

Islamic Ethical Perspectives on Human Genome Editing

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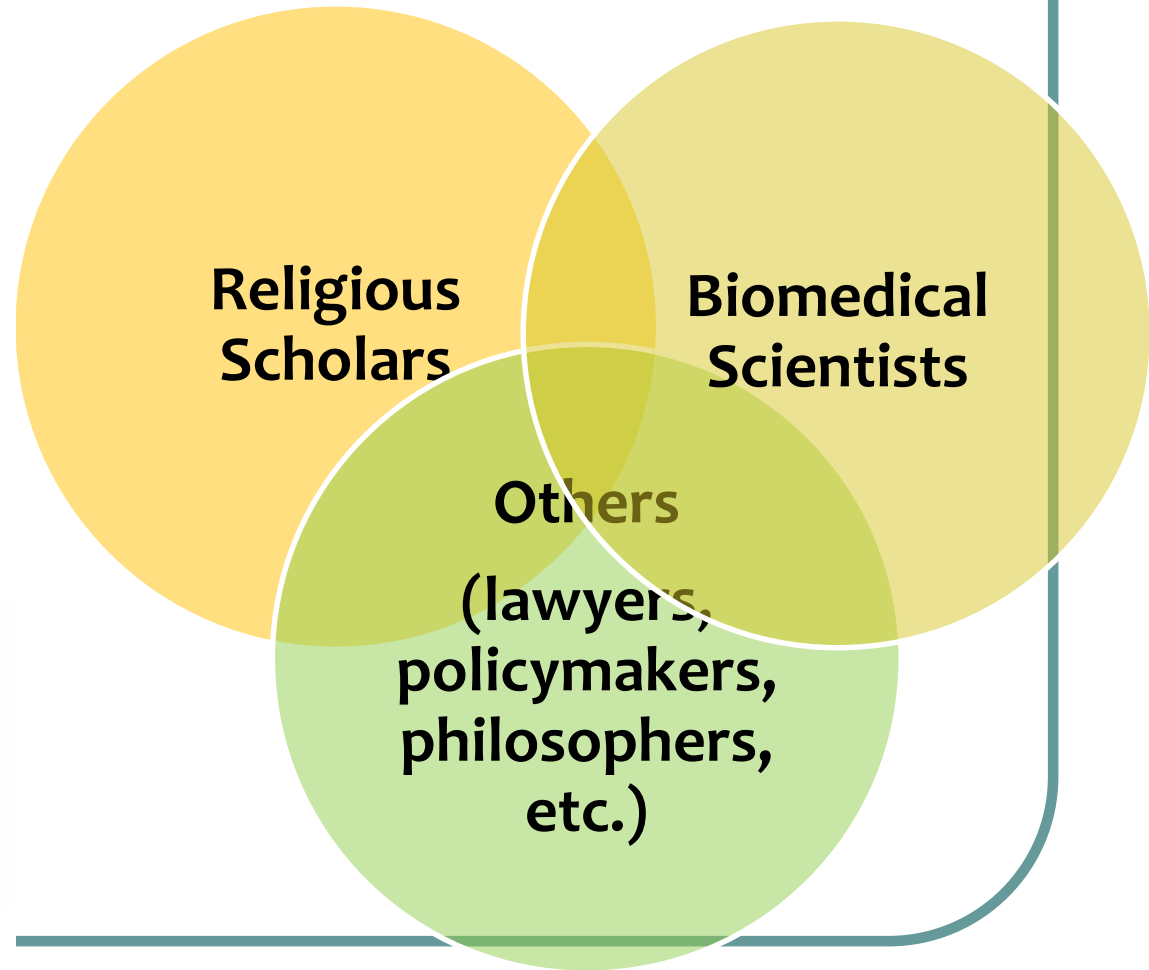
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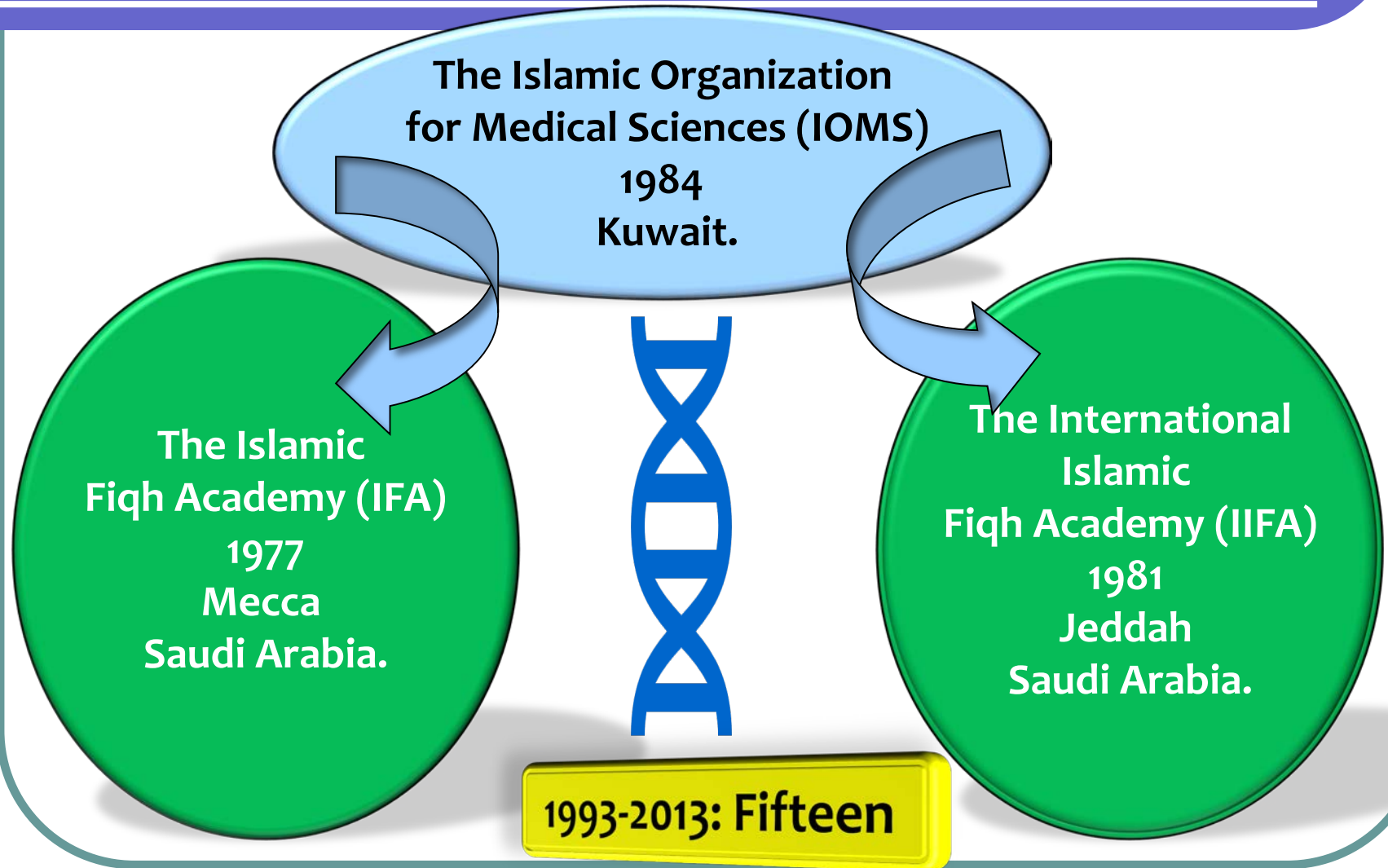
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Interdisciplinary Discussions



Institutionalization



Human Genome Editing

- Due respect for human dignity: Safety and efficacy, informed consent
- (1) **What? (Somatic Vs. Germline)**
 - Somatic Cells: more acceptable
 - Treatment tool
 - Limited scope: individual
 - Germline Cells: more controversial
 - Human intervention
 - Impact on offspring: Authority over one's body
 - Disturbing lines of lineage

Human Genome Editing

- (2) **Why (*telos* of medicine)**
 - Treatment: morally permissible/recommended
 - Part of the divine scheme of creation
 - Alternative?
 - Enhancement: Controversial
 - Fixed Perfect OR changeable and improvabe
 - “We have created man in the best composition” (Q. 95:04)
 - He adds to creation whatever He wills (Q. 35:01)
 - Editing body or soul?

No One-Fits-All Approach

Acceptable

Controversial

Problematic

Somatic Cell/Treatment

Germline Cell/Treatment

Germline Cell/Enhancement



Islamic Ethics and the Genome Question is one of the very first academic works, which examine the field of genomics from an Islamic perspective. This twelve-chapter volume presents the results from a pioneering seminar held in 2017 at the Research Center for Islamic Legislation & Ethics, College of Islamic Studies, Hamad Bin Khalifa University, in Qatar. The contributors to this volume, coming from different disciplines and specializations, approached the key ethical questions raised by the emerging field of genomics, viz. the Genome Question (GQ), from various angles and perspectives. Their shared thesis is that the breadth and depth of both the GQ and the Islamic tradition necessitate going beyond just producing quick answers in response to immediate questions. In order to accommodate the complexity and wide scope of the GQ, the volume included critical analyses of the ethical discourse on genomics, from outside the Islamic tradition. Within the Islamic tradition, the contributing authors explored how the GQ can be better explored by involving insights from various disciplines including Quran exegesis, Islamic jurisprudence, philosophy and theology. Besides its interest for researchers and students specialized in ethics, bioethics and Islamic studies, this volume will be a source of important information for geneticists, genomicists and social scientists who are interested in the ethical discourse about genomics in the Muslim world.

Contributors include: Asad I. Padeis, Abbas Amir, Amara Naceur, Arnoo Ahmed, Ayman Shabana, Hub Zwart, Mehruhisa Sukman, Mohammed Ghaly, Mutaz al-Khadh, Bendenia Saadia and Trevor Stammers.

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Genome Question

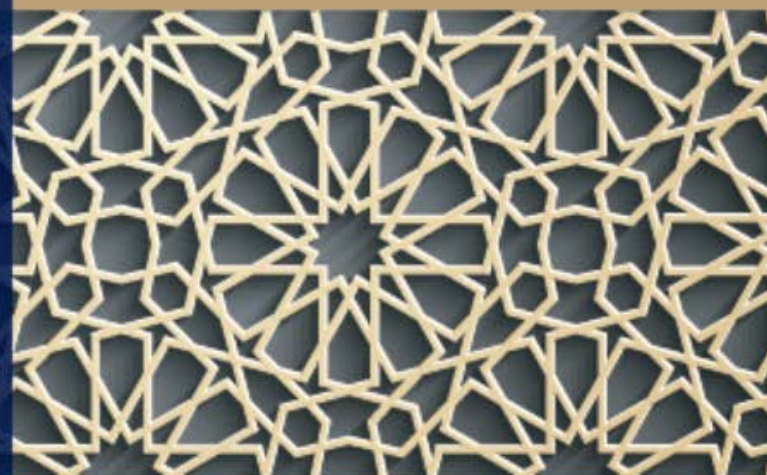
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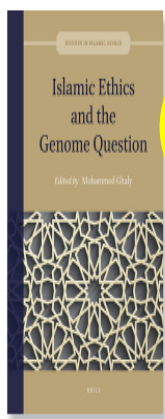
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