
Can Islam Be French?

PLURALISM AND PRAGMATISM
IN A SECULARIST STATE

John R. Bowen

PRINCETON UNIVERSITY PRESS
PRINCETON AND OXFORD

Contents

<i>Acknowledgments</i>	xi
PART ONE: Trajectories	1
CHAPTER ONE	
Islam and the Republic	3
CHAPTER TWO	
Fashioning the French Islamic Landscape	15
<i>Migration Pathways</i>	16
Residence and Boundaries	19
<i>Religion Rising</i>	21
Authorities	24
<i>State Responses</i>	25
Where to Sacrifice?	27
Where to Pray?	29
<i>Distinctive Features</i>	32
PART TWO: Spaces	35
CHAPTER THREE	
Mosques Facing Outward	37
<i>In the Unruly Suburbs (Clichy-sous-Bois)</i>	37
<i>Inside the Networks (Saint-Denis)</i>	44
<i>The Work of an Everyday Imam (Lyon)</i>	51
<i>Mosques and Social Divisions</i>	58
CHAPTER FOUR	
Shaping Knowledge to France	63
<i>Rules, Schools, Principles</i>	63
<i>Hichem El Arafat's CERSI</i>	66
<i>The Science of Hadith</i>	75
<i>The Objectives of Scripture</i>	81
CHAPTER FIVE	
Differentiating Schools	85

<i>Dimensions of Pedagogical Difference</i>	85
Hichem's View	86
The Great Mosque of Paris	87
Teaching the "Middle Way"	89
Teaching the Four Traditions	92
<i>Objectives and Imam Mâlik</i>	95
Foregrounding God's Objectives	96
What Nullifies Prayer—for a Mâlikî	100
When May a Judge Pronounce a Divorce?	102
<i>Practical Training in an Islamic Ambiance</i>	105
The Future	105
Institute of Useful Knowledge	106
CHAPTER SIX	
Can an Islamic School Be Republican?	110
<i>Dhaou Meskine's Success School</i>	111
A Teacher's Trajectory	112
School as Symbol	115
<i>How to Teach a Secular Curriculum in a Muslim School</i>	117
Civics and Gay Couples	118
Religion versus Culture	120
Evolution and Islam?	121
An Islamic Ambiance	124
<i>Muslim Family Camp</i>	125
<i>Arrest</i>	129
PART THREE: <i>Debates</i>	133
CHAPTER SEVEN	
Should There Be an Islam for Europe?	135
<i>Thinking about Ribâ</i>	137
<i>Different Rules for Different Lands?</i>	143
<i>Confrontations in the Mosque</i>	149
<i>The Transnational Islamic Sphere</i>	153
CHAPTER EIGHT	
Negotiating across Realms of Justification	157
<i>Between Halâl and the Hôtel de Ville</i>	158
Why the "Halâl" Marriage?	162
<i>Convergence I: From Islam to the Secular</i>	165
The Objectives of Halâl Rules for Food	169

<i>Convergence II: From French Civil Law toward Islamic Practices</i>	173
CHAPTER NINE	
Islamic Spheres in Republican Space	179
<i>Do Religion-Based Associations Impede Integration?</i>	180
Return to School	182
A National Islamic Sphere at Le Bourget	185
<i>On Priorities and Values</i>	188
The Primacy of Secularism	188
“Assimilation Defects”	191
<i>Toward a Pragmatics of Convergence</i>	196
<i>Notes</i>	199
<i>Bibliography</i>	217
<i>Index</i>	227