

Clarification about State Ideology and State Religion

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There is confusion about state ideology or state religion.

I clarify the matter below.

Many states have state ideologies like communism or socialism. Examples are former Soviet Union, China etc though all citizens are not communists or socialists. Some Muslim countries have Islam as their state ideology such as Islamic Republic of Iran, Islamic Republic of Pakistan, Islamic Republic of Mauritania though all citizens are not Muslims. However they guarantee all rights to all citizens.

All religions are like ideologies because all religions, Islam in particular, has given laws, moral code, values.

Similarly some Muslim countries by stating in the constitution that Islam/ Quran and Sunnah will be the main source of law have shown their Islamic constitutional position. Tunisia and Iraq are examples

In Prophet's (sm) state in Madina which was ruled by Madina Sanad stated that final decisions would rest with Allah and the Prophet (Quran and Sunnah). This principle continued in Muslim states throughout history.

Similarly Islam, Christianity, Buddhism, Jewish religions are state religion in about a hundred states (See Wikipedia).

What is state religion? It does not mean, in case Islam is the state religion, that the state performs salat, siam, hajj or gives sijda.

It means that state religion should be basis of state policies with regard to laws, education, international relations, conduct of the state.

So historically speaking there is no problem in having State ideology or state religion.

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