

RAHIMJON ABDUGAFUROV  
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## EDUCATION

2020 PhD in Islamic Civilizations Studies, Emory University (August 2020).  
Dissertation title: This Human Truth, Seek It in Yourself: The Islamic Humanism of ‘Abd al-Karīm al-Jīlī (1365-1428).

2020 Graduate Certificate in Jewish Studies from the Tam Institute for Jewish Studies, Emory University (August 2020). Documentary Film Bukharan Jews: Memories of a Disappearing Past.

2013 M.A. in International Studies, University of Wyoming, Thesis: Muslim Views on Christianity and Judaism in Uzbekistan: Historical and Contemporary Perspectives.

2004 M.Ed. Higher Education Administration, Vanderbilt University.

1998 Undergraduate Degree in Oriental Philology, Namangan State University, Uzbekistan, Thesis: Humanistic Views in Rumī’s Mathnawī.

1996-1997 Arabic Language Training, Cairo University, Cairo, Egypt.

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Spring 2023 Instructor of Islamic Law (Law 627, World Religions 685), Emory University School of Law.

Spring 2023 Instructor of Introduction to the Study of Islam (REL222), Spelman College.  
2021 Instructor of Islamic Law (Law 627, World Religions 685), Emory University School of Law.

Summer 2020 Instructor of Summer Undergraduate Research Ethics (SURE) program, Emory University, Office for Undergraduate Research Programs (Course number: ECAS\_SURE\_Remote\_2020).

2019-2020 Instructor of Scholarly Integrity and Research Excellence, Emory University Office for Undergraduate Research Programs, (SIRE 299).

2019 Teaching Assistant for “The Islamic West: Spain, North Africa, and Sicily, 600- 1600” taught by Vincent Cornell, Department of Middle Eastern and South Asian Studies, Emory University.

Summer 2019 Instructor of Arabic, StarTalk Program, the US Department of Defense funded Program, Oxford College of Emory University.

2019 Instructor of “Afghanistan and Central Asia,” Department of Middle Eastern and South Asian Studies, Emory University (MESAS 366).

2014-2017 Instructor of Arabic, Department of Middle Eastern and South Asian Studies, Emory University (Arabic 101 and 102).

2017 Teaching Assistant, History and Practice of Christian-Muslim Relations, Candler School of Theology, Emory University (World Religions 698).

2015 Arabic, Oxford College, Emory University (Arabic 102).

2011-2013 Instructor of Arabic, University of Wyoming (Arabic 101 and 102).

2009-2011 Instructor of English and Arabic, Broad Horizons Non-Governmental Educational Organization, Tashkent, Uzbekistan.

2006-2008 Instructor of English, Namangan Institute of Engineering and Economics, Namangan, Uzbekistan.

2004-2006 Instructor of Arabic and English Languages, School of Foreign Languages, Namangan State University.

1998-2002 Instructor of Arabic and English Languages, School of Foreign Languages, Namangan State University.

## PROFESSIONAL AND LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCES

2023 Adjunct Professor for the Introduction to the Study of Islam Course at Spelman College, Atlanta, GA.

2023 Adjunct Professor for Islamic Law Course at Emory School of Law, Atlanta, GA.

2022 Research Associate for the History of Islamophobia Project led by Professor Deanna Womack at Candler School of Theology.

2021 Research Associate at the Centre for International Education, University of Sussex research on women and Islam in Uzbekistan (October 2021—February 2023).

2021 Senior Fellow at the Center for the Study of Law and Religion, Emory School of Law (2021- present).

2017-2020 Copyeditor, Journal of Islamic and Muslim Studies, Indiana University Press.

2020 Post-doctoral fellow in Islamic Legal Studies, Senior lecturer and Senior Fellow in Law and Religion, Emory University Law School (August 2020 – August 2021).

2014 Imam of the Atlanta Uzbek Community, Atlanta GA (2014 - present)

## PUBLICATIONS

2023 “Abu Mansur al-Māturīdī’s Islamic Theological and Legal Views about non-Muslims,” a chapter in the Global Qur’an Book Series, OpenBook Publishers, ed. Johanna Pink, et. al, (forthcoming).

2023 “Islam, Women, and Higher Education in Uzbekistan,” a chapter in *The Political Economy of Education in Central Asia: Evidence from the Field*, ed. Helene Thibault, et al., London: Palgrave MacMillan (forthcoming).

2021 “Review of Sharia in the Russian Empire: The Reach and Limits of Islamic Law in Central Eurasia, 1550-1917. Edited by Paolo Sartori and Danielle Ross. Edinburgh University Press, 2020.” *Journal of Law and Religion*, Volume 36, Issue 3 (2021): 574-575.  
<https://doi.org/10.1017/jlr.2021.49>

2020 “Review of James Pickett, *Polymaths of Islam: Power and Networks of Knowledge in Central Asia*. Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 2020.” *Oxus Society for Central Asian Affairs*.<https://oxussociety.org/polymaths-of-islam-power-and-networks-of-knowledge-in-central-asia/>

2019 “Soteriology in ‘Abd al-Karīm al-Jīlī’s Islamic Humanism,” *Journal of Islamic and Muslim Studies*, 4.2 (2019), 114-121.

2017 with Donohon Abdugafurova, and Beverly Moran “Islamic Feminism and Invisible Work: The Case of Disappearing Daughter-in-Law,” *The Georgetown Journal of Gender and the Law*, XIX. 1 (2017): 43-60.

2016 with Beverly Moran. “Islamic Law and Elder Care in the Central Asian Edgen System.” *Journal of Law and Religion* 31.2 (2016): 197-211.

2016 Book Discussion “Religiosity beyond Cities: Kolkhozes as Bases for Muslim Networks and Cultures” for *Migration, Destalinisation, Privatization and the New Muslim Congregations in the Soviet Realm (1950s-2000s)* ed. by Stéphane Dudoignon and Christian Noack (Berlin: Klaus Schwarz Verlag, 2014), in *Central Asian Affairs* 3 (2016) 287-300.

2015 with Beverly Moran. “Are Muslims Obligated to Engage in Holy War?” *Florida International University, Religion and Law Review* 11.3 (2015): 3-17.

## PAPER PRESENTATIONS

2022 “Māturīdī’s Ta’wilot al-Qur’on,” in the international research workshop called “Nations and the Qur’an Translators, Narratives and Debates in the Post-Soviet Space” at Albert-Ludwigs-Universität Freiburg, October.

2021 “Islamic Political Theory in Central Asia” at the Collaboration conference with the College of Humanities, the International University of Rabat, March.

2020 “Muslim Responses to COVID-19 in Afghanistan and Central Asia,” in the unit of “Responding to COVID-19: A Comparative Religion & Healing Perspective,” the American Academy of Religion (AAR), (on-line).

2020 “Islamic Legal Hypocrisy: Comparison of Application of Abrogation (Naskh) to Marriage and Intoxicants,” Southeast Regional Middle East and Islamic Studies Society (SERMEISS), March 6-8, Emory University.

2019 “Embracing Humanity in the Cases of Central Asian Sufi Chivalry,” Islam and Humanitarianism: Interdisciplinary Inquiries on Islamic Forms of Aid conference at George Mason University.

2019 “Christians in ‘Abd al-Karīm al-Jīlī’s Islamic Humanism,” Christian-Muslim Studies Network, Candler School of Theology, Emory University and School of Divinity, the University of Edinburgh.

2016 “Islamic Humanism in Alisher Nawā’ī’s Theosophy,” conference presentation at Central Eurasian Studies Society, Princeton University.

2015 “Marriage to non-Muslims: Changing Times and Perspectives,” conference presentation at the Southern Conference at Slavic Studies hosted by the University of Kentucky.

2014 “Boborahim Mashrab: Sufi Saint of the People,” conference presentation at Central Eurasian Studies Society, Harriman Institute for Russian, Eurasian, and East European Studies, Columbia University.

2012 “Muslim Views on Christians and Jews in Uzbekistan: Changing Images in Reform Ideas,” conference presentation at Central Eurasian Studies Society, Indiana University.

#### INVITED TALKS

2022 “Alisher Nawā’ī’s Humanism,” Vatandosh Foundation, February.

2022 “Macro and Micro Characteristics of American and Uzbek Higher Educational Institutions” at the Ministry of Higher Education of Uzbekistan, February.

2021 “Domestic Violence and Islam” at the Vatandosh Connect Office, Tashkent, November.

2021 Master class on History of Islamic Criminal Law in Turkey and Egypt, Tashkent University of Jurisprudence, April.

2021 “Translation and Brief Introduction to the Treatise: Stages of Existence and Reality of Every Existent [Marātib al-Wujūd wa-Ḥaqīqat Kull Mawjūd] by ‘Abd al-Karīm al-Jīlī (d. 1428),” Advanced Arabic Course Training for Emory graduate students, Emory University, April.

2020 Contemporary Challenges and Methods in Language Teaching, International Conference on Foreign Language Teaching and Translation, Namangan Institute of Engineering and Technology, October, Namangan, Uzbekistan.

2020 “Higher Education in the COVID-19 Era” at the “Contemporary Psychological and Pedagogical Issues, Analyses, and Results” on-line conference organized by the Research Support Center and Fergana State University, July, Tashkent, Uzbekistan.

2019 “Islamic Humanism: Promotion of Human Equality, Human Freedom and Human Potential in the Works of ‘Abd al-Karīm al-Jīlī (1365-1428)” at the Graduate Symposium, Emory University.

2017 Islam in Central Asia, “Islamic Network: Empires, Sultanates, Migration and Trade,” Candler School of Theology, Emory University, October.

2017 “Cultural and Religious Values in Uzbekistan’s Heritage: Islamic Humanism of ‘Alisher Nawā’ī with the invitation of the Uzbekistan Ambassador to the USA at the Central Asia Program at George Washington University.

2012 “Muslim views about Christians and Jews in Uzbekistan” two lectures organized by the University of Wyoming’s Global and Area Studies Program, 2012.

#### DOCUMENTARY FILM

2018 Bukharan Jews: Memories of a Disappearing Past, dedicated for the preservation of the Bukharan Jewish Culture and the Bukharan Jewish Language; filmed in the cities of New York, USA and Bukhara, Uzbekistan. The documentary has been screened in Jerusalem by Shalom Hartman Institute, at Emory University, at the annual Conference of Central Eurasian Studies (CESS) at the University of Pittsburgh, and at the annual meeting of the American Academy of Religion in Denver.

#### GRANTS, FELLOWSHIPS, AND AWARDS

2021 One-year research associateship, Political Economy of Education Research (PEER-Network) Program at the University of Sussex to conduct research work on women’s higher education and Islam in Uzbekistan.

2021 Center for the Faculty Development and Excellence funding for faculty teaching.

2020 Collaborative International Research Grant, American Academy of Religion, for a research project “Migrant Religiosity: Uzbek Muslims in Moscow and New York” for the summer of 2021.

2020 Annual Meeting Travel Grant, American Academy of Religion to present a paper on Afghani and Central Asian Muslim Responses to Covid-19.

2019-2020 Advanced Fellowship from the Scholarly Integrity and Research Excellence at Emory (SIRE), Undergraduate Research Programs, Emory College of Arts and Sciences.

2019 Piedmont-TATTO Fellowship on Sustainability and Curriculum Development, Emory University’s Sustainability Initiatives.

2018 For the documentary Film Project, “Bukharan Jews: Memories of a Disappearing Past,” funding from Vanderbilt and Emory Universities.

2013-2018 Tam Institute for Jewish Studies, five-year fellowship for potential research contribution for a better understanding of Muslim relations with Christians and Jews, Emory University.

2012 Research Excellence Fund from the Department of Global and Area Studies, the University of Wyoming to conduct research in Uzbekistan.

2011 Full Graduate Assistantship to teach Arabic at the Department of International Studies at the University of Wyoming.

2002 Edmund S. Muskie and Freedom Support Act Graduate fellowship, a program of the Bureau of Education and Cultural affairs of the US Department of State. Full scholarship to study Higher Education Administration at Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN

1996 Full scholarship from the Ministry of Higher and Secondary Specialized Education of Uzbekistan for one academic year to conduct Arabic language training at Cairo University, Egypt.

## LANGUAGES

Fluent in Arabic, English, Russian, Turkish, and Uzbek (native)

Reading knowledge: Chagatai Turkic, French, Judeo-Arabic/Persian/Tajik/Turkic