

**RELIGION AND SOCIETY:
NEW PERSPECTIVES FROM
TURKEY**

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Professor Ali Bardakoğlu
President of Religious Affairs

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Professor Ali Bardakoğlu
President of the Religious Affairs

Professor Bardakoğlu was born in Kastamonu/Turkey in 1952. He finished Istanbul Imam Hatip High School in 1970 and graduated from Istanbul Higher Institute of Islamic Studies in 1974. He has also gained LLB from the Faculty of Law, University of Istanbul in 1975. After his graduation, Bardakoğlu worked as a teacher and a judge. He was appointed as an Assistant Professor of Islamic Law at the Faculty of Theology, University of Erciyes and became an Associate Professor in 1986 at the same university. Bardakoğlu moved to the Faculty of Theology, University of Marmara in 1993 and became a full Professor of Islamic Law in 1994. He was appointed as President of the Religious Affairs on 28 May 2003. Professor Bardakoğlu visited Europe, US and the Middle East for scholarly purposes. He lectured and gave conferences in various US and European universities. Professor Bardakoğlu has publications on aspects of Islamic Law, religion and democracy and Islam in Turkey.

Being modern does not mean undergoing the same process of enlightenment that the West did, or admitting the values that have been imposed by this process at the expense of one's religious and cultural merits.

