German Muslims on the International Theology Programme in Turkey: Temporalities, Spatialities, and Contingency

av Maximilian Lasa

Established in 2006, the International Theology Programme (Uluslararası İlahiyat Programı) has become a central institution of transnational Islamic higher education. Embedded in the distinct scientific field of Islamic theology at Turkish universities, it accommodates around 500 international students. Although its importance in the global field of Islamic higher education, the International Theology Programme remains understudied. Within research on Islamic higher education more generally, there are relatively few studies that capture the perspectives of European students. By focusing on the International Theology Programme and placing the experiences and lifeworlds of German students and alumni at the centre of its analytical focus, this dissertation contributes to both the broader research field of Islamic higher education and research on Muslim self-making.

My study is based on 27 educational biographies produced through interviews with German students and alumni of the International Theology Programme during fieldwork in Germany and Turkey between September 2019 and December 2021. It unfolds the temporal, spatial, and contingent character of their educational stories and self-making by analysing their motivations for studying theology in Turkey, their experiences on the programme, and the ways in which their studies shaped their understanding of who they are.

Maximilian Lasa earned his PhD at the Department of Cross-Cultural and Regional Studies at Copenhagen University in spring 2023. His research is focused on the intersection of the fields of Islamic studies, study of religion, and migration studies. His dissertation focuses specifically on issues of Islam in Europe, education, and knowledge production in Islam, and migratory biographies. In the fall of 2021 Maximilian Lasa also held a senior scholarship at SRII.

Alla är varmt välkomna!

Tid: tisdag, 27 februari 2024 kl. 18.00–19.00
Plats: Online via Zoom.

Anmälan: Ingen föranmälan är nödvändig, utan anslut till föredraget direkt via denna länk: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/3374529341
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