Iranian Public Sphere in the Safavid Period, 1590-1666."

Armando Salvatore obtained his Ph.D. in Political and Social Sciences from the European University Institute, Florence (1994) and his German *Habilitation* in Sociology from Humboldt University, Berlin (2005). He is Senior Research Fellow at the Institute for Advanced Studies in the Humanities, Essen (KWI) and at the Institute of Social Science, Humboldt University, Berlin. His research focuses on the significance of modern concepts of religion for Social and Political Theory, with particular regard to the Euro-Mediterranean civilizational area. Among his most recent publications, *Public Islam and the Common Good*, Leiden/Boston: Brill, 2004 (ed., with Dale F. Eickelman), *Religion, Social Practice, and Contested Hegemonies*, New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2005 (ed., with Mark LeVine), and, *The Public Sphere between Tradition and Modernity*, New York: Palgrave Macmillan, forthcoming in 2007. He is the editor of the *Yearbook of Sociology of Islam* (with Georg Stauth).

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Arpad Szakolczai studied at the University of Budapest and has a PhD from the University of Texas at Austin. His recent and major publications include *The Dissolution of Communist Power* (Routledge, 1992; with Agnes Horvath), *Max Weber and Michel Foucault: Parallel Life-Works* (Routledge, 1998), *Reflexive Historical Sociology* (Routledge, 2000), *La scoperta della società* (Rome, Carocci, 2003; with Giovanna Procacci), and *The Genesis of Modernity* (Routledge, 2003), as well as articles and essays among others in *Social Research*, the *American Journal of Sociology*, *Theory, Culture and Society*, *Theoria*, *The European Journal of Social Theory* and *The European Sociological Review*. He is Professor of Sociology at University College, Cork, Ireland. He is currently finishing a manuscript on the sociology of the Renaissance that focuses on various aspects of 'grace,' to be published by Routledge in 2006, and is working on two further book projects: one provisionally entitled 'Overcoming Nihilism,' in which he aims to contrast Nietzsche's illuminating but often erratic insights with anthropological findings; and on another, together with Agnes Horvath, about the figure of the Trickster.

List of previous volumes

Volume 1, Islam – Motor or Challenge of Modernity. Edited by Georg Stauth. Hamburg: LIT, 1998. New Brunswick (USA), London (UK): Transaction Publishers. Contributors among others: M. Arkoun (Paris), F. Colonna (Paris), Sh. N. Eisenstadt (Jerusalem), R. Schulze (Bern), S. Zubaida (London).

Volume 2, The South-South Dimension of Islam and Modernity. Edited by Helmut Buchholt and Georg Stauth. Hamburg: LIT, 2000. New Brunswick (USA), London (UK): Transaction Publishers. Contributors among others: M. Abaza (Cairo), S. F. Alatas (Singapore), H. Khondker (Singapore), R. Loimeier (Bayreuth), C. Nelson (Cairo), Lani Probojo (Bielefeld/Frankfurt a.M.).

Volume 3, Muslim Traditions and Modern Technics of Power. Edited by Armando Salvatore. Hamburg: LIT, 2001. New Brunswick (USA), London (UK): Transaction Publishers. Contributors among others: Iman Farag (Cairo), B. Dupret (Paris), A. Salvatore (Florence), P. Werbner (Manchester/Keele).

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