The Center for the Study of the Middle East invites you to attend

CSME Academic and Professional Lecture Series

Legal bases of human dissection
from a wider Islamic perspective

Homaira M. Azim, MD
Thursday, November 29th, 2:00 pm
Center for the Study of the Middle East

The CSME lecture series at Indiana University is a program driven by the students’ areas of interests in the Middle East, North Africa, and the Near East as well as requests for lectures focused on professional experience and career development. Dr. Homaira M Azim, Adjunct Lecturer of Human Anatomy at IUPUC and Professor of Gross Anatomy at Kabul Medical University is a Visiting Scholar at the Center for the Study of Middle East (CSME) at Indiana University.

Human dissection for educational purposes is identified as non-contradictory with the Islamic Shari’a. Besides, the strong necessity of this practice has been widely recognized in the world of Islamic jurisprudence. Human dissection for the purpose of advancing medical knowledge has been a focus of debates throughout the history of medicine. The dissection human cadavers for the teaching of human anatomy has been called in violation with Shari’a and therefore banned in Afghanistan since 1992. This paper comparatively examines various Islamic jurisprudential perspectives regarding permissibility of human dissection both in historical and contemporary contexts.