



**Dr Mohamed Mraja,**

***Institutional Affiliation:*** Senior Lecturer, Islamic Studies, School of Arts & Social Sciences, Bomet University College, (A Constituent College of Moi University), Bomet, Kenya

***Educational Qualifications***

**Doctor of Philosophy**, 2006, Islamic Studies (Islamwissenschaft), Albert-Ludwigs University, Freiburg, Germany, Magna cum Laude.

**Master of Arts**, 1997, Islamic Studies, Usmanu Danfodiyo University, Sokoto, Nigeria.

**Bachelor of Education (Arts)** 1993, Religious Studies and Geography, Kenyatta University, Nairobi, Kenya, Second Class Honours, (Upper Division).

**Kenya Advanced Certificate of Education**, 1988, Geography, Islamic Religious Education, Kiswahili, and History, Kwale High School, Four Principals (Passes).

**Kenya Certificate of Secondary Education**, 1986, Msambweni Harambee Secondary School, Division 1 (11 Points).

**Kenya Junior Certificate Examination**, 1984, Msambweni Harambee Secondary School.

**Certificate of Primary Education**, 1982, Msambweni Primary School.

***Current Positions***

December 2021 – to date, **Dean**, School of Arts & Social Sciences, Bomet University College, (A Constituent College of Moi University), Bomet, Kenya.

October 2020 - to date, **Senior Lecturer**, School of Arts & Social Sciences, Department of Arts, Languages, & Communication Studies, Bomet University College (A Constituent College of Moi University), Bomet, Kenya.

2020 – to date, **Chairperson**, Performance Contracting and Strategic Plan (2018-2023) Review Steering Committee, Bomet University College (A Constituent College of Moi University), Bomet, Kenya.

***Previous Positions***

August 2017- October 2020, **Ag. Dean**, School of Arts and Social Sciences, Bomet University College. 2014 –to-2017, **Head of Department**, Department of Gender and Social Economic Development, Moi University, Kenya.

1997-2010, **Lecturer**, Department of Philosophy, Religion and Theology, Moi University, Kenya.

***Research Focus***

Geographic: East Africa (Kenya and Tanzania).

Thematic: Muslim Scholars, Muslim Texts, Muslim Marriage and Family; Islamic Law, Muslim Education; HIV/AIDS, Environment.

### ***Awards, Functions, Service to the Academy***

2020-2021: **Author**, *Grade 5 and 6 New Beginning Islamic Religious Education (IRE) Workbook, Learners' Book and Teacher's Guide*. Nairobi: Oxford University Press.

2019-2023 **Member of the Research Team** working on “Toward an Islamic Cultural Archive (ICA): Building a Collaborative Database of Islamic Learning in Africa” under the EXC 2052 “Africa Multiple” organized by the University of Bayreuth, Germany.

May 2020-2021 **Member of the Research Team** on “Mediated and Mediatization of Islamic Knowledge” under the African Cluster Center, Moi University

Since 2014-2017 Chair/ Head of the Department of Gender and Social Economic Development, Moi University, Eldoret, Kenya.

2017-2019 **Researcher**, Research Grant from DAI and BRICS jointly won by Taita Taveta University and other Kenyan Universities on Radicalization and violent Extremism in Coastal Kenya.

2016- to-date **Panel Member** (Islamic Religious Education), Kenya Institute for Curriculum Development (KICD), Nairobi, Kenya.

2015-2017 **Pre-Qualified Peer Reviewer**, Commission for University Education (CUE), Nairobi, Kenya

2008-2009 **Post-doc Fellowship**, National Research Foundation, at the University of Cape Town, South Africa.

2002-2006 **DAAD PhD Scholarship Award**, Albert-Ludwigs University, Germany

### ***Selected Publications***

1. **Mohamed Mraja**, Dhulfa Gongo and Abdi Adan (2022), *New Beginning Islamic Religious Education (IRE) Learner's Book Grade 6*, Nairobi: Oxford University Press East Africa Ltd, ISBN 9780195749434.
2. **Mohamed Mraja**, Dhulfa Gongo and Abdi Adan (2022), *New Beginning Islamic Religious Education (IRE) Teacher's Guide Grade 6*, Nairobi: Oxford University Press East Africa Ltd, ISBN 9780195749441.
3. **Mohamed Mraja**, Abdi Adan and Dhulfa Gongo (2021), *Grade 5 New Beginning Islamic Religious Education (IRE) Workbook*, Nairobi: Oxford University Press, ISBN 9780195750997.
4. Hamadi Iddi Boga, Halimu S. Shauri, Hassan A. Mwakimako and **Mohamed S. Mraja**, (2021), “Violent Extremism in Kenya: Coastal Region in Perspective”, in Hamadi I. Boga et al, *Radicalization into Violent Extremism in Coastal Kenya: Genesis, Impact and Responses*, Nairobi: HORN International Institute for Strategic Studies, ISBN: 978-9966-1962-7-9, pp. 1-19.
5. **Mohamed S. Mraja**, Hamadi Iddi Boga, Hassan A. Mwakimako and Halimu S. Shauri, (2021), “Historical Tracing of the Ideology Driving Radicalization into Violent Extremism in the Coastal Kenya”, in Hamadi I. Boga et al, *Radicalization into Violent Extremism in Coastal Kenya: Genesis, Impact and Responses*, Nairobi: HORN International Institute for Strategic Studies, ISBN: 978-9966-1962-7-9, pp. 20-45.
6. Eunice Kamaara, Paul Nyongesa, Hazel O. Ayanga, Emily J. Choge-Kerama, Dinah Chelagat, Joseph K. Koech, **Mohamed Mraja**, Edith K. Chemorion, Joseph Motaly, Lucy Kiyiapi, Joseph Katwa, Jack Odunga and James Lemons (2020), “Hospital-based Spiritual Care for Mothers of Neonates at RMBH in Eldoret, Kenya: A Situational Analysis”, in *Health and Social Care Chaplaincy*, Vol. 7, No 2

- (2019): Special Issue: Spirituality and Peri-Natal Care, DOI:[10.1558/hsc.37265](https://doi.org/10.1558/hsc.37265), pp. 145-167.
7. Shurie B. Abdi, Hassan A. Absiye, **Mohamed Mraja**, Mohammed Rashid, Khadija Iman and Ahmed Ibrahim (2019), *Islamic Religious Education Grade 4 Teacher's Handbook*, Nairobi: Kenya Institute of Curriculum Development, ISBN: 978-9966-31-905-0.
  8. **Mraja Mohamed** (2013), "Meaningful Approach to Water Conservation and Use: A Reflection on the African, Christian and Islamic Heritages in Kenya", in Kahiga K. Joseph and Wanyama N. Mellitus (eds.), *Contemporary Issues in Philosophy, Religion and Theology*, Department of Philosophy, Religion & Theology, Moi University, ISBN: 978-9966-26-022-2, pp. 110-121.
  9. **Mraja, Mohamed Suleiman** (2011), "Sheikh al-Amin Mazrui (1891-1947) and the Dilemma of Islamic Law in the Kenyan Legal System in the 21st Century", in *Journal for Islamic Studies*, vol. 31, Centre for Contemporary Islam, University of Cape Town, ISSN:0257-7062, pp. 60-74.
  10. **Mraja, Mohamed** (2011), "Kadhi's Courts in Kenya: Current Debates on the Harmonized Draft Constitution of Kenya", in Tayob Abdulkader and Wandera Joseph (eds.), *Constitutional Review in Kenya and Kadhis Courts*, Centre for Contemporary Islam, University of Cape Town, ISBN: 0-620-22755-9, pp. 32-38.
  11. **Mraja, Mohamed S.**, (2010), "The Reform Ideas of Shaykh 'Abdallāh Ṣāliḥ al-Farsī and the Transformation of Marital Practices among Digo Muslims of Kenya", in *Islamic Law and Society*, vol. 17, No.2, Brill: Leiden, pp. 245-278.
  12. **Mraja, Mohamed**, (2009-2010) "Role and Contribution of Shaykh 'Abdallāh Ṣāliḥ al-Farsī to Islamic Poetry", in *Annual Review of Islam in South Africa*, No. 10, Centre for Contemporary Islam, University of Cape Town, pp. 42-45.
  13. **Mraja, Mohamed Suleiman**, (2007), *Islamic Impacts on Marriage and Divorce among the Digo of Southern Kenya*, in *Mitteilungen zur Sozial- und Kulturgeschichte der Islamischen Welt (MISK)*, vol. 23, Würzburg: Ergon Verlag, ISBN 978-3-89913-568-8/ ISSN 1436-8080.
  14. **Mraja, Mohamed Suleiman.**, (2005) *An Examination of Haḡḡ in the light of Muslim Marital Regime and Social Realities*, Online Publication: University Freiburg, at: <http://www.freidok.uni-freiburg.de/volltexte/2026>
  15. **Mraja, Mohamed S.**, (2003), "The Fight against the AIDs Pandemic: An Islamic Response", in Emilia V. Ilieva (ed.), *Egerton Journal: Humanities, Social Sciences and Education Series Science and Technology Series Joined Special Edition*, vol. IV, Nos. 2&3, Njoro: Egerton University Press, ISSN 1021-1128, pp. 86-98.

### **Courses Taught at University Level**

#### **Ph.D.**

- REL 940 Advance Reading and Exegesis of the Quran.
- REL 945 Modern Trends in Islamic Theology.
- REL 952 Interreligious Dialogue.

#### **M. A.**

- REL 802 Comparative Religion

- REL 821 Studies in the Quran
- REL 822 Studies in Hadith
- REL 825 Islamic Ethics

#### **Undergraduate**

- BCS 111 Introduction to the Study of Religion
- REL 121 Introduction to Quran and Hadith
- REL 223 Islamic Law and Jurisprudence
- REL 213/PRT 210 History of Religions I
- REL 221 History of Religions II
- REL 215 History of Islamic Civilization and Culture I
- REL 231 History of Islamic Civilization and Culture II
- REL 314 History of Islam in Africa
- REL 325 Islamic Ethics
- REL 326 Islamic Family Law
- REL 327 Religions in Kenya
- REL 413 Studies in the Quran and Hadith
- REL 414 Islamic Theology
- REL 416 Contemporary Religious Thought
- REL 426 Islamic Law of Succession

#### **Diploma**

- DRS 037 Introduction to Sharia (Law)
- DRS 026 Women in Islam

#### ***Supervision of Postgraduate Research Projects***

1. Mohamed M. Soud, SASS/DPHIL/REL/01/12, "UAMSHO Islamist Movement: The Politic of Islamism, Unification and Secession in Zanzibar", Ph.D. Thesis (Graduated, 2020).
2. Mohamed Ndaru, SASS/PGR/03/2010, "Sheikh Abdulaziz Rimo and the Ansari Movement: A Study of Islamic Reform in South Coast of Kenya", M.A. Thesis (Graduated, 2021).
3. Joseph M. Mula, SASS/PGR/10/2007, "Cock Rituals and Cultural Values among the Abamarachi of Busia County: A Case of Possible Inculturation within Christianity", M.A. Thesis (Graduated, 2017).
4. Karen J. Kogo SASS/PGR/05/08, "African Religion and Environmental Management: A Study of the Ogiek's Religious Beliefs and Practices in Cheboror Forest, Nandi County", M. Phil. Thesis (Graduated, 2013).
5. Halkano Abdikadir A., SSC/PGR/01/04, "Debates on Kadhi's Courts and Christian-Muslim Relations: A Case Study of Isiolo Town", M. Phil Thesis (Graduated, 2008).
6. Gimway H. Ngeri, SASS/PGR/14/2012, "An Examination of the Application of Islamic Laws of Inheritance with Particular Reference to Women in Kakamega County", M.A Thesis (In Progress).
7. Khamis Mohamed Omar, SSC/PGR/011/07, "The Influence of Tourism on the Morality of Muslim Youth: A Case study of Msambweni Location", M. Phil Thesis (In Progress).

#### ***Examiner of Postgraduate Thesis***

- External Examiner (November 2018) – Moi University, Kenya, M. A. Thesis, Kutto Emily Bitok, REG. No. SASS/PGR/04/09, “Role of Christian Organizations in Addressing Gender Disparity in Primary Schools in Sigor Sub-County West Pokot County, Kenya”.
- External Examiner (October 2018) – Kenyatta University, M. A. Thesis, Roble Oyow Kosar, Reg. No. C50/Ce/27767/2013, “The Influence of Four Selected Muslim Non-Governmental Organizations on Education and Humanitarian Work in Mandera County, Kenya”.
- External Examiner (May 2017) – Pwani University, M. A. Thesis, Abdi Adan Kea, REG. No. C50/Pu/2073/13, “The Role of Madrasa in Acquisition of Knowledge and Production of Elites (Ulama) in Mvita Sub-County”.
- External Examiner (February 2016) – Pwani University, Kenya, M.A. Thesis, Khamis Mohamed Khamis, REG. No. C50/PUC/2001/11, “Zakat: Its Prospects and Challenges for Poverty Alleviation in Mombasa”.
- Internal Examiner (July 2014) – Moi University, Kenya, Ph. D. Thesis, Ochieng, I. Ahaya, REG. No. SSC/DPHIL/09/04, “The Secular State Premise and Kadhi Court Debate during Kenya’s Constitutional Review Moment”.
- External Examiner (May 2012) – University of Cape Town, South Africa, Ph. D. Thesis, Joseph M. Wandera, (WNDJOS001), “Public Preaching by Muslims and Pentecostals in Mumias, Western Kenya and its Influence on Interfaith Relations”.
- Internal Examiner (2012): - Moi University, Kenya, M.A. Thesis, Ndege Alice Moraa REG. No. SASS/PGK/03/07, “Taswira ya Mtoto katika Riwaya za: *Yatima. Tumaini na Siku Njema*”.
- Internal Examiner (December 2011) - Moi University, Kenya, M.A. Thesis, Chembea, A. Suleiman, REG. No. SASS/PGR/11/07, “The Impact of Islam on the Belief in Spirits among the Adigo of Kenya.”

### **Membership**

1. Association of African Study of Religion (AASR), **Member**.
2. The Association of Third World Studies (Kenya Chapter), **Member**.

### **Research Themes of Interest**

1. Muslim Scholars and Religious Authority
2. Religious Texts
3. Muslim Family Law
4. Religion and Environment
5. Islamic Religious Education and Educational Reforms
6. Radicalization and Violent Extremism
7. New Media and Religious Knowledge

### **Referees**

1. Prof Eunice Kamaara,  
Professor of Religion,  
Department of Philosophy, Religion, and Theology,  
Moi University),  
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2. Prof George Orwa  
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Bomet University College (A Constituent College of Moi University),

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