Introducing Islamic Critical Realism
A Philosophy for Underlabouring Contemporary Islam

Matthew L. N. Wilkinson

Keywords: critical realism, Islam, Islamic critical realism, Islam and education
DOI: http://dx.doi.org/10.1179/1476743013Z.00000000014

Abstract

This article makes the case for a contemporary philosophy of Islam to help Muslims surmount the challenges of postmodernity and to transcend the hiatuses and obstacles that Muslims face in their interaction and relationships with non-Muslims. It argues that the philosophy of critical realism so fittingly underlabours for the contemporary interpretation, clarification and conceptual deepening of Islamic doctrine and practice as to suggest and necessitate the development of a distinctive Islamic critical realist philosophy, social and educational theory and world-view, specifically suited for this purpose. This approach is called Islamic critical realism.

Keywords: critical realism, Islam, Islamic critical realism, Islam and education