

**CARNEGIE SCHOLARS**  
**By Class and Project Description**

2006	<p>Eva Bellin  Associate Professor  Department of Political Science  695 Park Avenue  New York, NY 10021  Office: (212) 772-5666  Email:  <a href="mailto:ebellin@hunter.cuny.edu">ebellin@hunter.cuny.edu</a></p>	<p>“Arbitrating Identity: High Courts and the Politics of Islamic-Liberal Reconciliation in the Muslim World”</p>	<p>Hunter College,  City College of New York</p>	<p>A younger scholar, Bellin is regarded as one of the most outstanding scholars in the United States today in the study of the politics of the Middle East, publishing scholarly papers in some of the most competitive peer-reviewed journals in her discipline. She has become a critical participant in the study of politics in Northern Africa and the Middle East. Bellin’s research, which should culminate in a book, aims to explore the roles that high courts play in those states in the Muslim world whose foundational institutions are informed both by their religious identity and their liberal democratic values. She will situate her case studies in Egypt and Pakistan, two countries where the courts play an activist role in reconciling liberal and Islamist traditions. She will investigate the strategies employed by the courts in reconciling these two traditions, as well as explore the institutional, sociological and international factors that help define the justices’ innovative rulings. Bellin aims to elucidate the role that legal elites and institutions may play in forging new paths of cultural reconciliation. With her book, she intends to reach the academic, policymaking and general audiences.</p>
2006	<p>Zvi Ben-Dor Benite  Assistant Professor of History/ Middle East and Islamic Studies  Department of History  53 Washington Square South, 7<sup>th</sup> Floor  New York, NY 10012  Office: (212) 998-8614  Fax: (212) 995-4017  Email:  <a href="mailto:2BD1@nyu.edu">2BD1@nyu.edu</a></p>	<p>“Islam and the Emergence of Modern China”</p>	<p>New York University</p>	<p>Ben-Dor Benite is a recognized younger scholar, having received several awards and honors, among them, a Fulbright Fellowship, an Edmond Safra Pioneering Student Award and a post-doctoral Fellowship at the Center for Historical Analysis at Rutgers University. Drawing on his rich academic background and on the significant body of work by Chinese Muslim intellectuals, Ben-Dor Benite will explore models for framing and understanding the presence of large Muslim populations in historically and demographically non-Muslim lands. He will also examine to what extent the systems of non-Muslim lands shape the way Muslims</p>

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				are able to integrate into the larger, non-Muslim society. Ben-Dor Benite will provide a fresh lens for the study of Islamic diasporas. He will look at how modern Chinese Muslim intellectuals simultaneously redefined Islam and carved out a new space in the post-imperial context through a careful examination of text and interviews by the students of Pang Shiqian, who translated the Qur'an into Chinese, and Ma Jian, a Confucian scholar turned Islamic Jurist. Ben-Dor Benite's intended book will reach non-academic audiences, including Muslim diasporas in the United States, Europe and China.
2000	Matthew Evangelista Professor, Department of Government Cornell University McGraw Hall Ithaca, NY 14853 Office: 607/255-8672 Home: 607/266-0687 Fax: 607/255-4530 Email: mae10@cornell.edu	"Will Russia Go the Way of the Soviet Union? Lessons from the Chechen Wars"	Cornell University	Dr. Matthew Evangelista, professor of government at Cornell University, is studying Moscow's recent wars with Chechnya and their implications for the future of the Russian Federation and international security. After analyzing the conflicts in terms of strategic considerations, Soviet historical and institutional legacies, and leadership personalities, Dr. Evangelista will examine four other regions considered "at risk" for separatism in the wake of the Chechen Wars: Dagestan, Tatarstan, Bashkortostan, and Sakhalin. Adducing the cultural and normative factors that inhibit secessionist tendencies, he will consider how the West might bolster these factors in the interest of international stability.
2006	Aziz Huq Associate Counsel The Brennan Center for Justice New York University School of Law 161 Avenue of the Americas 12 <sup>th</sup> floor New York, NY 10013 Office: (212) 992-8632 Fax: (212) 995-4550	"Counter-Terrorism, Speech Regulation and Muslim Minorities in the West"	The Brennan Center for Justice	Huq's past clerkship with Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg and his work with Muslim, Sunni and Shi'ite communities around the world, including some of the most challenging areas of Afghanistan and Pakistan, have well positioned him to take on this challenging research topic. Recent terrorist assaults have resulted in more stringent applications of European and North American legal regimes. Such mechanisms, which have been principally used against Muslim minorities, include stricter regulations on freedom of speech and association. Huq will analyze post-September 11 <sup>th</sup> legislation in the United States, the United Kingdom,

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	Email: <a href="mailto:Aziz.huq@nyu.edu">Aziz.huq@nyu.edu</a>			Canada, and France by describing the new counterterrorism powers within legal, historical and political contexts and by examining whether this new legislation accomplishes the goal of curtailing radicalism or instead further marginalizes Muslim minority communities. Huq's scholarship will combine analysis of the lawfulness of counterterrorist tactics with research on the dynamics of radicalization and religious identity among Muslim minorities. His work will contribute to the current debate by illuminating new understanding of the consequences of legal regulations on minority groups' speech and association.
2002	Rajan Menon Monroe J. Rathbone Professor of International Relations Department of International Relations Lehigh University Maginnes Hall 9 Bethlehem, PA 18015 Office: 610/758-3386 Home: 212/749-6928 Email: <a href="mailto:rajan.menon@verizon.net">rajan.menon@verizon.net</a>	"Islam and the Politics, Foreign Policy, and National Security of the Russian Federation"	Lehigh University	Menon seeks to explore how Islam in its diverse forms and manifestations could shape Russia's political order, the means and ends of its foreign policy and the formulation and implementation of its national security strategy. He will focus on the major Islamic zones within Russia (the north Caucasus, Bashkortostan and Tatarstan) and on Russia's policies toward Central Asia and the South Caucasus's neighboring regions where the role of Islamic politics is particularly evident. His project will investigate some of the following questions: Do Russians reduce Islam in politics to fundamentalism, or is there a richer and more complex understanding taking root among them?; What are the practical consequences of the ways in which Islam's national security significance is understood in Russia?; And how much attention has the Russian military paid to Islam's political role? Through his research, Menon hopes to provide a fuller, more complex appreciation of Islam and politics in Russia.

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2006	<p>Vali Nasr          Professor of Middle East and South Asia Politics          Naval Post Graduate School          1411 Cunningham Road          Monterey, CA 93943          Office: (619) 339-9192          Fax: (858) 551-0517          Email:  <a href="mailto:vnasr@nps.edu">vnasr@nps.edu</a></p>	<p>“Gauging the Prospects for the Rise of “Muslim Democratic” Political Parties and Platforms in Muslim Democracies”</p>	Navel Postgraduate School	<p>Nasr, an expert on political and social developments in the Muslim world, will research the following questions: What will be the shape of democracy in the Muslim world? Who will be the likely spokespeople of Islam in the political process? Nasr posits that the “strategic middle,” a term used to describe a new trend of secular political agendas and pragmatic Islamic concerns, will likely dominate Muslim societies. This rise of Muslim democracy reflects the compatibility of Muslim values and ethics with practical election strategies in a democratic setting. Nasr’s project will analyze the make-up of this “strategic middle” by questioning the factors and actors that matter in defining its shape. His preliminary findings suggest that the “strategic middle” in the political arena is created in the context of electoral competition and, although it appeals to Muslim values, is neither defined nor controlled by Islamist forces. Through case studies in Bangladesh, Indonesia, Malaysia, Pakistan and Turkey, with supportive data from Iran, Egypt and Morocco, Nasr’s scholarship, which will result in articles and a book, will move beyond the study of Islamic actions and ideas to include the forming of democratic arenas and the prospects for democratization in the broader Muslim world.</p>
2005	<p>Muhammad Qasim Zaman          Robert H. Niehaus ’77          Professor of Near Eastern Studies and Religion          110 Jones Hall          Princeton, NJ 08540          Office: 609 258-2011          Email:  <a href="mailto:mzaman@princeton.edu">mzaman@princeton.edu</a></p>	<p>“Internal Criticism and Religious Authority in Modern Islam”</p>	Princeton University	<p>Discussions of social, political and religious "reform" in the Muslim world are seldom guided by a sophisticated understanding of how Muslim scholars and activists have themselves argued about reform. Zaman proposes to examine particular conceptions of the Islamic tradition that are at stake in these arguments and how religious authority is challenged and reconfigured through them. He'll do this by focusing on modes of internal criticism among the <i>'ulama</i>, traditionally educated religious Islamic scholars, of the Middle East and South Asia from the late 19th century to the present and by comparing the <i>'ulama's</i> reactions to external critics, particularly the modernists and Islamists,</p>

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				but also from the non-Islamic world. Zaman's study aims to provide a deeper understanding of key debates among Muslims on reform and religious authority and a context for understanding issues relating to religious and political change for the global community. The book resulting from this research succeeds an earlier study and publication by Zaman called <i>'Ulama in Contemporary Islam</i> , which focuses on modern Islamic religious scholars.
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