



Centre for Studies in Islamism and Radicalisation (CIR)

AARHUS LECTURE SERIES 2009

Women and Islamic Law

By

Emeritus Professor

Muhammad Shahrur

Controversial Muslim thinker and writer on Islam

University of Damascus, Syria

Time & Place:

Wednesday, September 30, 2009, 15.00-17.00

Aarhus University, Faculty of Theology

Building 1441, auditorium 1

The lecture will be in English.



Free entry!

For further information: www.cir.au.dk

The lecture has been arranged by the Arab and Islamic Studies Unit, Faculty of Theology and is co-sponsored by the Centre for Studies in Islamism and Radicalisation (CIR).

Muhammad Shahrur

is emeritus professor of Civil Engineering at the University of Damascus, Syria, but has studied and written extensively on Islam. In this lecture, Muhammad Shahrur calls for a fundamental critique of Islamic culture and religion on the basis of a diagnosis of contemporary circumstances. He argues that the religious heritage must be critically read and interpreted anew, especially so as to improve the position of women in Islam by reforming shari'a law in the light of social change and modern developments. Born in Syria in 1938, Muhammad Shahrur published his first book on Islam only in 1990, but since then he has joined the small number of contemporary thinkers who have been tentatively identified as "the Luther of Islam". Despite the length of Shahrur's first book (over 800 pages) and its cost (half a month's salary for a government engineer in Egypt), it sold over 25,000 copies in authorized printings in Syria and many more in pirate and photocopy editions throughout the Arab Middle East, even though formally banned in many of the countries of the region. Shahrur's innovative interpretation of the Qur'an offers groundbreaking new ideas, based on his conviction that centuries of historical Islam have obscured or even obliterated the Qur'an's progressive and revolutionary message. Muhammad Shahrur is in Denmark at the invitation of the "Nutidens Muslim" movement founded by Cherif El-Ayouty.



CENTRE FOR STUDIES IN ISLAMISM AND RADICALISATION

DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE

FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES
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