

Islam, human rights and displacement

Articles:

- Islam, international law and the protection of refugees and IDPs
- The rights of refugee women and children in Islam
- Child rights and Islam

Information section:

- Full text of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights
- Full text of the Cairo Declaration (Islamic Declaration of Human Rights)
- Who signed what? A selection of human rights and refugee conventions and treaties, plus signatories
- Further selection of legal instruments, international treaties, conventions and principles
- Human rights resources and links

December 10th 2008 marked the 60th Anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. The UDHR and subsequent instruments of international human rights law and international humanitarian law now play a vital role in providing protection for refugees and IDPs. Yet the claim to universality has been disputed and not all states have acceded to these legal instruments. It seems that a particular point of controversy or dispute in the Islamic world is their compatibility with sharia.

The Forced Migration Review Editors decided to produce this short supplement in English and Arabic (online at <http://www.fmreview.org/human-rights.htm>) to enhance debate and understanding of the concepts and instruments of international human rights in the Islamic world.

We have included the full text of the UDHR and the 'Cairo Declaration' in the hope that they will both inform and enable those concerned with assisting and protecting displaced people to advocate more strongly on their behalf. We have also included three articles that take up aspects of the debate over the applicability of international laws and conventions in Islam. It is impossible to do justice to a debate of such richness and about which strong feelings are held. We have chosen articles which make the case that the needs and rights of displaced people are of prime concern and that both Islamic and international precepts in theory recognise this. This then allows us to call on the strength of both traditions in support of displaced people.

FMR Editorial Team



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January 2009

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