

Course Syllabus

Subject: History of the Institutions of the Islamic Community of Kosovo (BIK)

Study Program: Islamic Theology

Number of ECTS Credits: 4 ECTS Credits

Level and Type of Course: Elective

Course Code: 306

Fund of classes: 2+0

Semester: V

Professor: Mr. Ajni Sinani,

Academic Year: 2026/2027

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Course Objective

The aim of the course “History of the Institutions of the Islamic Community of Kosovo (BIK)” is to examine their origins, developments, historical trajectories, characteristics, and specific features. The course begins with the study of these institutions from a historical perspective. It then addresses the stages and periods through which the Islamic Community of Kosovo (BIK) and its institutions have passed. It also seeks to highlight the contribution of these institutions and of BIK itself as the sole and independent institution to which all Muslims in Kosovo belong, as well as Muslim citizens residing abroad. The course aims to demonstrate that without an officially organized religious institutional structure, a genuine religious life in a country cannot exist. Furthermore, it explains the importance of religious institutions in the development and advancement of Islamic religious activity. Through this course, students will acquire substantial knowledge about the development, broad expansion, and the significant and irreplaceable role played by religious institutions, with BIK at the forefront. Therefore, the study of the course “History of the Institutions of the Islamic Community of Kosovo (BIK)” is of particular importance for our students.

Expected Learning Outcomes:

After completing this cycle of lectures, the student will be able to:

- Recognize the origins and stages of the development of the institutions of the Islamic Community of Kosovo (BIK).
- Understand the sources and development of Islamic religious institutions.
- Comprehend the importance of these institutions.
- Clearly understand that the activity of the Islamic Community of the Republic of Kosovo (BIRK) is based on Islamic teachings, which BIRK implements within the framework of its Constitution and in accordance with the Constitution and state laws of Kosovo.

Teaching Methodology:

- **Teaching is conducted in the form of lectures.**
- **By encouraging and stimulating debates.**
- **By involving students in discussions.**
- **Through seminar papers and midterm exam**

Course Content:

Week 1: Introduction to the course and the literature of the course “History of the Institutions of the Islamic Community of Kosovo (BIK)”.

Literature: Ajni Sinani, The Muftiates and Sharia Courts in Kosovo between the Two World Wars (1918–1941), the book is in preparation for publication, pp. 1–20.

Week 2: The spread of Islam among Albanians.

Literature: Ajni Sinani, The Muftiates and Sharia Courts in Kosovo between the Two World Wars (1918–1941), the book is in preparation for publication, pp. 21–37.

Week 3: Main characteristics of Islamic law.

The difference between Islamic law and human law.

Literature: Ajni Sinani, The Muftiates and Sharia Courts in Kosovo between the Two World Wars (1918–1941), the book is in preparation for publication, pp. 65–70.

Week 4: The implementation of Sharia law before the First and Second World Wars and international obligations regarding its implementation.

Literature: Ajni Sinani, The Muftiates and Sharia Courts in Kosovo between the Two World Wars (1918–1941), the book is in preparation for publication, pp. 72–77.

Week 5: The Islamic Community and Albanians after the Ottoman state.

Literature: Ajni Sinani, *The Muftiates and Sharia Courts in Kosovo between the Two World Wars (1918–1941)*, Chapter Two, the book is in preparation for publication, pp. 82–97.

Week 6: Religious organization within the borders of national states.

The functioning of religious institutions in Kosovo after the Balkan Wars (1912–1913).

Literature: Ajni Sinani, *The Muftiates and Sharia Courts in Kosovo between the Two World Wars (1918–1941)*, Chapter Two, the book is in preparation for publication, pp. 89–102.

Week 7: The period of the Islamic Community (the first period from the formation of the Kingdom of SCS until 1929).

Literature: Ajni Sinani, *The Muftiates and Sharia Courts in Kosovo between the Two World Wars (1918–1941)*, Chapter Two, the book is in preparation for publication, pp. 102–108.

Week 8: The second period (1929–1935).

The Law on the Islamic Religious Community of the Kingdom of Yugoslavia (31.01.1930).

Literature: Ajni Sinani, *The Muftiates and Sharia Courts in Kosovo between the Two World Wars (1918–1941)*, Chapter Two, the book is in preparation for publication, pp. 108–118.

Week 9: The third period (1935–1941/46).

The institution of the Islamic Religious Community (BFI) where the Albanian population could defend national and religious interests (1937–1941).

The Vardar Banovina in Skopje (1929) and the leaders of the Islamic Religious Community as a social elite.

Literature: Ajni Sinani, *The Muftiates and Sharia Courts in Kosovo between the Two World Wars (1918–1941)*, Chapter Two, the book is in preparation for publication, pp. 142–160.

Week 10: The Islamic Religious Community of Kosovo during the years 1941–1945 was within the framework of Greater Albania, respectively the Albanian Muslim Community with headquarters in Tirana.

The confessionalism of the Yugoslav Marriage Law and the abolition of Sharia in Yugoslavia (1946).

Literature: Dr. Haki Kasumi, *Religious Communities in Kosovo, 1945–1980*, Prishtina, 1988, pp. 11–17;

Ajni Sinani, *The Muftiates and Sharia Courts in Kosovo between the Two World Wars (1918–1941)*, Chapter Two, the book is in preparation for publication, pp. 76–80.

Week 11: The Constitution of the Islamic Community in SFRY (12 April 1990) and the Islamic Communities within it: the Islamic Community for Bosnia and Herzegovina with headquarters in Sarajevo; the Islamic Community for Serbia with headquarters in Pristina; the Islamic Community for Macedonia with headquarters in Skopje; the Islamic Community for Montenegro with headquarters in Titograd; and the Islamic Community for Croatia and Slovenia with headquarters in Zagreb.

Literature: *Journal Glasnik of the Riyasat of the Islamic Community in SFRY*, Sarajevo, 1990, pp. 31–52.

Week 12: The Constitution of the Islamic Community of the Republic of Kosovo (September 2013).

Literature: Constitution of the Islamic Community of the Republic of Kosovo, Pristina (September 2013).

Week 13: Bodies of the Islamic Community (The Council of the Islamic Community).

Literature: Constitution of the Islamic Community of the Republic of Kosovo, Pristina (September 2013), Articles 36–56.

Week 14: Bodies of the Islamic Community (The Assembly of the Islamic Community).

Literature: Constitution of the Islamic Community of the Republic of Kosovo, Pristina (September 2013), Articles 57–60.

Week 15: Bodies of the Islamic Community (Personnel of the Islamic Community) and the electoral system.

Literature: Constitution of the Islamic Community of the Republic of Kosovo, Pristina (September 2013), Articles 61–75.

Required Literature:

- **Ajni Sinani, The Muftiates and Sharia Courts in Kosovo between the Two World Wars (1918–1941), Chapter Two, the book is in preparation for publication.**

Dr. Haki Kasumi, Religious Communities in Kosovo, 1945–1980, Pristina, 1988.

Assessment Criteria and Components:

Participation: 10 points

Seminar paper and in-class activity: 20 points

First test evaluation: 30 points

Final exam: 40 points

Total: 100 points

Grading Standard at FSI:

10 = 90% – 100% – Excellent

9 = 80% – 89% – Very good

8 = 70% – 79% – Good

7 = 60% – 69% – Satisfactory

6 = 50% – 59% – Insufficient

6=50 – 59 - Insufficient

Contribution to the Student Workload

Activity	Hours	Weeks	TOTAL
Lectures	2	15	30
Exercises (theoretical)	1	5	5
Preparation for the colloquium	-	-	-
Consultations	1	5	5
Test, seminar paper	1	10	10
Homework	2	2	4
Individual study (library or home)	-	-	5
Preparation for the final exam	1	5	5
Assessment time	2	2	4
Projects, presentations	1	7	7
Total		15 weeks	75 hours