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"The divides are not Islam and western society, the divide is between people who have different values. We must promote connections between people who want to contribute to human values. People who share that commitment can collaborate across cultural divides."

Abdullahi Ahmed An-Na'im

Areas of expertise

- Religion, human rights and secularism
- Islamic law and international terrorism
- Civil liberties and international law

Topics in the News

- Human rights and international law
- Women's rights in Muslim societies
- Fundamentalist threat to mainstream Islam




Biography

Abdullahi Ahmed An-Na'im is internationally recognized as both a leading expert on religion and law and as a human rights activist. He is a prominent authority on Islamic law and theology, and on diverse Islamic societies in Africa and Asia. Specifically, An-Na'im focuses on the complementary relationship between religion, human rights and secularism. He believes religion must be mobilized to advance international justice. Prior to his position with Emory University School of Law, Dr. An-Na'im served as Executive Director, Human Rights/Africa.

Resources by this expert

- *Toward an Islamic Reformation: Civil Liberties, Human Rights and International Law* (Syracuse University Press, 1990)
- "The Legal Protection of Human Rights in Africa: How to Do more with Less" in Austin Sarat and Thomas R. Kearns, editors, *Human Rights: Concepts, Contests, Contingencies*. Michigan University Press, 2001
- "Human Rights" in Judith R. Blau, editor, *The Blackwell Companion to Sociology*. Blackwell Publishers, 2001

Recent Interviews & Articles

- *Milwaukee Journal Sentinel*, February 4, 2006 "[There's room in sports for fun – and headscarves](#)" 
- *L.A. Times*, August 25, 2005, "[Islamic Slant in Charter Decried](#)" 
- Tikkun, Jan./Feb. 2003, "[Islam and Human Rights](#)" , CNN, Associated Press, *Kansas City Star* (op-ed), *Atlanta Journal-Constitution*, *Houston Chronicle*, *The Economist*, *L.A. Times* (op-ed)

Organizational links for this expert

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