



**Universiteit
Leiden**
The Netherlands

Religious Change in Pluralistic Contexts

Konningsveld, P.S. van

Citation

Konningsveld, P. S. van. (2002). Religious Change in Pluralistic Contexts. *Isim Newsletter*, 11(1), 39-39. Retrieved from <https://hdl.handle.net/1887/16834>

Version: Not Applicable (or Unknown)
License: [Leiden University Non-exclusive license](#)
Downloaded from: <https://hdl.handle.net/1887/16834>

Note: To cite this publication please use the final published version (if applicable).

Call for Papers

P.S. VAN KONINGSVELD

Religious Change in Pluralistic Contexts

'Religious Change in Pluralistic Contexts', an international congress to be held in Leiden, the Netherlands (28–30 August 2003), is organized by the Leiden Institute for the Study of Religions (LISOR) in cooperation with the Leiden Centre for Asian, African, and Amerindian Studies (CNWS). The central aims of the congress are to present relevant case studies of religious change and reinterpretation in pluralistic contexts derived from all periods and geographical areas of human history, and to contribute to theoretical reflection on the phenomenon of religious change in pluralistic contexts, so as to contribute ultimately to a more adequate understanding of this phenomenon in the modern age.

The common experience among most if not all ethnic minority religions in the West is the transition from a communitarian system to a secular system with Christianity as the dominant faith, where religions have to function within the private sphere in the first place. In Europe, Judaism experienced this transition primarily in the 19th century, in the Emancipation when Jews were granted citizenship in the European nation-states. Islam, Hinduism, Buddhism, and many other religious traditions of non-Western origin, including African and Arab Christianity, experienced and continue to experience this trans-

formation as a result of their (ongoing) transplantation to Western societies.

The transformation from one system to another is accompanied by many forms of religious reinterpretation and change, many of which may be related directly or indirectly to regulations (laws, political measures, jurisprudence) imposed by the nation-states in order to integrate religious institutions into the normative patterns of the dominant societies. They are often sanctioned by religious authorities under the influence of the social and cultural environment of their respective societies. Two dimensions may be

distinguished in this context: (1) the behavioural dimension – e.g. changes in the practice of religious rituals, feasts, dress, and dietary codes, and in the application of religiously based principles of family law; and (2) the cognitive dimension – e.g. reinterpretations of normative religious traditions and dogmatic thought under the influence of dominant social customs and of prevailing philosophies.

Scholars of religious studies from all over the world are invited to submit their proposals (of one page maximum) for the congress before 1 February 2003.

Please send your proposals to:

Leiden Institute for the Study of Religions (LISOR)

Mrs B. d'Arnaud

E-mail: b.arnaud@let.leidenuniv.nl

Prof. Dr P.S. van Koningsveld is director of LISOR.

E-mail: p.s.van.koningsveld@let.leidenuniv.nl