

Abstract

Islam in the North Caucasus: History and Contemporary Trends on example of Kabardino-Balkaria and Dagestan

The following thesis focuses on selected key aspects of Islam in the North Caucasus, with emphasis on two North Caucasus republics - Kabardino-Balkaria on the west and Dagestan on the east. The first part will follow the penetration of Islam in the North Caucasus, its role in the resistance against the Russian empire and the impact religion had on traditional Caucasian society. In the second part it will be analyzed current trends of Islam in the region, the mutual influence of religion and socio-political situation and the relation between traditional Islam and its radical forms. Work will be based on the study of relevant literature, press and fieldwork is also assumed.

Key words: North Caucasus, islam, islamism, Kabardino-Balkaria Republic, Dagestan