

# EDUCATION INTEGRATION CHALLENGES



THE CASE OF  
AUSTRALIAN MUSLIMS

EDITED BY DR A. W. ATA

## EDUCATION INTEGRATION CHALLENGES

**The Case of Australian Muslims**

**Edited by Dr Abe W. Ata**

228 x 152 mm 192 pp pb

ISBN 9781 86355 149 6 rrp \$35.00

***This book provides a valuable opportunity to analyse the issues challenging both Australian Muslims and the wider community. Not only does it explore what it means to be a Muslim in contemporary Australia, but it also presents the thoughts, practices and discourses of social change in Australia.***

**Hass Dellal, Director  
Australian Multicultural Commission**

Australia displays an outstanding record, says Dr Ata, in displaying tolerance and in accommodating an incredibly diverse population. While the cultural and historical differences between Christian and Muslim communities in

our society are too great to make a complete reconciliation easily achieved, given the alternatives, a creative dialogue must continue.

Especially since the events of September 2011, many Australians have become concerned about what goes on behind the walls of the Muslim community. These concerns, often driven by fear and lack of knowledge, can be addressed through education.

The essays collected in this book look behind those walls and explore the issues challenging both Muslim Australians and the mainstream society today.

The broad and diverse perspectives covered in this project are important and topical, and have not been gathered before in published form. They are written by contributors who are members of Muslim community and outsiders, lay and religious, academic and non-professional; Australian and beyond. This in many ways widens the frame of reference, effectiveness of argumentation and style of criticism.

The analysis and understanding of what it means to be a Muslim in a growing multicultural, multi-religious, technological contemporary Australia present a difficult and sensitive task. This collection provides a stepping stone on that journey.

### **The Author**

**DR ABE W. ATA** graduated in psychology at the American University and was nominated as a delegate to the United Nations' World Youth Assembly in New York. He completed his doctorate at Melbourne University in 1980 and has since taught in several Australian, American, Jordanian, West Bank and Danish universities. He was an Honorary Fellow at the Australian Catholic University (2000-2010) and is currently an Honorary Fellow at Deakin University. His cross-cultural training background, multidisciplinary approach and sensitivity in conducting and interpreting a wide range of research projects are demonstrated in his publication of 15 books. These include *Bereavement and Health in Australia* (1996); *Christian and Muslim Intermarriage in Australia* (2005), *Us and Them: Christian-Muslim Relations and Social Harmony in Australia* (2009) and *Catholics and Catholicism in Australia: Challenges and Achievements* (2012). He has also written 102 journal articles of which 17 are published in the *Encyclopedia of Australian People* (2000), *Encyclopedia of Melbourne* (2005), and *Encyclopedia of Religions* (2009).

**David Lovell Publishing PO Box 44 Kew East VIC 3102 tel/fax +61 3 9859 0000**

**email publisher@davidlovellpublishing.com www.davidlovellpublishing.com**

**Distributed nationally by Rainbow Book Agencies 508 High St Preston VIC 3072**

**tel +61 3 9470 6611 fax +61 3 9470 2371 email rba@rainbowbooks.com.au**

**www.rainbowbooks.com.au**



# EDUCATION, INTEGRATION, CHALLENGES

## The Case of Australian Muslims Edited by Dr A. W. Ata

228 x 152 mm 192 pp pb ISBN 9781 86355 149 6 rrp \$35.00

### Introduction

Abe W. Ata

### Part 1: Muslims in Australian Society

**Abe W. Ata** Knowledge, False Beliefs and Fact-Driven Perceptions of Muslims in Australia: A national survey

**Hisham M. Abu-Rayya & Fiona A. White** Acculturation Orientations of Anglo-Australians towards Australian Muslim

**Kevin M. Dunn** Contemporary Racism and Islamophobia in Australia: De-racialising a religion

**Benjamin Isakhan** Islam and Democracy in Australia

**Patrick McInerney** The Centre for Christian-Muslim Relations: A pioneering effort

### Part 2: Social and Cultural Issues

**Jan A. Ali** Understanding the Barriers to Social Inclusion Experienced by Muslims in Australia

**Selda Dagistanli** 'Attacks on civil society': Looking back at the Sydney gang rapes

**Sekneh Beckett, Alyena Mohummadally & Maria Pallotta-Chiarolli** Living the Rainbow: 'Queerying' Muslim identities

**Aziz Cooper** Muslim Prisoners and Chaplaincy Support in Australia

**Ikebal Patel** Organ Donation: An Islamic-Australian perspective

**Ghassan Kassisieh & Sekneh Hammoud-Beckett** A World of Whispers: Life for same-sex attracted Muslims from Arabic-speaking backgrounds in Australia

### Part 3: Education

**Abe W. Ata & Nigel Rockliffe** Muslim Students' Beliefs, Knowledge and Perceptions of Australia: A national survey

**Margaret Perger & Alex Kostogriz** Multiculturalism, Schooling and Muslims in Australia: From Orientalism to a possibility of hospitable education

**Silma Ihram** Barriers to Muslim Women's Career Aspirations

### ORDER FORM

Name ..... Organisation .....

Address .....

Suburb/City ..... State ..... P/Code .....

Date ..... Tel ..... Email .....

### Mail to:

**David Lovell Publishing**  
PO Box 44 Kew East VIC 3102  
Tel 03 9859 0000  
Email [publisher@davidlovellpublishing.com](mailto:publisher@davidlovellpublishing.com)

Please send me ..... copy/ies of **EDUCATION, INTEGRATION, CHALLENGES** @ \$35.00 .....

plus p&p \$10.00 .....

TOTAL .....

I enclose cheque/money order for \$ ..... (cheques payable to David Lovell Publishing)

OR  please invoice me OR charge my credit card  Visa  Mastercard

Card no                 Expires ..... / .....

Name on card ..... Signature .....