

## CURRICULUM VITAE

(abridged)

October 2022

Irfan A. Omar, Ph.D.  
Marquette University  
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### Special Fields

History of Religions, Peace Studies, Islam & Interfaith Relations

### Education

- 2021 Certificate of Completion, “Forbidden Knowledge’ Fights Back: Unleashing the Transformative Power of Critical Race Theory,” The African American Policy Forum, CRT Summer School
- 2011 Certificate of Completion, “Women in South Asian Muslim Societies,” American Institute of Indian Studies, *University of Chicago*, Chicago, IL
- 2001 Ph.D., Religion, *Temple University*, Philadelphia, PA
- 1996 M.A., Religion, *Temple University*, Philadelphia, PA
- 1994 M.A., Religious Studies, *Hartford Seminary*, Hartford, CT
- 1986 B.A., Liberal Arts, *St. Stephen’s College, University of Delhi*, Delhi, India

### Academic Positions

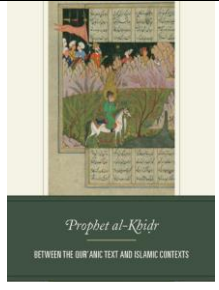
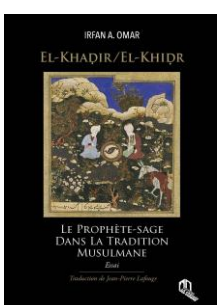
- 2010-- --Associate Professor, Department of Theology, *Marquette University*
- 2018-- --Honorary Affiliate, Middle East Studies Program, *University of Wisconsin-Madison*
- 2014-- --Affiliated Faculty, Center for South Asia, *University of Wisconsin-Madison*
- 2002-2010 --Assistant Professor, Department of Theology, *Marquette University*
- 2007 (Sum) --Visiting Lecturer, Fachbereich Ev. Theologie, *J. W. Goethe-Universität*, Frankfurt, Germany
- 2006 (Spr) --Fulbright Lecturer, Faculty of Theology, *Muhammadiyah University*, Malang, Indonesia
- 2005 (Sum) --Visiting Lecturer, Institute on Culture, Religion & World Affairs, *Boston University*

### Administrative Experience

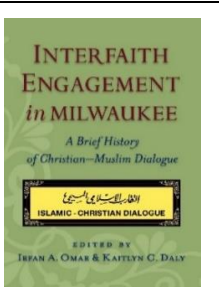
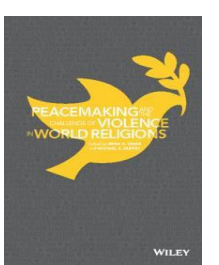
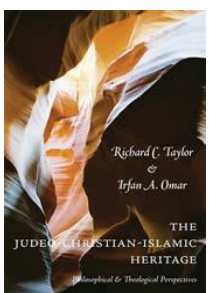
- 2014-2015 --Director of Assessment, Department of Theology, *Marquette University*
- 2013-2014 --Assistant Chair, Department of Theology, *Marquette University*

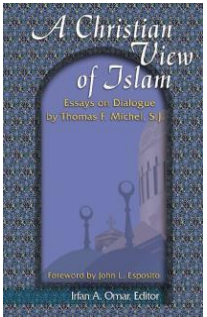
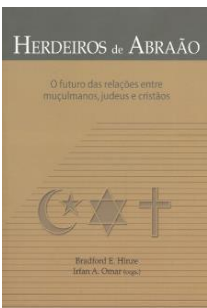

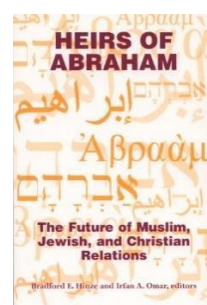
## SELECT PUBLICATIONS

### Authored Books

	<p>Omar, Irfan A. <i>Prophet al-Khidr: Between the Qur'anic Text and Islamic Contexts</i>. Lanham, MD: Lexington Books, 2022, 155 pages.</p>
	<p>Omar, Irfan A. <i>El-Khadir/El-Khidr: Le Prophète-Sage dans la tradition Musulmane</i>. Casablanca, Morocco: La Croisée des Chemins, 2021, 202 pages.</p>

### Edited Books

	<p>Omar, Irfan A. &amp; Kaitlyn C. Daly, eds., <i>Interfaith Engagement in Milwaukee: A Brief History of Christian—Muslim Dialogue</i>. Milwaukee, WI: Marquette University Press, 2020, 374 pages.</p>
	<p>Omar, Irfan A. &amp; Michael K. Duffey, eds., <i>Peacemaking and the Challenge of Violence in World Religions</i>. Oxford, UK: Wiley Blackwell, 2015, 256 pages.</p>
	<p>Taylor, Richard C. &amp; Irfan A. Omar, eds., <i>The Judeo-Christian-Islamic Heritage: Philosophical and Theological Perspectives</i>. Milwaukee, WI: Marquette University Press, 2012, 324 pages.</p>

	<p>Omar, Irfan A., ed., <u><i>A Christian View of Islam: Essays on Dialogue by Thomas F. Michel, S.J.</i></u> Edited with an Introduction. Maryknoll, NY: Orbis Books, 2010, 214+ pages.</p>
	<p>Omar, Irfan A., ed., <u><i>A Muslim View of Christianity: Essays on Dialogue by Mahmoud Ayoub.</i></u> Maryknoll, NY: Orbis Books, 2007, 264+ pages.</p>
	<p>Hinze, Bradford E. &amp; Irfan A. Omar, eds., <u><i>Herdeiros de Abraão: O futuro das relações entre muçulmanos, judeus e cristãos.</i></u> São Paulo, Brasil: PAULUS, 2007, 192+ pages (Portuguese translation of <i>Heirs of Abraham</i>).</p>
	<p>Omar, Irfan A., ed., <u><i>Islam and Other Religions: Pathways to Dialogue. Essays in Honour of Mahmoud Ayoub.</i></u> Edited with an Introduction. London and New York: Routledge, 2006, 210+ pages.</p>
	<p>Hinze, Bradford E. &amp; Irfan A. Omar, eds., <u><i>Heirs of Abraham: The Future of Muslim, Jewish, and Christian Relations.</i></u> Maryknoll, NY: Orbis, 2005, 158+ pages.</p>

## Journal Articles

- (REF) Othman, Enaya H., Lee Za Ong, Irfan A. Omar, Abir K. Bekhet, & Janan Najeeb, "Experiences of Muslim Mothers of Children with Disabilities: A Qualitative Study." *Journal of Disability and Religion*. 26, 1 (2022): 1-25 (published online: April 2021).
- (REF) Omar, Irfan A., "Ijtihād as Intellectual Jihād: Renewal of the 'Spirit of Islam' in Maulana Wahiduddin Khan's Thought." *Journal of the Henry Martyn Institute (India)* 37, 1 (January-June 2018): pp. 1-16.
- (REF) Omar, Irfan A., "Sayyidina 'Īsā: Jesus in the Eyes of a Muslim." *Bulletin of Ecumenical Theology (Nigeria)* 27 (2015): pp. 8-47.
- (INV) Omar, Irfan A., "Keeping Shari'ah and Reclaiming Jihad," *Political Theology (USA)* 12, 5 (October 2011): pp. 706-712.
- (REF) Omar, Irfan A., "Where the Two Oceans Meet: An Attempt at Hindu-Muslim Rapprochement in the Works of Dara Shikuh." *Journal of Ecumenical Studies (USA)* 44, 2 (Spring 2009): pp. 303-314.

## Book Chapters

- Omar, Irfan A. & Kaitlyn C. Daly, "An Overview of Interfaith Engagement in Milwaukee." In *Interfaith Engagement in Milwaukee: A Brief History of Christian—Muslim Dialogue*. Ed. Irfan A. Omar & Kaitlyn C. Daly. Milwaukee, WI: Marquette University Press, 2020, pp. 251-337.
- (INV) Omar, Irfan A., "Islam and Inter-Religious Dialogue: A Muslim Perspective." In *St. Francis and the Sultan, 1219-2019: A Commemorative Booklet*. Ed. Michael Calabria, OFM. Cincinnati, OH: Franciscan Media, 2019, pp. 50-71.
- Spanish trans: "Islam y diálogo interreligioso: Una perspectiva desde el Islam." *San Francisco y el Sultán, 1219-2019: Libro conmemorativo*, pp. 55-76.
- Italian trans: "L'Islam e il dialogo interreligioso: una visione musulmana." *San Francesco e il Sultano, 1219-2019: Un libretto commemorativo*, pp. 53-76.

- (INV) Omar, Irfan A., "Qur'an Upholds Plurality as the Will of God." In *Seeking Communion: A Collection of Conversations*. Ed. Joseph Victor Edwin, SJ. Delhi: ISPCK/Hyderabad: Henry Martyn Institute, 2018, pp. 1-11.
- Omar, Irfan A., "Jihad and Nonviolence in the Islamic Tradition." In *Peacemaking and the Challenge of Violence in World Religions*. Ed. Irfan A. Omar and Michael K. Duffey. Oxford, UK: Wiley Blackwell, 2015, pp. 9-40.
- Omar, Irfan A., "Delhi's Debates on *Ahl-i Kitāb*: Dara Shikuh's Islamization of the Upanishads." In *The Judeo-Christian-Islamic Heritage: Philosophical and Theological Perspectives*. Ed. Richard C. Taylor and Irfan A. Omar. Milwaukee, WI: Marquette University Press, 2012, pp. 89-109.
- (INV) Omar, Irfan A., "Teologia interconfessional mundial do pluralismo religioso: uma perspectiva musulmana." In *POR UMA TEOLOGIA PLANETARIA*. Ed. Jose Maria Vigil. Sao Paulo: Paulinas/ASETT EATWOT, 2011, pp. 163-171.
- (INV) Omar, Irfan A., "Reflecting Divine Light: al-Khidr as an Embodiment of God's Mercy (*rahma*)." In *Gotteseerlebnis und Gotteslehre: Christliche und islamische Mystik im Orient*. Ed. Martin Tamcke. Wiesbaden, Germany: Harrassowitz-Verlag, 2010, pp. 167-180.
- (INV) Omar, Irfan A., "World Interfaith Theology of Religious Pluralism: A Muslim Perspective." In *Toward a Planetary Theology, Along the Many Paths of God*. Montreal: Dunamis, 2010, pp. 106-111.
- (INV) Omar, Irfan A., "Teologia mundial inter-creyente del pluralismo religioso: Una perspectiva musulmana." In *Por los muchos caminos de Dios*. Vol. 5 of *Hacia una teología planetaria*. Ed. José María Vigil. Ecumenical Association of Third World Theologians. Quito, Ecuador, Abya Yala, 2010, pp. 108-113.
- (INV) Omar, Irfan A., "Dschihad und Gewalt im Koran: Zum Friedenspotenzial des Koran und in der Islamischen Tradition." Tr. Markus Wriedt. In *Das Friedenspotenzial von Religion*. Ed. Irene Dingel and Christiane Tietz. Göttingen: Vandenhoeck & Ruprecht, 2009, pp. 71-99.

## Book Reviews

- (REF) Omar, Irfan A., Review of *Freedom in the Arab World: Concepts and Ideologies in Arabic Thought in the Nineteenth Century* by Wael Abu-'Uksa, in *International Journal of Middle East Studies (IJMES)*, 50, 3 (2018): pp. 604-606.
- (REF) Omar, Irfan A., Review of *Religion as Critique: Islamic Critical Thinking from Mecca to the Marketplace* by Irfan Ahmad, in *Maydan*, an online journal of the Ali Vural Ak Center for Global Islamic Studies at George Mason University, published online: May 30, 2018. <https://www.themaydan.com/2018/05/book-review-religion-critique-islamic-critical-thinking-mecca-marketplace-irfan-ahmad-reviewed-irfan-omar/>
- (REF) Omar, Irfan A., Review of *Unsettling Sikh and Muslim Conflict* by Katy Sian, in *Islam and Christian-Muslim Relations*, 26, 4 (2015): pp. 527-529 (online publication date: July 17, 2015).
- (REF) Omar, Irfan A., Review of *Mawlana Mawdudi and Political Islam: Authority and the Islamic State*, by Roy Jackson, in *Contemporary Islam*, 9, 2 (2015): pp. 223-225. (published online: September 2013).
- (REF) Omar, Irfan A., Review of *Islam's Jesus* by Zeki Saritoprak, in *Journal of Ecumenical Studies*, 49, 4 (2014): pp. 673-674.
- (REF) Omar, Irfan A., Review of *Becoming American? The Forging of Arab and Muslim Identity in Pluralist America* by Yvonne Yazbeck Haddad, in *Journal of Islamic Studies*, 25, 3 (2014): pp. 389-391.
- (REF) Omar, Irfan A., Review of *The Book of Ascension to the Essential Truths of Sufism. Mi'rāj al-tashawwuf ilā ḥaqā'iq al-taṣawwuf* by Aḥmad ibn 'Ajība. Tr. and annotated by Mohamed Fouad Aresmouk and Michael Abdurrahman Fitzgerald, in *Journal of Sufi Studies*, 2, 2 (2013): pp. 217-220.
- (REF) Omar, Irfan A., Review of *Arguing the Just War in Islam* by John Kelsay, in *Modern Theology*, 26, 1 (2010): pp. 173-176.
- (REF) Omar, Irfan A., Review of *A Shared World: Christians and Muslims in the Early Modern Mediterranean* by Molly Greene, in *Islam and Christian-Muslim Relations*, 20, 4 (2009): pp. 482-483.

## SELECT PAPER/PANEL PRESENTATIONS

- (INV) “Wang Daiyu and the Confucian-Islamic Dialogue.” Commentary and Response to the Aristotle Prize Lecture by Qiu Lin at the *72<sup>nd</sup> Annual Meeting of the Metaphysical Society of America*. Marquette University, Milwaukee, WI, March 25-27, 2022.
- (REF) “Multiple Belongings in Firāq Gorakhpūrī’s Poetry.” Paper presented at the *53<sup>rd</sup> Annual Convention of the Northeast Modern Language Association (NeMLA)*. Baltimore, MD, March 10-11, 2022. Virtual presentation.
- (INV) “Embodied Peace: An Appraisal of Muslim Peacemaking in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century.” Paper presented at the *6th Annual Wee Kim Wee Soka International Seminar*, at the Singapore Management University (SMU), Singapore, January 20, 2022. Virtual presentation.
- (REF) “Christian—Muslim Engagement Amidst the Pandemic: Lessons from Milwaukee, Wisconsin.” Paper presented at the Luce-Hartford Conference in Christian—Muslim Relations. Virtual conference. June 7-8, 2021.
- (REF) “Francis and the Sultan: Receptions of their Encounter Through Time.” Paper presentation at the 56<sup>th</sup> international Congress on Medieval Studies. Virtual conference. May 10-15, 2021.
- (REF) “Religion as Critique: Abū al-‘Alā’ al-Ma‘arrī’s *Risālat al-Ghufrān* on Life and the Hereafter.” Paper presented at the International Congress on Medieval Studies, Kalamazoo, MI, May 9-10, 2019.
- (REF) “Muslim Views of Moses and Khidr in the Context of Q. 18:60-82.” Paper presented at a panel on *The Biblical Figures Outside the Bible in Judaism, Christianity, and Islam* at the Annual Conference of the European Academy of Religion (EUARE), Bologna, Italy, March 4-7, 2019.
- (INV) “Dara Shikoh’s Legacy: The Promise and perils of Interfaith Dialogue.” Pratidhwani workshop, University of Delhi, New Delhi, India, April 23, 2018.



- (REF) “Al-Ghazālī’s Views of Knowledge as Analogous to the Khidrīan Trope.” Paper presented at the conference on Human Knowing in the Medieval Arabic and Latin Traditions. Faculté des Lettres et des Sciences Humaines, Université Cadi Ayyad, Marrakech, Morocco, March 15-16, 2018.
- (REF) “Creating a Culture of Dialogue on Marquette Campus: Challenges and Future Prospects.” Panel presentation at a panel on *Islam, Interfaith Dialogue and Jesuit Universities* at the AJCU Conference on Commitment to Justice in Jesuit Higher Education. Seattle University, Seattle, WA, August 10-14, 2017.
- (INV) “Dara Shikoh’s Passion for Hindu-Muslim Dialogue.” Paper presented at the International Conference on Dara Shikoh: Reclaiming Spiritual Legacy of India. Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR), Ministry of External Affairs, New Delhi, India, April 27-28, 2017.
- (REF) “Sir Syed Ahmad Khan and the Religious ‘Other’.” Paper presented at the Preconference on *Modernity and Tradition in South Asian Muslim Thought*. 45<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference on South Asia, Center for South Asia, University of Wisconsin-Madison, WI, October 20-23, 2016.
- (INV) “Ijtihad as Intellectual Jihad: Renewal of the ‘Spirit of Islam’ in Maulana Wahiduddin Khan’s Thought.” Paper presented at a panel on *Spiritual Jihad in Modern Times*. Nursi Conference on ‘Spiritual Jihad: A Path for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century’. John Carroll University, Cleveland, OH, November 13-14, 2015.
- (REF) “Da‘wah Activism Among the Followers of the Al-Risala Movement.” The 44<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference on South Asia, Center for South Asia, University of Wisconsin-Madison, WI, October 23-25, 2015.
- (REF) “Wahhabism, ‘Group Memory,’ and Indian Muslim Views of the Other.” Paper presented at a panel on *Delimitations and Particularities of the Muslim Worldview: Middle Eastern Ideals and South Asian Realities* at the 2015 Annual Meeting of the Association for Asian Studies (AAS), Chicago, IL, March 25-27, 2015.



## INVITED PRESENTATIONS

- “Interfaith as Interdisciplinary: The Value of Learning about the Religious Other.” Panel presentation at the [Center for the Advancement of the Humanities \(CfAH\), Marquette University](#). February 21, 2022.
- “Hagar as an embodiment of Humility, Piety, Faith, & Critique.” Panel presentation at the Community Dialogue. [Center for the Advancement of the Humanities \(CfAH\), Marquette University](#). September 23, 2021.
- “The Role of Interfaith Dialogue in Strengthening Social Justice Movements.” Panel presentation at the Community Dialogue. [Center for the Advancement of the Humanities \(CfAH\), Marquette University](#). August 5, 2021.
- “Interfaith Engagement in Milwaukee.” Panel Presentation at the [Interfaith Conference of Greater Milwaukee](#). Virtual presentation. April 8, 2021.
- “Pope Francis and Imam al-Tayyeb on Human Fraternity: Advancing a Culture of Dialogue.” Presentation at the [Sacred Heart Cathedral](#), New Delhi, India, February 24, 2020.
- “Reframing Peace: Muslim Stories of Peacemaking for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century.” Keynote delivered at the conference on *The Abode of Peace: Spirituality and Harmony in Islam*. [Center for Middle Eastern & North African Studies \(CMENAS\), University of Michigan](#), Ann Arbor, MI, March 21, 2019.
- “Understanding Jihad and Practicing Peace: A Muslim Theology of Nonviolence.” Public presentation at the *International Seminar on Peace Education*. [State University of North Sumatera \(UIN\) Medan](#), Indonesia, November 29, 2018.
- “Al-Khidr: Between the (Qur’anic) Text and the (Mystical) Tradition.” *Middle Eastern Studies Program (MESP) Lecture Series*. [University of Wisconsin-Madison](#), Madison, WI, November 19, 2018.
- “One God, One Humanity: A Muslim Response to Religious Prejudice.” Plenary presentation at the Annual Meeting of the *National Catholic-Muslim Dialogue*. [Mundelein Seminary](#), Mundelein, IL, March 7-8, 2018.

- “The Oneness of God and the Diversity of Religions.” Lecture Presentations organized by the *Jay Phillips Center for Interfaith Learning* at the Islamic Center of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN, and St. John’s University, Collegeville, MN, October 2-3, 2017.
- “Christian-Muslim Relations in Historical Perspective.” Lecture presentation at the ‘Faith Forum’ organized by the Church of the Gesu, Milwaukee, WI, September 25, 2016.
- “Gandhi’s View of Jihad and Its Implications for Hindu-Muslim Relations.” Lecture presentation at the Department of Gandhian Thought and Ramalingam Philosophy, Madurai Kamaraj University, Madurai, Tamil Nadu, India, March 15, 2016.
- “Jihad and Satyagraha in a Comparative Perspective.” Lecture presentation at the Department of Gandhian Studies, Gandhigram Rural University, Gandhigram, Tamil Nadu, India, March 14, 2016.

### **SELECT COURSES**

2002-present Marquette University

- CORE 4929 “Service of Faith & Promotion of Justice”
- THEO 2951 “Faith, Nonviolence & Peacebuilding” (India - *study abroad*)
- THEO 1001 “Introduction to Theology” (*inter-religious component, team-taught*)
- THEO 4951 “Islam and the West: Islamic Culture” (Morocco - *study abroad*)
- THEO 3350 “Christian—Muslim Dialogue”
- THEO 2500 “Theologies of Nonviolence”
- THEO 4390 “Introduction to Islamic Studies” (*inter-disciplinary, team-taught*)
- THEO 4540 “Hinduism, Yoga, and Buddhism”
- THEO 4530 “Islam, Faith and Practice”
- THEO 8550 “Christians and Muslims in Dialogue” (*graduate*)
- THEO 4510 “Survey of World Religions”
- THEO 164 “Islamic Theological and Philosophical Thought” (*team taught*)

## **MEMBERSHIPS IN PROFESSIONAL SOCIETIES**

- 2022-2023 *Metaphysical Society of America (MSA)*  
2019-2023 *European Academy of Religion (EuARe)*  
2012- *Society of Race, Ethnicity, and Religion (SRER)*  
2012-2014 *Society of Asian and Comparative Philosophy (SACP)*  
2010-2012 *American Institute for Maghreb Studies (AIMS)*  
2006-2012 *European Association for South Asian Studies (EASAS)*  
2002- *South Asian Muslim Studies Association (SAMSA)*  
--2003- Member of Executive Board; --2009-2012 President  
1996-2000 *American Council for the Study of Islamic Societies (ACSIS)*  
1995-2014 *American Academy of Religion (AAR) (w/lapses)*  
--2010-2014 Member, Steering Committee, Ethics Section

## **EDITORIAL BOARDS AND ORGANIZATIONS**

- 2019- Member, Advisory Board, [İslami Araştırmalar](#)  
2010- Member, Editorial Board, [Journal of Race, Ethnicity, and Religion](#)  
2004- Associate Editor, [Journal of Ecumenical Studies](#)

## **ACADEMIC PEER REVIEW AFFILIATIONS**

Peer reviewed manuscripts for (select list):

- *Comparative Islamic Studies*
- *Journal of Ecumenical Studies* (every year since 2002)
- *The Journal of Moral Education*
- *Journal of Muslim Philanthropy & Civil Society*
- *Journal of Race, Ethnicity, and Religion* (every year since 2011)
- *The Journal of Religion*
- *Theological Studies*
- Pluto Press
- Routledge
- State University of New York (SUNY) Press
- Oxford University Press
- Syracuse University Press