



Religious Nationalism in Global Perspective

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Message from the Guest Editor

Whether ranging from the United States to the Middle East or from Asia to Africa, religious nationalism is an important component of political activity and organisation in the world. As of the present, however, a global survey of the political impact of religious nationalism is lacking in current research.

The relationship between religion and nationalism is not a new area of research. Nevertheless, it has grown in importance in recent years, as there has been a rise in examples of the phenomenon, with these often having significant political impacts. When there is a clear and sustained relationship present between religion and nationalism, a hybrid term of the two is then useful to use in the study of this phenomenon: that of ‘religious nationalism’. Religious nationalism signifies a demonstrably close, even synonymous, relationship between the concepts of ‘religion’ and ‘nationalism’, which are not inherently close ideologically. Thus, religion corresponds to this context when it is a defining component of what a nation is said to comprise, helping to forge a collective ethos of identity and being expressed in a collective culture.





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