

sharia law in the usa

Sharia Law in the USA: Understanding Its Role and Misconceptions

sharia law in the usa is a topic that often sparks curiosity, debate, and sometimes controversy. With a diverse population and a strong foundation in constitutional law, the United States presents a unique landscape for understanding how religious legal systems like Sharia intersect with American law. This article aims to shed light on what Sharia law means within the American context, dispel common myths, and explore its impact on Muslim communities and the legal system at large.

What Is Sharia Law?

Before diving into the specifics of Sharia law in the USA, it's important to clarify what Sharia actually is. Sharia, often translated as "Islamic law," is a comprehensive moral and legal code derived primarily from the Quran and the Hadith (sayings and actions of the Prophet Muhammad). It covers a broad spectrum of life aspects, including worship, ethics, family relations, business conduct, and criminal justice.

However, Sharia is not a single, universally applied legal system but rather a set of guidelines interpreted differently across various Muslim cultures and communities. This diversity is key to understanding why the implementation or influence of Sharia law in a secular country like the United States is complex and often misunderstood.

Sharia Law in the USA: Legal Framework and Limitations

The US Legal System and Religious Law

The United States operates under a secular legal system based on the Constitution, which guarantees freedom of religion while maintaining the separation of church and state. This means that no religious law, including Sharia, can override or replace American civil or criminal law.

Muslims living in the USA, like followers of any religion, are free to practice their faith and follow religious guidelines voluntarily. However, when it comes to legal disputes or criminal matters, American courts adhere strictly to constitutional law.

Use of Sharia in Civil Matters

In some cases, Muslim Americans may choose to apply principles inspired by Sharia in private matters such as marriage contracts, wills, and business dealings. This is similar to how other religious groups might use their faith's teachings as guidance in personal matters.

For example, Islamic marriage contracts known as "Nikah" may include terms agreed upon by both parties, which can be recognized alongside civil marriage. Similarly, some Muslim families use Sharia-based arbitration for resolving disputes in areas like inheritance or divorce, provided these agreements do not conflict with state or federal laws.

Legal Restrictions and Controversies

Despite constitutional protections, there have been legislative efforts in several states to prohibit the use of Sharia law in courts, often fueled by misconceptions and fear. These laws, known as "anti-Sharia bills," seek to prevent courts from considering foreign or religious laws in rulings.

Critics argue that such laws unfairly target Muslim communities and are often unnecessary since American legal standards already prevent religious laws from superseding civil law. Moreover, these restrictions could complicate legitimate dispute resolution when parties voluntarily agree to religious arbitration.

The Role of Sharia in American Muslim Communities

Faith and Identity

For many Muslims in the USA, Sharia represents a way of life rather than a strict legal code imposed by external authorities. It guides daily behavior, ethical decisions, and community interactions, fostering a sense of identity and spiritual fulfillment.

American Muslims often balance their religious practices with the realities of living in a pluralistic society. This blend of faith and civic responsibility highlights the adaptability of Sharia principles within the framework of American values.

Community Institutions and Sharia Councils

Some Muslim communities have established Sharia councils or committees that provide religious guidance and help resolve disputes based on Islamic principles. These bodies operate informally and do not have legal authority but serve as advisory groups for those who seek religious counsel.

These councils typically address issues like marriage, divorce, and family disputes, offering mediation that respects Islamic teachings while encouraging compliance with U.S. law.

Common Misconceptions About Sharia Law in the USA

Myth: Sharia Will Replace American Law

One of the most widespread fears is that Sharia law could be imposed on American society or that courts will start enforcing it over constitutional law. This is unfounded because the U.S. legal system is firmly grounded in secular principles, and religious laws cannot override civil rights or freedoms.

Myth: Sharia Is a Single, Harsh Legal Code

Sharia is often portrayed in media as a rigid and punitive system, but in reality, it encompasses a wide range of interpretations and practices, many of which emphasize compassion, justice, and personal responsibility.

Myth: Sharia Encourages Violence or Oppression

While some interpretations of Sharia have been misused to justify violence, the vast majority of Muslims in the USA and worldwide understand Sharia as a peaceful guide for ethical living. The negative associations often stem from extremist groups that do not represent mainstream Islamic beliefs.

How Sharia Law Interacts with American Values and Laws

Freedom of Religion and Expression

The First Amendment protects the right of Muslims to practice their faith, including following Sharia principles voluntarily. This freedom is a cornerstone of American democracy and allows religious diversity to flourish.

Legal Pluralism and Arbitration

The U.S. legal system permits private arbitration where parties agree to resolve disputes outside of court, including religious arbitration. This means that Sharia-based arbitration can be legally binding if both parties consent and the rulings do not violate public policy or laws protecting individual rights.

Maintaining Equality and Human Rights

American law ensures equal rights regardless of religion, gender, or ethnicity. Any use of Sharia

principles must align with these rights, particularly in areas like family law, where there can be tensions around issues such as gender equality. Courts will not enforce any religious provisions that contradict established protections.

The Future of Sharia Law in the USA

As the Muslim population in the United States continues to grow and integrate, the conversation about Sharia law will likely evolve. Education and interfaith dialogue play crucial roles in fostering understanding and dispelling fears.

Promoting awareness about the realities of Sharia law in the American context can help bridge gaps between communities and reinforce the shared commitment to justice, freedom, and respect for diversity.

For Muslim Americans, balancing religious principles with civic duties remains a dynamic process, reflecting the broader American story of cultural coexistence and mutual respect.

Navigating this landscape requires open-mindedness, legal clarity, and a willingness to engage in constructive conversations about faith, law, and identity in a multicultural society.

Frequently Asked Questions

Is Sharia law officially recognized or implemented in the USA?

No, Sharia law is not officially recognized or implemented as a legal system in the United States. The U.S. legal system is based on the Constitution, federal laws, and state laws.

Can Sharia law be used in American courts for resolving disputes?

American courts may consider religious beliefs, including Sharia principles, in private arbitration or mediation if both parties agree, but such decisions must comply with U.S. law and constitutional rights.

Are there any states in the USA that have banned the use of Sharia law in courts?

Yes, some states, such as Oklahoma and Louisiana, have passed laws or constitutional amendments aimed at banning the use of foreign or religious laws, including Sharia, in their courts.

What is the controversy surrounding Sharia law in the USA?

The controversy often stems from misconceptions about Sharia law and fears that it could undermine American legal principles. Critics worry about human rights issues, especially regarding women's rights and freedom of religion.

How do Muslim Americans view the role of Sharia law in the USA?

Many Muslim Americans view Sharia as a personal moral and ethical guideline rather than a legal system to be imposed. They generally support the U.S. legal system and use Sharia primarily for personal religious practices.

Has there been any legal case involving Sharia law in the United States?

There have been cases where elements of Sharia law were referenced in arbitration agreements among Muslim Americans, but U.S. courts always ensure that decisions comply with American laws and constitutional protections.

What role does Sharia law play in family or personal matters among Muslim communities in the USA?

Some Muslim Americans voluntarily follow Sharia principles in personal matters like marriage, divorce, and inheritance through private agreements or counseling, but these must align with U.S. laws.

Is Sharia law a threat to the separation of church and state in the USA?

The U.S. Constitution's separation of church and state prevents any religious law, including Sharia, from influencing government laws or courts. Therefore, Sharia law is not a threat to this principle.

Additional Resources

Sharia Law in the USA: Navigating Legal, Social, and Cultural Dimensions

sharia law in the usa remains a complex and often misunderstood subject, evoking a range of reactions from curiosity to concern. As a system of Islamic jurisprudence derived from the Quran and Hadith, Sharia governs aspects of religious, moral, and social life for many Muslims worldwide. However, its place within the American legal and cultural landscape is far from straightforward. The United States, with its foundational commitment to secular governance and constitutional law, provides a unique context for examining how Sharia law is perceived, applied, or contested within its borders.

Understanding Sharia Law and Its Relevance in the United States

Sharia, often translated as "the path," encompasses a broad spectrum of religious guidelines and legal principles. It addresses personal behavior, family matters, finance, and criminal justice in

Islamic countries. In the US context, the discussion typically revolves around whether, and to what extent, Sharia should influence or be integrated into American legal proceedings, especially in family law cases such as marriage, divorce, child custody, and inheritance.

The Legal Framework Governing Sharia Law in the USA

In the United States, the Constitution is the supreme law, ensuring the separation of church and state and guaranteeing religious freedom under the First Amendment. This means that while individuals are free to practice their religion, including adherence to Sharia principles, those religious laws cannot supersede or conflict with federal or state laws.

American courts have occasionally encountered cases where Muslim parties voluntarily seek to incorporate aspects of Sharia in civil contracts or arbitration agreements. For instance, some Muslim couples might agree to resolve divorce or financial disputes through Islamic arbitration panels. Courts generally uphold such agreements as long as they comply with state and federal laws and do not violate public policy.

Sharia Law and State Legislation: Bans and Controversies

Over the past two decades, several US states have proposed or enacted legislation aimed at banning the application of foreign laws, including Sharia, in state courts. These laws often arise from concerns that Sharia could undermine constitutional rights or gender equality. States like Oklahoma and Louisiana have passed laws explicitly prohibiting the use of Sharia law in judicial decisions.

Critics argue that such bans are largely symbolic and stem from misconceptions or Islamophobic sentiments. Legal experts point out that American courts already reject any foreign law, including religious law, if it conflicts with constitutional guarantees. Moreover, Sharia, as a religious code, lacks the enforcement mechanisms within the US legal system that it might have in Islamic countries.

Social and Cultural Implications of Sharia Law in the USA

The discourse around Sharia law in the United States extends beyond legal debates into broader social and cultural territory. Media portrayals and political rhetoric have sometimes amplified fears about Sharia, linking it to extremism or the erosion of American values. This has contributed to a climate where Muslim communities may feel scrutinized or misunderstood.

However, many American Muslims view Sharia as a personal ethical guide rather than a political or legal agenda. For them, Sharia influences daily practices such as prayer, dietary restrictions, and charitable giving, rather than advocating for parallel legal systems.

Integration and Accommodation

Despite the controversies, there are examples of accommodation where Islamic principles coexist with American law. Muslim organizations often provide community support services, including Islamic counseling and mediation, which respect Sharia values while operating within the bounds of US law.

Furthermore, some legal scholars advocate for a nuanced understanding of Sharia in the American context, recognizing its role in cultural identity without perceiving it as a threat to pluralistic society.

Challenges Faced by Muslim Americans Related to Sharia

The debate over Sharia law in the USA intersects with issues of religious freedom, civil rights, and multiculturalism. Muslim Americans sometimes face legal challenges when religious practices conflict with secular regulations—for example, in matters of religious dress codes, dietary accommodations, or religious holidays.

Additionally, legislation targeting Sharia can inadvertently stigmatize Muslim communities, fostering social division. Balancing respect for religious diversity with the protection of constitutional rights remains an ongoing challenge.

Comparative Perspectives: Sharia and Religious Arbitration in the USA

The United States has a long history of allowing religious arbitration in civil matters, such as Jewish Beth Din courts or Christian mediation panels. These religious tribunals operate voluntarily and their decisions are subject to review by secular courts to ensure compliance with public policy.

Similarly, Islamic arbitration forums provide Muslims an avenue to resolve disputes in alignment with their faith. Such mechanisms highlight how Sharia-related practices can be integrated into the US legal framework without contravening secular law.

- **Voluntariness:** Participation in religious arbitration is always voluntary and consensual.
- **Legal Oversight:** Secular courts have the authority to overturn arbitration decisions if they violate rights or laws.
- **Scope:** These arbitration panels typically handle family or financial disputes, not criminal matters.

This comparative perspective helps demystify concerns around Sharia, framing it as one among many faith-based approaches to dispute resolution.

The Future of Sharia Law Discourse in the USA

As America continues to diversify, the conversation about Sharia law in the USA is likely to evolve. Education and interfaith dialogue can play crucial roles in fostering understanding and reducing misconceptions. Legal scholars and policymakers face the task of ensuring that laws protecting constitutional freedoms do not inadvertently marginalize minority communities.

The balance between respecting religious freedom and upholding secular legal standards is delicate but essential. Rather than perceiving Sharia as a monolithic or adversarial force, recognizing its multifaceted role in the lives of American Muslims offers a richer, more accurate picture.

In the end, the presence of Sharia law in the USA is less about formal legal imposition and more about navigating the intricate interplay of faith, identity, and law within a pluralistic society.

Sharia Law In The Usa

sharia law in the usa: Obama On Sharia Law Craig Markinsons, 2015-02-27 The Sharia Law are the rules and the belief structure that governs the complete body of Islam. The term refers to the way of operation or more specifically the framework that governs the public and private life of the citizens. This is particular to the individuals who practice Islam or who live in an area that is based on Islamic beliefs. The Sharia Law refers to all aspects of everyday life which includes economics, banking, politics, business, sexuality and other societal issues. There is no single, uniform, outline of the law however it refers to a combination of laws that are guided by the Hadith, the Quran and the precedents. This book will cover some of the different areas of the Sharia Law and the view point of Obama's administration towards the Law.

sharia law in the usa: Islam in America Craig Considine, 2019-10-25 A valuable resource for readers interested in the role of Islam in contemporary U. S. politics and society, this first-of-its kind reference synthesizes Islamic teachings, the example of Prophet Muhammad, and the vision of the Founding Fathers. Islam is the most misunderstood and misrepresented religious tradition in the United States, depicted as an oppressive and violent political system and its followers as backward and un-American. The stereotypes about Islam and Muslims in the U.S. calls for a new sociological understanding that confronts the menacing bigotry and racism rising in the U.S. today. Through an overview essay, chronology, and roughly 50 alphabetically arranged entries, this reference explores the intersection of Islam, Muslims, and American national identity. The primary focus is contemporary issues and developments relating to Islam in the U.S., but the entries also incorporate a fuller picture of Islam in general and Muslims worldwide. Included are entries on history, race and ethnicity, interfaith commonalities, politics, discrimination and hate, and national identity. The entries cite works for further reading, and the book closes with an annotated bibliography of the most important resources.

sharia law in the usa: Muslims in America Craig Considine, 2018-07-11 This installment in the critically acclaimed Contemporary Debates series uses evidence-based documentation to provide a full and impartial examination of beliefs and claims made about Muslim individuals, families, and communities in the United States. Muslims in America: Examining the Facts provides an objective overview of the realities and experiences of Muslims in the United States, both historically and in the present day, and of their relationship with their fellow Americans. It surveys the history of American Muslims' settlement and integration into the United States; explores the dominant social, political, cultural, and economic characteristics of American Muslim families and communities; and

studies the ways in which their experiences and beliefs intersect with various notions of American national identity. In the process, the book critically examines the more dominant social and political narratives and claims surrounding American Muslims and their religion of Islam, including false or malicious claims about their attitudes toward terrorism and other important issues. Muslims in America: Examining the Facts thus gives readers a clear and accurate understanding of the actual lives, actions, and beliefs of Muslim people in the United States.

sharia law in the usa: The Muslim Discovery of America Frederick William Dame, 2013

Some so-called authorities claim that Muslims came to America hundreds of years before Columbus arrived in the New World. Are the claims true? Columbus' expedition represents the first major discovery of the Americas and the first appearance of non-Native Americans. The conventional wisdom is that Columbus ended tens of thousands of years of near-total isolation for the Native Americans. Since the Americas had been initially populated (probably between 13,000 BC and 11,000 BC) there had been no engagement with peoples from any other continent, save small ventures by the Norse into Northeastern Canada. Did Muslims come to the Americas, possibly as early as the 700s? These researchers argue that Muslims came from Islamic Spain, particularly the port of Delba (Pelos) during the rule of Caliph Abdullah Ibn Mohammed (888-912). A Muslim historian, Abul-Hassan Al-Masudi (c. 895-957), added a map of the world to his book, one that contained a large area in the ocean of darkness and fog (the Atlantic ocean) which he referred to as the unknown territory (the Americas). This book demonstrates that this assertion is important for Muslims because in conjunction with the relevant verses from the Koran and quotes from Mohammed it establishes the claim of Muslims that Allah intended America to be Islamic. The book also investigates the lives of selected Muslims in America and organizations from the eighteenth century into the twenty-first century. It reveals that there was nothing more than a continuation of typical Islamic deception and subversive jihad. It also documents the lie of the Islamic claim that hundreds of place names in the United States of America and Canada derive from Arabic-Islamic roots. Finally, the book exposes the rewriting of American history by Islamic and pro-Islamic media. This book is alarming, informative, interesting, and true.

sharia law in the usa: Conservative Christian Politics in Russia and the United States

John Anderson, 2014-09-19 This book explores the politics of conservative Christian churches and social movements in Russia and the United States, focusing on their similar concerns but very different modes of political engagement. Whilst secularisation continues to chip away at religious adherence and practice in Europe, religion is often, quite rightly, seen as an influential force in the politics of the United States, and, more questionably, as a significant influence in contemporary Russia. This book looks at the broad social movement making up the US Christian Right and the profoundly hierarchical leadership of the Russian Orthodox Church as socially conservative actors, and some of the ways they have engaged in contemporary politics. Both are seeking to halt the perceived drift towards a more secular political order; both face significant challenges in handling the consequences of secularism, pluralism and liberal individualism; and both believe that their nations can only be great if they remain true to their religious heritage. In exploring their experience, the book focuses on shared and different elements in their diagnosis of what is wrong with their societies and how this affects their policy intervention over issues such as religious and ethnic belonging, sexual orientation and education. Drawing on political, sociological and religious studies, this work will be a useful reference for students and scholars of religion and politics, Russian politics and American politics.

sharia law in the usa: The Shari'a and Islamic Criminal Justice in Time of War and Peace M.

Cherif Bassiouni, 2014 Shows that the shari'a and Islamic law are compatible with contemporary international human rights laws and norms, and appropriate for use in Muslim societies.

sharia law in the usa: The Rhetoric of Religious Freedom in the United States Eric C.

Miller, 2020-07-06 Though much has already been written on religious freedom in the United States, these treatments have come mostly from historians, legal scholars, and advocates, with relatively little attention from rhetorical critics. In *The Rhetoric of Religious Freedom in the United States*,

fifteen scholars from this field address the variety of forms that free, public religiosity may assume, and which rhetorical techniques are operative in a public square populated by a diversity of religious-political actors. Together they consider the arguments, evidences, and strategies defining what religious freedom means and who is entitled to claim it in the contemporary United States.

sharia law in the usa: Hate Groups and Extremist Organizations in America Barry J.

Balleck, 2019-07-08 This expansive collection of A-Z entries offers a compelling look into hate groups in America. Focusing on organizations in operation today, this resource book for student and general audiences covers numerous hot-button issues in politics and culture. The Southern Poverty Law Center lists nearly 900 hate groups active in the United States today. Some of these, such as the KKK, have deep roots in American history. Others are newer, formed in response to policies and shifts in our cultural landscape. Often these organizations imply defense of America and political ideals in their names, such as Council of Conservative Citizens and American Family Association. Some, such as White Aryan Resistance and Supreme White Alliance, are more direct in their associations. Nearly all posit an erosion of rights and values; a way of life that is becoming lost to immigrants; a diffusion or integration of population; and government overstep. Many of these groups preach a necessity for violence, through either outright or thinly veiled language. Membership in these organizations poses another topic for investigation, as their ranks are not just anti-government or pro-gun rights types who seek to defend the Constitution. Many are simply citizens who see their ideal for America as under threat by various groups—whether ethnic, racial, or religious. This unique reference will allow readers to explore the underlying issues central to understanding them. How do these hate groups get started, and why do people join?

sharia law in the usa: Modern American Extremism and Domestic Terrorism Barry J.

Balleck, 2018-06-01 Highlighting a breadth of American individuals and groups that engaged in extremist behavior across history, this book provides a succinct, concise overview of extremist behavior in the past and examines today's increasingly common incidences of hate and extremism. Since the election of Barack Obama in 2008, extremist and hate groups have seen a resurgence on the American political landscape. Members of these subgroups within the American population have become concerned that the America that they have always known is fading into oblivion, with a majority of individuals in these groups holding fiercely anti-immigration views and adhering to the belief that the United States should not admit large numbers of any group that is not white, Christian, or predominantly European. Others believe that the principles and precepts of the U.S. Constitution have gone by the wayside and that drastic measures are required to protect the underlying tenets that were the essential elements of the Constitution and many of their nation's founding principles. How did these individuals come to feel this way, is it possible to bring these impassioned extremists back into the fold, and if so, how? This book provides comprehensive, illuminating, and sometimes disturbing insights into the individuals, groups, and events that have illustrated extremist behavior in post-World War II America. Ranging from the anti-communist rhetoric and activities of the John Birch Society, to the radical socialist ideals of the Black Panthers, to the goals of a pure America articulated by white nationalists, this book documents the various extremist elements that shaped the second half of the 20th century as well as the first two decades of the 21st century. Readers will grasp how events in the histories of individuals and groups as well as perceived injustices have lead to the incidences of hate and extremism in American society. The encyclopedic entries of the book are specifically written to accessible to readers without specific knowledge of extremism, political science, or sociology.

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individual?" The author outlines ten normative assumptions of the CR and compares each to its counterpoint in liberal democratic theory. Much of what the CR believes about democracy comes from the same authors as modern and postmodern democratic theory but differs in its interpretation and application. The book describes in detail the theory of CR and demonstrates how the CR operates from a different view of governance than is usually associated with the United States.

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sharia law in the usa: Finding Mecca in America Mucahit Bilici, 2024-05-31 The events of 9/11 had a profound impact on American society, but they had an even more lasting effect on Muslims living in the United States. Once practically invisible, they suddenly found themselves overexposed. By describing how Islam in America began as a strange cultural object and is gradually sinking into familiarity, Finding Mecca in America illuminates the growing relationship between Islam and American culture as Muslims find a homeland in America. Rich in ethnographic detail, the book is an up-close account of how Islam takes its American shape. In this book, Mucahit Bilici traces American Muslims' progress from outsiders to natives and from immigrants to citizens. Drawing on the philosophies of Simmel and Heidegger, Bilici develops a novel sociological approach and offers insights into the civil rights activities of Muslim Americans, their increasing efforts at interfaith dialogue, and the recent phenomenon of Muslim ethnic comedy. Theoretically sophisticated, Finding Mecca in America is both a portrait of American Islam and a groundbreaking study of what it means to feel at home.

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sharia law in the usa: *Religion and Politics in America* Frank J. Smith, 2016-07-11 There has always been an intricate relationship between religion and politics. This encyclopedia provides a comprehensive overview of the interrelation of religion and politics from colonial days to the present. Can a judge display the Ten Commandments outside of the courthouse? Can a town set up a nativity scene on the village green during Christmas? Should U.S. currency bear the In God We Trust motto? Should public school students be allowed to form bible study groups? Controversies

about the separation of church and state, the proper use of religious imagery in public space, and the role of religious beliefs in public education are constantly debated. This work offers insights into contemporary controversies regarding the uneasy intersections of religion and politics in America. Organized alphabetically, the entries place each topic in its proper historical context to help readers fully grasp how religious beliefs have always existed side by side—and often clashed with—political ideals in the United States from the time of the colonies. The information is presented in an unbiased manner that favors no particular religious background or political inclination. This work shows that politics and religion have always had an impact on one another and have done so in many ways that will likely surprise modern students.

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sharia law in the usa: *Contemporary Interpretation of Islamic Law* Ahmed Affi, Hassan Affi, 2014 This book does not champion some of the popular misconceptions surrounding Islamic

law. It does not advocate stoning to death; amputating the hands of thieves; call for the death penalty for those who leave the fold of Islam; or urge Muslims to save their souls from Hellfire by shunning bank loans for fear of incurring interest. What it does advocate is less sensationalistic, but it is in line with the real interpretation of Islamic law. Contemporary Interpretation of Islamic Law is divided into thirteen chapters. The majority of the chapters concentrate on criminal aspects of Islamic law, while the remainder concern themselves with social issues. Each chapter - where possible - provides background information of the topic under discussion and then proceeds to analyse, examine and critique the contentious parts of the topic, looking at the arguments from all sides and the evidence put forward by each side before arriving at a conclusion. The book is accompanied by a glossary. "Our work differs from other published titles on Islamic law as it takes into account the different aspects of the Qur'an. The Qur'an employs many parables, allegories and metaphors to highlight important messages for Mankind, yet jurists often make the common mistake of either omitting or misinterpreting these devices, resulting in inaccurate and often unlawful rulings which have direct and indirect effects on both Muslims and non-Muslims alike. It is hoped that our work will create a better understanding of the correct interpretation of the Qur'an and Islamic law," says authors Ahmed Affi and Hassan Affi. Contemporary Interpretation of Islamic Law will appeal to those with an interest in Islam and Islamic law, though no specialist knowledge of Arabic or Islamic law is required.

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Republican bill seeks to ban Sharia Law in U.S. - Newsweek Two Republican lawmakers have introduced legislation seeking to ban the enforcement of Sharia law in the United States, arguing the measure is necessary to preserve

Ask PolitiFact: Does Sharia law rule anywhere in the US? A reader asked if there were communities in the United States that are under Sharia law, a form of Islamic law. If community means a neighborhood, town or city, then the answer

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