

“Traditional” and “New” Islam in Bulgaria

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(Summary)

The process of replacing the “traditional” Islam (carrying the features of a specific local tradition) with the “orthodox” Islam (influenced by the ideas of Salafism) is discussed in this paper. The variety of Islam practiced in Bulgaria as well as all over the world indicates that Islam has multiple faces – in Bulgaria there are secular Muslims, religious people practicing Islam according to the traditions of the region, in addition there are Muslims influenced by Salafism. The different interpretations of Islam are directly dependent on the various identity processes occurring in the range of Muslim groups in Bulgaria.