

Asifa Quraishi-Landes

Dr. Asifa Quraishi-Landes is a Professor at the University of Wisconsin Law School, where she teaches courses in American constitutional law and Islamic law. She is a 2012 Guggenheim Fellow and a 2009 Carnegie Scholar, recognized in both academic and Muslim community circles for her expertise on Islamic law and comparative legal theory as well as women's rights issues. She holds a doctorate from Harvard Law School and other degrees from Columbia Law School and the University of California (Berkeley and Davis). Recent publications include: "Rumors of the Sharia Threat are Greatly Exaggerated: What American Judges Really Do with Islamic Family Law in Their Courtrooms," and "Legislating Morality and Other Illusions about Islamic Government." Currently, she is working on a book manuscript titled "Islamic Re-constitutionalism," in which she presents a non-theocratic and non-secular model of Islamic constitutionalism for today's Muslim-majority countries. She has a reputation for illuminating and creative explanations of complex and unfamiliar topics.

Professor Quraishi-Landes served as a Public Delegate on the United States Delegation to the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women in 2010, and her expertise on issues relating to Islam and Muslims is regularly consulted by civil society organizations like the Chicago Council on Global Affairs and the Pew Forum on Religion & Public Life. She is also on the Executive Committee of the Section on Islamic Law for the Association of American Law Schools.

Within the American Muslim community, Professor Quraishi-Landes has been actively involved with the leadership of a number of organizations, including the National Association of Muslim Lawyers (NAML), Muslim Advocates, Karamah: Muslim Women Lawyers for Human Rights, Muslim Public Service Network, AMILA (American Muslims Intent on Learning and Activism), Bayan Claremont Islamic Graduate School, the Muslim Women's League, and the Muslim Youth Camp of California, founded by her parents (Marghoob and Iffat Quraishi) in 1961. Also consistent with her commitment to mentoring the next generation, she is the faculty advisor for the Muslim Student Association and the Middle East Law Student Association at the University of Wisconsin.