

Contents

Acknowledgements — 7

List of Tables and Figures — XIII

Note on Transliteration — XV

Introduction — 1

Chapter 1: Religion as a Field of Competition — 8

- 1.1 Studying Religious Pluralism — 12
 - The Concept of Pluralism — 13
 - The Concept of Religiosity — 15
 - The Impact of Pluralism — 17
- 1.2 Theoretical Propositions about Religious Economies — 21
 - Unclear Correlation Between Pluralism and Religiosity — 26
 - Regulation and Competition as Key Mechanisms — 27
 - Problems with Market Theory — 29
 - Implications for Future Research — 32
- 1.3 Applying Economic Theory to Islam — 34
- 1.4 Capital and Strategies: Insights from Bourdieu — 38
- 1.5 Fieldwork Research in Baku — 42

Chapter 2: Islam in the Caucasus: Historical Contexts of Religious Pluralism — 48

- Religious Identity and History — 48
- 2.1 Islamization of the Land of Fire — 51
- 2.2 Turks and Mongols — 55
- 2.3 State Shiism — 61
 - The Career of the Safavid Order — 62
 - Politics and Religion under Safavid rule — 65

Chapter 3: Islamic Modernism and Secularism — 68

- 3.1 The Emergence of a “Modern” Understanding of Islam — 68
 - Jadidism – Modernist Reform Movement — 69
- 3.2 Secularization — 72
- 3.3 Soviet Influences — 76

Chapter 4: The Lived Islam — 82

- 4.1 “Cultural Muslims” — **85**
Socialization into a Muslim society — **89**
- 4.2 Secularized Muslims — **91**
Religious Attendance — **93**
- 4.3 Religiosity of the Shrines — **97**
Eclecticism — **103**
- 4.4 Am I a Shia or a Sunni? The blurring of sectarian division — **106**
- 4.5 Cultural Muslims in post-Soviet states — **107**

Chapter 5: Religious Revival and the Plurality of Choices — 109

- Islamic Revival in the former USSR — **112**
- 5.1 Shiism — **116**
- 5.2 Sunnism — **121**
Salafism: Between Piety and Fundamentalism — **123**
Modern Orthodoxy in Turkish Islam — **126**
- 5.3 Reformism — **131**
Conclusion — **136**

Chapter 6: Choosing Religion: Strategies and Discourses — 137

- 6.1 Pluralism and Religiousness: The Peculiarity of Azerbaijan — **137**
- 6.2 From Fate to Choice — **141**
Tradition Taken for Granted — **142**
- 6.3 Choosing Religion — **143**
The Miracles of the Koran — **145**
Becoming a Convert — **149**
Hesitation — **154**
- 6.4 Choosing among Alternatives — **156**
“Market” Choices — **159**
Sunnism Versus Shiism — **161**
- 6.5 Plausibility and Legitimacy — **164**
Why Islam is the only true religion?: Overcoming the Problem of Plausibility — **166**
Exclusivist and Inclusivist Approaches — **169**

Chapter 7: Religious Competition — 172

- 7.1 Official and Unofficial Islam — **172**
- 7.2 Demand for Piety and Change — **181**
- 7.3 New models of Islam — **182**
Iranian Clerics — **182**

	Independent Shiism —	184
7.4	The Process of Sunnitization —	188
	Salafism —	188
	Turkish Islam —	191
	Reformist Intellectuals —	195
	Conclusion —	196
Chapter 8: State control: Heretic-Hunting —		198
8.1	Post-Soviet Religious Policy —	198
	Initial Free Market —	199
	Towards Restrictions —	200
	War on Terror —	205
8.2	Impact of State Regulations —	208
Glossary —		211
Bibliography —		213
Index —		223