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Islamic Reformism and Christinaity. A Critical Reading of the Works of Muhammad Rashid Rida and his Associates (1898-1935)

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Curriculum Vitae

Umar Ryad was born in 1975 in the village of Godaiyydat al-Hālā, nearby the town of al-Manṣūra in Egypt. He obtained his secondary school diploma from the Al-Azhar religious institute in the same town. He received his BA in Islamic Studies in English from the Al-Azhar Faculty of Languages and Translation (1998), and an MA degree in Islamic Studies from the Faculties of Arts and Theology of the University of Leiden (2001, Cum Laude). In 2002-2003 he worked as a teacher of Arabic within the program *Onderwijs in Allochtone Levende Talen* (OALT, Education in Foreign Modern Languages). In 2003-2005 he was working as an *AIO* (assistant-in-training) at the Leiden Institute for the Study of Religions (LISOR) of the Faculty of Religious Studies (formerly the Faculty of Theology), Leiden University. Since 2005 he has been working as a lecturer and researcher of Islamic Studies at the same faculty.

Select Publications

- ‘Rashīd Riḍā and a Danish Missionary: Alfred Nielsen and Three *Fatwās* from *al-Manār*’, *Islamochristiana*, Rome, vol. 28 (2002), pp. 97-107.
- ‘From an officer in the Ottoman army to a Muslim publicist and armament agent in Berlin: Zekī Hishmat Kirām (1886–1946),’ *Bibliotheca Orientalis*, 63/3-4 (2006), pp. 235-268.
- ‘Muslim Response to Missionary Activities in Egypt: with a Special Reference to the Al-Azhar High Corps of ‘*Ulamā*’ (1925-1935)’, in Heleen Murre-van den Berg (ed.), *New Faith in Ancient Lands: Western Missions in the Middle East in the Nineteenth and Early Twentieth Centuries*, Brill, 2006, pp. 281-307.
- ‘The Dismissal of A.J. Wensinck from the Royal Academy of the Arabic Language in Cairo’, in Willem B. Drees & Pieter Sjoerd van Koningsveld (eds.), *The Academic Study of Religion and the Training of Muslim Clergy in Europe: Religious and Academic Freedom*, Amsterdam: Leiden University Press, 2008, pp. 91-134.
- ‘«Aussi éphémère que l’abricot». La réponse d’un converti égyptien au christianisme à la publication de l’Evangile de St Barnabé en arabe’, in Laure Guirguis (ed.), *Conversions religieuses et mutations politiques. Tares et avatars du communautarisme égyptien*, Paris: Editions Non Lieu, 2008 (forthcoming).
- ‘A Prelude to *Fiqh al-Aqallīyyāt*: Rashīd Riḍā’s *Fatwās* for Muslims under non-Muslim Rule’, in *Christian and Muslim Minorities in Europe and the Middle East*, Antwerpen & Amsterdam: IMISCOE-AUP, 2008 (forthcoming).