

Haider Ala Hamoudi

University of Pittsburgh School of Law
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Professional Experience

University of Pittsburgh School of Law

Vice Dean/Associate Dean of Academic Affairs (July 1, 2017-Present)

Professor of Law (July 1, 2016-Present)

Associate Dean of Research & Faculty Development (July 1, 2013-June 30, 2017)

Associate Professor of Law (July 2012-June 2016)

Assistant Professor of Law (July 2007-June 2012)

Current Responsibilities as Vice Dean include management and long term planning of Law School curriculum, supervision of adjunct faculty, member of leadership team drafting strategic plan for Law School, supervision of budget planning process, including annual sessions with stakeholders to identify budget priorities, and primary representative of the Law School when the Dean is not available.

Teaching Subjects: Islamic Law, Contracts, Commercial Transactions in Goods.

Areas of Research: Islamic Law, Islamic Finance, Islamic Jurisprudence, Middle Eastern Law, Middle Eastern Commercial Law, Shi'ism, Iraqi Civil Law, Iraqi Commercial Law, Iraqi Constitutional Law, Arab Legal Pluralism, Commercial Law.

Law School Committees (2012-20):

Curriculum (ex officio) (2017-20); Writing Awards (2016-17); Colloquium (ex officio)(2015-17); Teaching (2015-2016); Evaluation (Chair, for S. Velez) (2015-16); Scholarship Promotion (ad hoc)(ex officio) (2015-16); Steering (2008-2009, 2014-15); Colloquium (Chair) (2013-2015); Appointments (Chair) (2012-2013); Budget (2011-2013); Dean's Search (2011-2012).

AALS (American Association of Law Schools) Sections:

Islamic Law Section: Chair (2020-21); Chair Elect (2019-20); Secretary (2017-18); Chair (2014-15); Chair Elect (2013-14)

Law and Religion Section: Member of Program Committee (2019-20); Member of Prize Committee (2018-19); Chair of Prize Committee (2017-18).

University of Utah SJ Quinney School of Law/U.S. Embassy, Baghdad

Visiting Professor and Deputy Chief of Party (April 6, 2009 – December 31, 2009)

Based primarily in Baghdad working on a grant funded by the Constitutional and Legislative Affairs Office of the U.S. Embassy in Baghdad. Primary responsibilities include management and implementation of the project, assisting Iraqi legislature in enactment of critical commercial and financial legislation, and attending all meetings of the Constitutional Review Committee of the Iraqi legislature and participating in all discussions related to a critical series of constitutional amendments designed to ensure Sunni support of the Constitution.

Columbia Law School

Associate in Law (July 1, 2005-June 30, 2007)

DePaul University, International Human Rights Law Institute

Project Manager (January 1, 2004-June 30, 2005)

Iraq Based Manager of a USAID funded project to reform legal education in Iraq, with particular emphasis on clinical legal education.

Iraq Governing Council

Legal Advisor, Finance Committee (December 7, 2003-June 28, 2004)

Engaged in legal review of all commercial and financial legislation presented to the Iraqi Governing Council for its approval.

Debevoise & Plimpton

Associate (December 8, 1997 - August 31, 2003)

United States District Court for the Southern District of New York

Law Clerk to Hon. Constance Baker Motley (August 18, 1996 - August 14, 1997)

Awards and Service Activities

Arab Law Quarterly

Editor in Chief (September 1, 2018-Present)

Retained to help revitalize and restore the scholarly reputation of *Quarterly*—the most highly regarded and widely distributed law journal addressing matters of Arab law in the English language. To this end, we have replaced the peer review process with a more effective one, established special symposium issues, recomposed the Board of Editors entirely, and engaged in an aggressive digital marketing campaign to redefine the image of the journal within the relevant scholarly community.

Saudi Arabia Ministry of Commerce

Legislative Consultant (December 7, 2015-September 1, 2018)

Retained by Saudi Arabian Ministry of Commerce and Industry to advise on content of draft Unified Commercial Code for the nations of the Gulf Cooperation Council, and offer expert advice from time to time on potential reforms to Saudi commercial and business law.

American Branch of the International Law Association (ABILA)

Member, Board of Directors (November 1, 2016-July 31, 2018)

Chair, Islamic Law Section (October 1, 2015-July 31, 2018)

Co-Rapporteur, Islamic Law Section (October 1, 2011-October 31, 2015)

Greater Pittsburgh Chapter of the American Civil Liberties Union

Member, Board of Directors (Jan. 2014-Dec. 2016)

University of Pittsburgh School of Law

Robert W. Harper Excellence in Teaching Award (May 2014)

Awarded annually by vote of the graduating JD students to the best teacher on the faculty.

College of William and Mary

Kraemer Middle East Distinguished Scholar in Residence (March 2014)

The Kraemer Middle East Distinguished Scholar-In-Residence provides the opportunity for a renowned scholar and leading specialist in the area of law and governance in Islamic states to spend a short period of time at William & Mary sharing his or her expertise with the university community.

Boston University Institute for Iraq Studies

Senior Nonresident Fellow (October 3, 2011-Present)

The Institute is part of Boston University's College of Arts and Sciences. Senior Fellows of the Institute are "established scholars whose work contributes significantly to understanding Iraq."

American Society of Comparative Law**Hessel Yntema Prize (May 14, 2009)**

Awarded annually to a scholar under the age of 40 for a comparative law article published in the American Journal of Comparative Law.

Jessup International Moot Court Competition**Iraq National Administrator (2007-2010)****Select Expert Testimony****United Kingdom Secretary of State for the Home Department**

January 14, 2016-January 9, 2017. Expert witness in high profile extradition proceedings in the United Kingdom relating to convictions filed in Iraq against former Iraqi bank official.

United Kingdom Royal Courts of Justice

Spring 2014-Present. Expert witness in series of lawsuits filed by Iraqi civilians concerning alleged mistreatment while in detention in United Kingdom facilities.

District Court of the Hague

Fall 2012. Court appointed expert witness to District Court of the Hague in the tort case against Frans Van Anraat, the Dutch citizen convicted of selling material to Saddam Hussein used to manufacture chemical weapons.

Royal Courts of Justice, United Kingdom and Federal Court, Canada

Fall 2012. Expert witness in multibillion dollar suit filed against the Iraqi Airways Corporation by Kuwaiti Airlines Corporation in courts in both the United Kingdom and Canada.

United States Federal District Court

Spring-Summer 2010. Expert witness in series of cases filed against KBR, a Halliburton subsidiary, by former employees.

United States Federal District Court

Fall 2009. Expert witness in cases filed by Iraqi citizens against the Blackwater Worldwide security company.

United States Federal District Court

Summer 2008-September 2010. Expert witness for Guantanamo Bay detainee on issues concerning Iraqi and Islamic law and culture.

Education**Columbia Law School**

Doctor of Juridical Science (J.S.D.) (2008)

Columbia Law School

Juris Doctor (1996)

Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Bachelor of Science, Physics w. Electrical Engineering Minor (1993)

Harvard University Graduate School of Education

Management Development Program (June 2019)

Publications

Books, Dissertations

[ISLAMIC LAW IN A NUTSHELL](#) (West 2020)

[ISLAMIC LAW IN MODERN COURTS: CASES AND MATERIALS](#) (Aspen 2018)

[NEGOTIATING IN CIVIL CONFLICT: CONSTITUTIONAL CONSTRUCTION AND IMPERFECT BARGAINING IN IRAQ](#) (U. Chi. Press 2013)

TOWARD A LEGAL UNDERSTANDING OF THE SHARI'A (Columbia University Dissertation, 2009)

[HOWLING IN MESOPOTAMIA: AN IRAQI AMERICAN MEMOIR](#) (Beaufort Books 2008)

Law Review Articles, Book Chapters

Sex Policing in the Arab World in UNDERSTANDING GLOBAL LEGAL PLURALISM: FROM LOCAL TO GLOBAL, FROM DESCRIPTIVE TO NORMATIVE (forthcoming Oxford 2020)(Berman, P., ed.)

Engagements and Entanglements: The Contemporary Waqf and the Fragility of Shi'i Quietism, 35 J. L. & REL. __ (forthcoming 2020).

Strategic Juristic Omission And The Non-Muslim Blood Price: An Examination Of Shi'i Fiqh And Practice in VISIONS OF SHARĪ'A: CONTEMPORARY DISCUSSIONS ON SHĪĪ LEGAL THEORY (Brill 2019)

Beyond the Hawza: Legal Pluralism and the Ironies of Shi'i Law in REGULATING RELIGION IN ASIA (Cambridge University Press 2019)

Book Review: Arguing Islam After the Revival of Arab Politics, by Nathan J. Brown, 32 J. L. & RELIGION 527 (2017).

[Resurrecting Islam or Cementing Social Hierarchy?: Reexamining the Codification of "Islamic" Personal Status Law](#), 33 AZ. J. INT. & COMP. L. 329 (2016).

[Lone Wolf Terrorism and the Classical Jihad: On the Contingencies of Modern Islamic Extremism](#), 11 FLA. INT'L L. REV. 19 (2015).

[Sex and the Shari'a: Defining Gender Norms and Sexual Deviancy in Shi'i Islam](#), 39 FORDHAM INT. L. J. 25 (2015).

[The Resolution of Disputes in State and Tribal Law in the South of Iraq: Toward a Cooperative Model of Pluralism](#) in NEGOTIATING STATE AND NON-STATE LAW: CHALLENGES OF GLOBAL AND LOCAL PLURALISM (Cambridge University Press 2015)(coauthored with Wasfi H. Al-Sharaa and Aqeel Al-Dahhan).

[The Impossible, Highly Desired Islamic Bank](#), 5 WM. & MARY BUS. L. REV. 105 (2014)

[Decolonizing the Centralist Mind: Legal Pluralism and the Rule of Law](#), in THE INTERNATIONAL RULE OF LAW MOVEMENT: A CRISIS OF LEGITIMACY AND THE WAY FORWARD (Harvard University Press 2014)

Transparency and the Shi'i Clerical Elite, in INTERNATIONAL TRANSPARENCY HANDBOOK (E.Elgar 2014)

[Book Review: Islamic Law in Action: Authority, Discretion, and Everyday Experiences in Mamluk Egypt](#), 28 J.L. & RELIGION 555 (2013)

On the Political Appeal of Islamic Finance, 2013 SARAJEVO CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS, BUSINESS IN BETWEEN CULTURES (European Association of Banking and Financial History)

[*Religious Minorities and Shari'a in Iraqi Courts*](#), 31 B.U. INT. L. J. 387 (2013)

[*Arab Spring, Libyan Liberation and the Externally Imposed Democratic Revolution*](#), 89 DENV. U. L. REV. 699 (2012)

[*Repugnancy in the Arab World*](#), 48 WILLAMETTE L. REV. 427 (2012)

[*The Surprising Irrelevance of Islamic Bankruptcy*](#), 19 AM. BANKR. INST. L. REV. 505 (2011)

[*The American Commercial Religion*](#), 10 DEPAUL BUS. & COM. L. J. 107 (2012)

[*Notes in Defense of the Iraqi Constitution*](#), 14 U. PA. J. L. & SOC. CHANGE 395 (2011), *republished in* 33 U. PA. J. INT'L L. 1117 (2012)

[*The Arabs in the \(Inter\)national*](#), 10 SANTA CLARA J. INT'L L. 187 (2012)

[*International Law and Iraqi Courts*](#), in INTERNATIONAL LAW IN DOMESTIC COURTS: RULE OF LAW REFORM IN POST-CONFLICT STATES (Intersentia 2012)

[*Thinking Beyond the Original Bargain: Post Ratification Constitution Making and the Case of Iraq*](#), APSA ANNUAL MEETING PAPER (2012).

[*The Will of the \(Iraqi\) People*](#), 2011 UTAH L. REV. 45 (2011)

[*Present at the Resurrection: Islamic Finance and Islamic Law*](#), 26 AM. J. INT. L. 1107 (2011)

[*Book Review: Constitutional Theocracy*](#), 49 OSGOODE HALL L. J. 151 (2011)

[*Ornamental Repugnancy: Identitarian Islam and the Iraq Constitution*](#), 7 U. ST. THOM. L. REV. 692 (2010)

[*Book Review: Islam and Liberal Citizenship*](#), 26 J. L. & REL. 387 (2011)

[*Identitarian Violence and Identitarian Politics: Elections and Governance in Iraq*](#), 51 HARVARD INT'L L.J. ONLINE 82 (2010)

[*The Death of Islamic Law*](#), 38 GA. J. INT'L & COMP. L. 293 (2010)

[*Between Realism and Resistance: Shi'i Islam and the Contemporary Liberal State*](#), 11 J. ISLAMIC L. & CULTURE 107 (2009)

[*Book Review: The Crisis of Islamic Civilization*](#), 47 OSGOODE HALL L. J. 159 (2009)

[*Dream Palaces of Law: Western Constructions of the Muslim Legal World*](#), 32 HASTINGS INT'L & COMP. L. REV. 803 (2009)

[*Between Symbiosis and Schizophrenia: The Rights of Iraqi Refugees under Iraqi Law*](#), 34 RUTGERS L. REC. 31 (2009)

Book Review: Orientalism and The Fall and The Rise of the Islamic State, 2 MID. E. L. & GOV. 81 (2009)

[*The Muezzin's Call and the Dow Jones Bell: On the Necessity of Realism in the Study of Islamic Law*](#), 56 AM. J. COMP. L. 423 (2008) (Winner of the Hessel Yntema Prize Awarded by the American Society of Comparative Law to the Best Article in the AJCL by a Scholar Under the Age of 40)

[*You Say You Want a Revolution: Interpretive Communities and the Origins of Islamic Finance*](#), 48 VA. J. INT'L L. 249 (2008)

[*Baghdad Booksellers, Basra Carpet Merchants, and the Law of God and Man: Legal Pluralism and the Contemporary Muslim Experience*](#), 1 BERK. J. MIDDLE E. & ISLAMIC L. 83 (2008)

[*Muhammad's Social Justice or Muslim Cant?: Langdellianism and the Failures of Islamic Finance*](#), 40 CORNELL INT'L L. REV. 89 (2007)

[*Money Laundering Amidst Mortars: Legislative Process and State Authority in Post-Invasion Iraq*](#), 16 TRANS. L. & CONTEMP. PROB. 523 (2007)

[*Jurisprudential Schizophrenia: On Form and Function in Islamic Finance*](#), 7 CHI. J. INT'L L. 605 (2007)

[*Toward a Rule of Law Society in Iraq: Introducing Clinical Legal Education into Iraqi Law Schools*](#), 23 BERKELEY J. INT'L L. 112 (2005)

Presentations (2012-2020)

The Restoration of the Arab Law Quarterly, Virtual Lecture at Baghdad's Iraqia Law School (June 8, 2020) (963 attendees, in Arabic)

Commentary on Prof. Freamon's "Possessed by the Right Hand," Islamic Law Section, AALS Annual Meeting, (January 5, 2020)

Instrumental Engagement: Shi'i Jurists and the Waqf in Contemporary Iraq, Wayne State University School of Law (March 25, 2019)

Islamic Law in the Modern State, Villanova University Charles Widger School of Law (Feb. 15, 2019)

Commentary on Leonard Wood Book, Islamic Legal Revival in 20th Century Egypt, AALS Annual Meeting (Jan. 5, 2019)

Justice in the Islamic Tradition, Duquesne University School of Law (April 25, 2018)

Islamic Finance and the Clash of Faiths, Annual Meeting of the American Society of Comparative Law (October 27, 2017)

On the Quietist Myth, Max Planck Institute for Comparative and International Private Law (June 14, 2017)

Teaching Islamic Law, AALS Islamic Law Section, at the Annual Meeting of the American Association of Law Schools (Jan. 6, 2017)

Islamic Law in the American Legal System, AALS Jewish Law Section, at the Annual Meeting of the American Association of Law Schools (Jan. 4, 2017)

Judicial Power and Democratic Transformation in Iraq, Texas A&M Political Science Dept. (Doha Branch) (December 4, 2016)

Sex and the Sharia, Hartford Seminary (October 19, 2016)

Religious Conversion and Iraqi Courts: Promises and Perils, Bayan Claremont Islamic University (April 23, 2016)

Real Estate and Islamic Finance, American Bar Association Professors' Corner (April 12, 2016) (via video)

Islam and the Modern State, Buffett Institute for Global Studies, Northwestern University (April 7-8, 2016)(commenter for papers by junior faculty)

Iraqi Law and the Protection of Antiquities, Proceedings for the American Society of International Law (March 31, 2016)

Abrahamic Religions & The Middle East, Duquesne University (Symposium on Inter-Religious Dialogue) (March 9, 2016)

Islamic Law Pedagogy, University of California, Santa Barbara (February 20, 2016)

Islamic Law and Estate Planning for Muslim Clients, American Bar Association Professors' Corner (February 9, 2016)(via video)

The Ironies of Shi'i Law, National University of Singapore (December 11, 2015)

Lone Wolf Terrorism and the Classical Jihad: On the Contingencies of Violent Islamic Extremism, Florida International University College of Law (October 22, 2015) (via videoconference)

Islamic Law in Modern Courts: Introduction to a Casebook, Center for International Legal Education Twentieth Anniversary Conference (September 11, 2015)

Mediating Modern Law and Medieval Fiqh: On the Strategic Juristic Omission of the Najaf Jurists, Center of Islam, Law and Modernity, Durham University (United Kingdom) (August 18, 2015)

Strategic Juristic Omission: On the Non-Muslim Bloodprice in Shi'i Islam, Global Islamic Criminal Law Conference (May 1, 2015)

The Caliphate in Historical Context, University of Pittsburgh (Conference on Countering Extremism) (April 10, 2015)

The State of the Iraqi Judiciary, Rand Corporation (Arlington, VA) (April 2, 2015)

Iraq and Imperfect Constitution Making, Indiana University Maurer School of Law (February 26, 2015)

Islamic Legal Realism, Harvard Law School (June 2, 2014)

Conceptions of Maturity in Islamic and State Law, Al Mahdi Institute (April 4, 2014)

Book Presentation on Negotiating in Civil Conflict, Allegheny Harvard, Yale, Princeton Club (March 27, 2014)

Understanding the Shi'a Sunni Split, Kraemer Distinguished Scholar Address, College of William and Mary (March 13, 2014)

Islam in the Iraq Constitution, William and Mary Law School (March 12, 2014)

Commentary on The Struggle for Iraq's Future, New York University School of Law (March 5, 2014)

Negotiating in Civil Conflict, University of Pittsburgh School of Law (Jan. 23, 2014)

Legal Pluralism and the Rule of Law, Harvard Law School (Nov. 8, 2013)

Religious Minorities in the Islamic State: The Example of Iraq, Boston University Law School (March 25, 2013)

The Myth of the Islamic State, Islamic Law Section, American Association of Law Schools Annual Meeting (Jan. 6, 2013)

Thinking Beyond the Original Bargain, Fall 2012 Iraq Workshop, Boston University (November 30, 2012)

The Politics of Islamic Finance, Business in Between Cultures, University of Sarajevo (November 16, 2012)

US Regulation of Islamic Finance, International Law Weekend, Fordham University School of Law (October 27, 2012)

Shari'a in the Arab Spring, Seasons of the Arab Spring, Global Studies Center, University of Pittsburgh (March 30, 2012)

Islamic Law and the Islamic State, Keynote Address, United States Military Academy (West Point) (March 29, 2012)

Repugnancy and the Arab Canon, Williamette School of Law (Feb. 15, 2012)

Transparency, Muslim Jurists and the Shari'a, Annual Meeting of the American Association of Law Schools (Jan. 7, 2012)

Other

- Fluent in Arabic, proficient in Bahasa Indonesia, mid-novice proficiency in German.
- Admitted to practice in New York State and the Southern District of New York.