The Evidence Base: Faith, Religion and Humanitarian Action

This list presents key evidence on faith, religion, and humanitarian action published within the last five years. This evidence has been collated to support participants in dialogue at the World Humanitarian Summit on issues of engagement with faith communities and faith-based organizations in the context of humanitarian response. However, we hope that it will prove a useful resource for discussion well beyond the WHS.

The list is sorted alphabetically by the first author’s surname. Short summaries for each item are given. Full length versions can be found at the URL provided.

Separate listings are provided of submissions to the World Humanitarian Summit consultation process relevant to the themes faith and religion, and also reports from regional consultation events convened as part of the planning of the Special Event on religious engagement at the WHS.

Evidence collated on behalf of the Joint Learning Initiative on Faith and Local Communities by Olivia Wilkinson and Helena Manguerra.

Title: Faith, Secularism, and Humanitarian Engagement: Finding the Place of Religion in the Support of Displaced Communities  
Author(s): Ager, A. and Ager, J.  
Year: 2015  
Publisher/Publication: Palgrave  
Summary: Strengthening local humanitarian engagement demands not only rethinking dominant understandings of religion, but also revisiting the principles and practices of humanitarianism. This book seeks to articulate key aspects of the 'transborder discourse' necessary for humanitarian dialogue with religious and secular actors in the 21st century.  
Keywords: displacement, secular

Title: Local faith communities and the promotion of resilience in contexts of humanitarian crisis  
Author(s): Ager, J., Fiddian-Qasmiyeh, E. & Ager, A.  
Year: 2015  
Publisher/Publication: Journal of Refugee Studies, 28(1)  
Summary: This article reports on a structured review of evidence regarding the contributions of local faith communities (LFCs) for resilience. Major themes emerging from the analysis concern: the diversity of stakeholder perspectives on the presence and influence of LFCs on local humanitarian response; the resources—material and non-material—potentially made available through LFCs to crisis-affected communities; and the opportunities—and substantive challenges—for greater LFC partnership with humanitarian organizations.  
URL: http://jrs.oxfordjournals.org/content/28/2/202  
Keywords: local faith communities, resilience
Title: Mental health and psychosocial support in humanitarian emergencies in Africa: challenges and opportunities for engaging with the faith sector
Author(s): Ager, J., Abebe, B. and Ager, A.
Year: 2014
Publisher/Publication: The Review of Faith & International Affairs 12(1)
Summary: MHPSS is a key sector within humanitarian response in Africa, with faith-inspired NGOs and CSOs heavily engaged. However, awareness of faith appears to be limited to issues of religious affiliation as a potential basis for partiality in provision of services or as a mechanism for key “messaging” through relevant leaders. The role of religious belief and practice in supporting resilience in contexts of adversity is generally engaged with in only a superficial manner.
URL: http://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/15570274.2013.876729
Keywords: psychosocial, Africa

Title: Disaster Spiritual and Emotional Care In Professional Psychology: A Christian Integrative Approach.
Author(s): Aten, J. D.
Year: 2012
Publisher/Publication: Journal of Psychology & Theology 40(2)
Summary: This article introduces a Christian integrative approach to disaster spiritual and emotional care in professional psychology. Practice guidelines for integrative disaster spiritual and emotional care are offered, as well as a series of diverse examples of faith-based disaster interventions. Theological and integrative implications are also raised, as well as thoughts on how disaster spiritual and emotional care will contribute to the future of integration.
URL: http://journals.biola.edu/jpt/volumes/40/issues/2/articles/131
Keywords: psychosocial, Christianity

Title: Sacred Aid: Faith and Humanitarianism
Author(s): Barnett, M. and J. Gross Stein (editors)
Year: 2012
Publisher/Publication: Oxford University Press
Summary: This edited collection examines the dynamic relationship between the secularization and sanctification of humanitarianism, explores the structures and everyday acts of aid agencies and other actors that create, sustain, and dissolve the differences between religious and secular humanitarianism, and argues against the dominant line in international relations theory that suggests that the only kind of faith is religious faith. Chapters include pieces on funding and finance with FBOs, psychosocial assistance, as well as historical and anthropological perspectives on faith and humanitarianism.
Keywords: secular, funding, psychosocial, history, anthropology, humanitarian principles

Title: Where Is the Religion? Humanitarianism, Faith, and World Affairs
Author(s): Barnett, M.
Year: 2012
Publisher/Publication: Rethinking Religion and World Affairs, edited by Timothy Samuel Shah, Alfred C. Stepan, and Monica Duffy Toft, Oxford University Press
Summary: An exploration of the history and remit of faith in modern humanitarianism with key questions asking how religion can shape an organisation’s operations and if humanitarianism has faith-like elements itself.

Title: Faith-Based Humanitarianism: Organizational Change and Everyday Meanings in South Africa
Author(s): Burchardt, M.
Year: 2013
Publisher/Publication: Sociology of Religion
Summary: This article focuses on the involvement of churches and other Christian organizations in HIV/AIDS programs in South Africa in order to analyze the ensuing organizational dynamics. It argues that the asymmetrical power relations between mostly Northern donors and local churches, within which these organizational dynamics unfold, engender two interlocked processes: on the one hand, institutional isomorphism, which is reflected in the adoption by local actors of the technocratic and official templates promoted by the dominant discourse on civil society and its main protagonist, the nongovernmental organization; and on the other hand, local actors’ deployment of strategies of extraversion that contradict the “paper versions” of faith-based development.

Title: A Prospective Study of Religiousness and Psychological Distress Among Female Survivors of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita
Author(s): Chan, C.S., Rhodes, J.E., and Pérez, J.E.
Year: 2012
Publisher/Publication: American Journal of Community Psychology, 49(1-2)
Summary: This prospective study examined the pathways by which religious involvement affected the post-disaster psychological functioning of women who survived Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. Results indicated that, controlling for level of exposure to the hurricanes, pre-disaster physical health, age, and number of children, pre-disaster religiousness predicted higher levels of post-disaster (1) social resources and (2) optimism and sense of purpose. The latter, but not the former, was associated with better post-disaster psychological outcome.

Title: Unnoticed but Important: Revealing the Hidden Contribution of Community-Based Religious Institution of the Mosque in Disasters
Author(s): Cheema, A.R., Scheyvens, R., Glavovic, B., and Imran, M.
Year: 2014
Publisher/Publication: Natural Hazards 71 (3)
Summary: This paper explores the role of the mosque, a community-based religious institution, in disaster management by documenting and analysing its role in rural settings in the aftermath of the 2005 earthquake in Pakistan. This research suggests that state, civil society and private sector actors involved in disaster management need to understand
complex relationships involving people and their religious institutions, and their impact on the social dimension of recovery. The findings call for engagement: that is, acknowledging and valuing their role for building a synergy between secular and religious efforts for disaster risk reduction and post-disaster recovery.


**Keywords:** local faith communities, Islam, Pakistan

**Title:** Comparing Religious and Secular NGOs in Nigeria: are Faith-Based Organizations distinctive?

**Author(s):** Davies, C., Jagede, A., Leurs, R., Sunmola, A. & Ukiwo, U.

**Year:** 2011

**Publisher/Publication:** Working Paper No. 56, Religions and Development Research Programme, University of Birmingham

**Summary:** Case studies of three NGOs and four faith-based organizations (FBOs; 2 Christian and 2 Muslim) in two Local Government Areas in Kano State (largely Muslim) and one in Lagos State (religiously mixed), Nigeria, sought to identify whether and in what circumstances FBOs have distinctive characteristics with respect to their goals, values, organizational characteristics and activities related to the achievement of development objectives.

**URL:** [http://r4d.dfid.gov.uk/Output/186253/](http://r4d.dfid.gov.uk/Output/186253/)

**Keywords:** organisational identity, secular, FBO, Nigeria, Africa

**Title:** Men, faith and masculinities: Baseline assessments on the social attitudes, relations, and practices of men in relation to gender, and sexual and gender-based violence - BURUNDI, DRC, RWANDA

**Author(s):** Deepan, P.

**Year:** 2014

**Publisher/Publication:** We Will Speak Out/Tearfund

**Summary:** Three reports looking at the social attitudes and practices of men in relation to gender. The research was completed in Burundi, Rwanda and DR Congo, facilitated by the Anglican Church in each country.


**Keywords:** SGBV, gender, Africa, Burundi, Rwanda, DRC

**Title:** Faith Partnership Principles: Working Effectively with Faith Groups to Fight Local Poverty

**Author(s):** DFID

**Year:** 2012

**Publisher/Publication:** Department for International Development.

**Summary:** The Purpose of this Principles Paper is to strengthen and guide DFID’s future relationship and collaboration with faith groups. The key Principles of the Partnership between faith groups and DFID are transparency, mutual respect and understanding. The areas in which these Principles are applied include: building a common understanding of faith and development; documenting the impact of faith groups through research and
evaluation; and, working on difficult themes and areas to find effective ways to progress development and bring about transformational change in the lives of the poor.


Keywords: policy, partnership, effectiveness

Title: The engagement of local faith groups and other civil society organizations in humanitarian response to the Syria crisis: A case study of Irbid, Jordan

Author(s): El Nakib, S. and Ager, A.

Year: 2014

Publisher/Publication: Report to the Henry Luce Foundation. New York: Columbia University.

Summary: The research with local faith communities in Irbid points to the need to 1) Commit to mapping the breadth and diversity of faith-based engagement in local humanitarian response, 2) Model respect for such engagement through physical presence with diverse faith actors, 3) Recognize the religious and spiritual concerns of these groups as integral to their identity, 4) Adopt a mature understanding of the humanitarian principles of impartiality and neutrality—acknowledging the values and agendas that all organizations bring to humanitarian response—to weigh fears of proselytism and religious extremism amongst some groups, and 5) Treat such groups as partners with precious local knowledge rather than contractors to deliver a pre-determined intervention.


Keywords: local faith communities, Islam, Christianity, Syria, Middle East, conflict

Title: Keeping the Faith: The Role of Faith Leaders in the Ebola Response

Author(s): Featherstone, A.

Year: 2015

Publisher/Publication: Christian Aid; CAFOD; Tearfund; Islamic Relief Worldwide.

Summary: With its focus on faith leaders, this study uses the Ebola outbreak in Sierra Leone and Liberia to explore the relationship between humanitarianism and religion and seeks to provide evidence, in real time, of the role of faith leaders in the Ebola response. It offers recommendations for how faith leaders can support the recovery efforts of the affected countries and it contributes to a discussion on the broader role of faith in humanitarian response.


Keywords: Ebola, Sierra Leone, Liberia, Africa, religious leaders

Title: Spirituality and Resilience in Children of War in Sri Lanka

Author(s): Fernando, C. and Ferrari, M.

Year: 2011

Publisher/Publication: Journal of Spirituality in Mental Health 13(1)

Summary: This study examined adaptive and maladaptive development in 62 children of war in Sri Lanka and 15 caregivers. Contrary to previous studies, most orphans demonstrated inner peace and resilience after exposure to war. Resilient orphans identified Buddhist and Christian practices used to promote their faith, personal well-being, and sense
of belonging. Overall, the children in both Buddhist and Christian orphanages were taught to value peace and compassion, even though they had been exposed to war.


**Keywords**: Sri Lanka, resilience, psychosocial, conflict, children

**Title**: The Ideal Refugees: Islam, Gender, and the Sahrawi Politics of Survival  
**Author(s)**: Fiddian Qasmiyeh, E.  
**Year**: 2015  
**Publisher/Publication**: Syracuse University Press  
**Summary**: In The Ideal Refugees, the author argues that secularism and the empowerment of Sahrawi refugee women have been strategically invoked to secure the humanitarian and political support of Western state and non-state actors who ensure the continued survival of the camps and their inhabitants. This book challenges the reader to reflect critically on who benefits from assertions of good, bad, and ideal refugees, and whose interests are advanced by interwoven discourses about the empowerment of women and secularism in contexts of war and peace.  
**URL**: [http://syracuseuniversitypress.syr.edu/fall-2013/ideal-refugees.html](http://syracuseuniversitypress.syr.edu/fall-2013/ideal-refugees.html) and Google Books

**Keywords**: displacement, Islam, gender, secular, conflict

**Title**: When the Self becomes Other: Representations of Gender, Islam and the Politics of Survival in the Sahrawi Refugee Camps  
**Author(s)**: Fiddian-Qasmiyeh, E.  
**Year**: 2010  
**Publisher/Publication**: D. Chatty and B. Findlay (eds), “Dispossession and Displacement: Forced Migration in the Middle East and North Africa.” Oxford University Press  
**Summary**: This chapter builds upon the recognition that the delivery of development aid is generally dependent on the capacity of the recipients to fulfil a set of non-economic conditionalities such as the creation of democratic political structures, the protection of human rights, and the promotion of gender equality. Refugees are expected to conform to the values of their sponsors. However, such conditionalities do not necessarily lead to the modification of recipients’ socio-political structures as sponsors may expect. Rather, multiple forms of dependence on external aid and the broader political context have directly impacted the manners with which the recipients market themselves to their sponsors.  

**Keywords**: displacement, Islam, gender, secular, conflict

**Author(s)**: Fiddian-Qasmiyeh, E. (ed.)  
**Year**: 2011  
**Publisher/Publication**: Journal of Refugee Studies 24(3)  
(Parsitau), “Faith and the Discourse of Secular Humanitarianism” (Ager and Ager), “Faith-Based Aid to People Affected by Conflict in Jos, Nigeria: An Analysis of the Role of Christian and Muslim Organizations” (Orji), “Much to be Proud of, Much to be Done: Faith-based Organizations and the Politics of Asylum in Australia” (Wilson), and “Faith and Humanitarianism: It’s Complicated” (Ferris)

URL: http://jrs.oxfordjournals.org/content/24/3.toc

Keywords: displacement, asylum, organisational identity, secular, conflict, Africa, Kenya, Nigeria, Australia, Islam, Christianity

Title: Local faith communities and the promotion of resilience in humanitarian situations: a scoping study

Author(s): Fidían-Qasmiyeh, E. and Ager, A.

Year: 2013

Publisher/Publication: Refugee Studies Centre and Joint Learning Initiative on Faith & Local Communities

Summary: Local Faith Communities (LFCs) are groupings of religious actors bonded through shared allegiance to institutions, beliefs, history or identity. They engage in a range of activities across the humanitarian spectrum. Resilience – defined as the ability to anticipate, withstand and bounce back from external pressures and shocks – is increasingly a central construct in the shaping of humanitarian strategy by the international community. This scoping document investigates the evidence for LFC contribution to resilience under the guidance of the Joint Learning Initiative on Faith & Local Communities Resilience Learning Hub.


Keywords: local faith communities, resilience

Title: Faith and responses to displacement

Author(s): Marion Couldrey and Maurice Herson (eds.)

Year: 2014

Publisher/Publication: Forced Migration Review 48

Summary: 36 short articles from a wide variety of authors from religious and secular backgrounds focus on the role of faith in the humanitarian sector around the world.

URL: http://www.fmreview.org/faith

Keywords: displacement, asylum, secular, conflict, humanitarian principles, religious leaders, local faith communities, Christianity, Islam, Buddhism, Africa, Asia, Europe, North America, Australia, organisational identity

Title: Religions, natural hazards, and disasters

Author(s): Gaillard, J. C. and Texier, P.(eds.)

Year: 2010

Publisher/Publication: Religion 40(2)

Summary: This special edition of the journal Religion focuses on natural hazards and disasters. Articles of note include “Responding to disasters within the Christian tradition, with reference to volcanic eruptions and earthquakes” (Chester and Duncan), “Recovery and Buddhist practices in the aftermath of the Tsunami in Southern Thailand” (Lindberg Falk), “Context-bound Islamic theodicies: The tsunami as supernatural retribution vs. natural catastrophe in Southern Thailand” (Merli), “Anthropology of religion: Disasters and the
representations of tradition and modernity” (Schele), and “Untapped potential of the world's religious communities for disaster reduction in an age of accelerated climate change: An epilogue & prologue” (Wisner).

**Title:** Religion, Resilience and Neutrality: Considerations for Providing Psychosocial Support in Haiti and Other Post-Disaster Contexts

**Author(s):** Grimaud, J.

**Year:** 2010

**Publisher/Publication:** Anthropology News 51(7)

**Summary:** An article from the point of view of the Red Cross following the Haitian earthquake in 2010. It is noted how religion, together with cultural habits, family and community support, represents a driving force in Haiti. The article asks what role, if any, should religion play in emergency psychological support from an organization that holds political and religious neutrality as a fundamental principle.


**Keywords:** psychosocial, resilience, humanitarian principles, Haiti

**Title:** The Role of Religious Beliefs and Institutions in Disaster Management: A Case Study

**Author(s):** Ha, K-M.

**Year:** 2015

**Publisher/Publication:** Religions 6

**Summary:** This study examines the role of religion and the incorporation of religious beliefs and institutions in the field of disaster management. In doing so, the study examines how three religions—Christianity, Buddhism, and Confucianism—operate in Korea, in particular in terms of both care-oriented management and mitigation-oriented management approaches. The major finding is that religion has a role to play in supplementing care-oriented management, with mitigation-oriented management approaches, by better grasping the nature of a disaster and its effective management while responding to regional culture.


**Keywords:** Korea, Asia, Christianity, Buddhism, Confucianism, effectiveness

**Title:** Islam, International Law and the Protection of Refugees and IDPs

**Author(s):** Hayatli, M.

**Year:** 2012

**Publisher/Publication:** Forced Migration Review

**Summary:** Short review of the main intersections and existing challenges between Islam, international law and refugee protection.

**URL:** [http://www.fmreview.org/Human-Rights/hayatli](http://www.fmreview.org/Human-Rights/hayatli)

**Keywords:** Islam, law, displacement

**Title:** Security Risk Management and Religion: Faith and Secularism in Humanitarian Assistance

**Author(s):** Hodgson, L.

**Year:** 2014

**Publisher/Publication:** European Interagency Security Forum (EISF)
**Summary:** This paper gives an overview of the role of religion in humanitarian assistance, and its historical antecedents, and also studies how religion (and secularism) can impact and influence the identity of an organisation and the values, beliefs and practices of staff and partner agencies. The study examines differing opinions, approaches and vulnerabilities between secular and faith-based agencies and assesses how understanding the religious dynamic can assist with the selection of an appropriate security strategy, in particular with regard to the development of an effective acceptance strategy.


**Keywords:** security, secular, organisational identity

**Title:** “Our hope comes from God”: faith narratives and resilience in Southern Sudan  
**Author(s):** Holton, M. J.  
**Year:** 2010  
**Publisher/Publication:** Journal of Pastoral Theology 20  
**Summary:** An article looking at the experiences of refugees through the lens of their faith and explaining how faith narratives can build resilience.  
**Keywords:** resilience, psychosocial, Sudan, Africa

**Title:** Refugees and Islam. Submission to the High Commissioner’s Dialogue on Protection Challenges: Faith and Protection  
**Author(s):** Islamic Relief Worldwide  
**Year:** 2012  
**Publisher/Publication:** UNHCR  
**Summary:** Islamic rules and regulations constitute a valuable source for protection of the rights of refugees, migrants and asylum seekers. In addition to contractual responsibilities, they could serve as a faith-based guarantor of the rights of refugees, particularly women and children. The document provides an overview of asylum, refugees and Islam with discussion of challenges to overcome as well as refugee law and the state.  
**URL:** [http://www.unhcr.org/50ab90399.pdf](http://www.unhcr.org/50ab90399.pdf)  
**Keywords:** displacement, Islam, protection, gender, children

**Title:** Exploring the Impact of Religious Beliefs, Leadership, and Networks on Response and Recovery of Disaster-Affected Populations: A Case Study from Indonesia  
**Author(s):** Joakim, E.P., and White, R.S.  
**Year:** 2015  
**Publisher/Publication:** Journal of Contemporary Religion 30(2)  
**Summary:** Using a case study related to the earthquake in Yogyakarta, Indonesia, in 2006, this article examines the role of faith and religion from the perspective of affected populations, including individuals, religious leaders, and academics. The research suggests complexity in fatalistic thinking and the role of religious activities, where both vulnerability and resilience co-existed. The article discusses the importance of incorporating religious faith and institutions in disaster risk reduction programming and unifying messages between faith and non-faith organizations.  
**URL:** [http://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/13537903.2015.1025538](http://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/13537903.2015.1025538)  
**Keywords:** religious leaders, local faith communities, Indonesia, Asia
Title: Silent no more: The untapped potential of the church in addressing sexual violence
Author(s): Le Roux, E.
Year: 2011
Publisher/Publication: Tearfund
Summary: This report calls churches to account and to action. It paints a painfully honest picture of the way churches have perpetuated a culture of silence around sexual violence in conflict and have largely failed to respond to the crisis and may have worsened its impact by reinforcing stigma and discrimination experienced by survivors.
Keywords: SGBV, gender, conflict

Title: Chapter 6: Buddhism and ways to recovery in Post-tsunami recovery in Thailand: socio-cultural responses
Author(s): Lindberg Falk, M.
Year: 2015
Publisher/Publication: Routledge
Summary: Following the post-tsunami recovery over five years, the book provides knowledge on socio-cultural responses from affected local communities after natural hazards, and is based on original material collected in Thailand after the 2004 tsunami. With a focus on how culture and religion interplay in the processes of building resilience and decreasing vulnerability, it gives a deeper understanding of how disasters are experienced and dealt with on a local level. Of particular interest is chapter 6, which focuses on Buddhist ways to recovery.
URL: https://www.routledge.com/products/9781315776323 and Google Books
Keywords: Buddhism, Thailand, Asia, resilience

Title: Religious Humanitarianism and the Global Politics of Secularism
Author(s): Lynch, C.
Year: 2011
Publisher/Publication: In Rethinking Secularism, edited by Craig Calhoun, Mark Juergensmeyer, and Jonathan Van Antwerpen. Oxford University Press
Summary: This paper questions the boundaries between the secular and the religious in international affairs. In particular, it assesses how these categories work to produce assumptions about the nature of religious and secular beliefs and actions, and whether they provide adequate conceptual space to capture the kinds of practices and understandings of contemporary religious humanitarians.
Keywords: secular, organisational identity, Christianity, Islam

Title: Religion and Ebola: learning from experience
Author(s): Marshall, K., Smith, S.
Year: 2015
Publisher/Publication: The Lancet
Summary: The largest Ebola epidemic in history, in 2014–15, profoundly disrupted three west African countries that bore its brunt: Guinea, Liberia, and Sierra Leone. Effects include more than 10 000 deaths, more than 26 000 people infected, and high social and economic costs. Religious beliefs and practices shape (positively and negatively) ways of caring for the
sick, patterns of stigma, and gender roles. Throughout the crisis, religious institutions have provided services including health, education, and social support.

**Title:** The Spiritual Dimensions of Caring for People Affected by Disasters  
**Author(s):** McCombs, H.G.  
**Year:** 2010  
**Publisher/Publication:** In Crisis and Disaster Counselling: Lessons Learned From Hurricane Katrina and Other Disasters, ed. Priscilla Dass-Brailsford, SAGE Publications, Inc.  
**Summary:** A practical guide for how counsellors can and should address spirituality in their work with people affected by disasters.

**Title:** Spirituality and Faith-Based Interventions: Pathways to Disaster Resilience for African American Hurricane Katrina Survivors  
**Author(s):** MHum, T. A., et al.  
**Year:** 2011  
**Publisher/Publication:** Journal of Religion & Spirituality in Social Work: Social Thought 30(3)  
**Summary:** This case study illustrates that even without soliciting it, survivors who evacuated to a host city talked about the importance of spirituality and religion in their recovery process. Further, interviews and observations with local service providers illustrate that few practitioners utilized spirituality or religion as a resource and that coordination between faith-based and secular service providers was problematic. Our research highlights a neglected area of cultural competence for those providing services to survivors.

**Title:** “Rahmatan lil-‘alamin” (A mercy to all creation): Islamic voices in the debate on humanitarian principles  
**Author(s):** Mohamed, A.S., Ofteringer R.  
**Year:** 2016  
**Publisher/Publication:** International Review of the Red Cross, 97  
**Summary:** This article documents the work of Islamic charities and NGOs from diverse backgrounds to develop sets of principles guiding their humanitarian and charitable work, in the framework of the dialogue and cooperation among Islamic NGOs and charities as well as between Islamic and Western humanitarian agencies. The authors look at draft documents that resulted from these processes, and the way these relate to the core principles of humanitarian action. They further follow how the dialogue and cooperation between humanitarian organizations from different backgrounds and origins has influenced the orientation of this debate on humanitarian principles from theory and identity to concrete and shared challenges and concerns.
Title: Analysing cultural proximity: Islamic Relief Worldwide and Rohingya refugees in Bangladesh.
Author(s): Palmer, V.
Year: 2011
Publisher/Publication: Development in Practice 21(1)
Summary: Based on fieldwork carried out on Islamic Relief’s relief programme for Rohingya refugees in Bangladesh, this article contributes to the debate on whether Muslim aid agencies bring added value when working with Muslim beneficiaries in Muslim areas. The author explores the significance of religion in relations between actors in the aid process and argues that a common religion does not necessarily override political, social, and cultural divisions. The article questions whether it is useful to claim that Muslim solidarity exists in the aid process when in practice it is difficult to have any meaningful engagement with religion in the field.
Keywords: displacement, Islam, Bangladesh, Asia, organisational identity

Title: Anchored by faith: Religion as a resilience factor
Author(s): Pargament, K. I. and Cumming, J.
Year: 2012
Publisher/Publication: In Reich, J. W. et al (Eds) Handbook of Adult Resilience, Guilford Press.
Summary: This book chapter gives an overview of religion and coping by examining recent theoretical, empirical, and practical advances in studies of religion and adjustment to major life stressors. The authors argue that instead of seeing religiousness as a defense it is, in fact, a significant resilience factor for many people.
Keywords: resilience, psychosocial

Title: Islamizing Aid: Transnational Muslim NGOs After 9.11
Author(s): Petersen, M.J.
Year: 2011
Publisher/Publication: VOLUNTAS: International Journal of Voluntary and Nonprofit Organizations, 23(1)
Summary: This article provides new empirical insights on the organizational identity of Muslim NGOs. The article analyzes the ways in which two of the largest Muslim NGOs Islamize aid and the kinds of Islam they construct in this process, discussing how this relates to their position in the contemporary aid field. The Saudi Arabian International Islamic Relief Organization and British Islamic Relief serve as the case studies.
Keywords: Islam, organisational identity

Title: Perspectives of Faith-Based Relief Providers on Responding to the Needs of Evacuees Following Hurricane Katrina
Author(s): Putman, K. M., Blair, R., et al.
Year: 2012
Publisher/Publication: Traumatology 20 (10)
Summary: Response by spiritual and faith communities played an important role in addressing the needs of evacuees displaced by the storm. The study aimed to document (a) the roles played by faith-based relief providers in addressing the needs of Katrina evacuees relocated to Dallas; (b) faith-based relief providers’ views of the spiritual needs of evacuees; (c) the types of religious coping that faith-based providers reported evacuees used; (d) the types of religious coping responses that faith-based providers themselves used during their service provision for evacuees; and (e) inquire about how best to conduct research within religious settings following a disaster.

URL: [http://tmt.sagepub.com/content/18/4/56.abstract](http://tmt.sagepub.com/content/18/4/56.abstract)

Keywords: local faith communities, psychosocial, North America

Title: Conflict, Child Protection and Religious Communities.
Author(s): Robinson, M.
Year: 2010
Publisher/Publication: Religions for Peace/UNICEF

Summary: Religions for Peace and UNICEF partnered to explore the potential for enhanced engagement of religious communities in advancing child protection efforts in situations of conflict. In situations of armed conflict, where existing protective mechanisms may be weakened or no longer exist, religious communities are often in a desirable position to take up immediate efforts in the provision of needed relief supplies, family tracing for separated and unaccompanied children, psychosocial support initiatives and emergency education, among others. In these ways, religious communities are important partners in child protection.


Keywords: conflict, children, protection, local faith communities, psychosocial

Title: Partnering with Religious Communities for Children
Author(s): Robinson, M., and Hanmer, S.
Year: 2012
Publisher/Publication: UNICEF

Summary: This guide is primarily intended to be a reference document for UNICEF staff and partners on building effective partnerships with religious communities, in particular religious leaders, networks and local faith communities. Sections include an understanding of how and why religious communities can positively contribute to the promotion of child rights, concrete examples of collaborative work in the main areas of UNICEF programming and advocacy, the challenges presented by the misuse of religion, strategies for effectively engaging with religious communities, and approaches to planning, monitoring and evaluation of partnership programming.

URL: [http://www.unicef.org/about/partnerships/files/Partnering_with_Religious_Communities_for Children_%28UNICEF%29.pdf](http://www.unicef.org/about/partnerships/files/Partnering_with_Religious_Communities_for Children_%28UNICEF%29.pdf)

Keywords: partnership, children, religious leaders, local faith communities, effectiveness

Title: Collaboration between faith-based communities and humanitarian actors when responding to HIV in emergencies
Author(s): Samuels, F. Geibel, R. and Perry, F.
Year: 2010
Publisher/Publication: ODI Project Briefing 41, Overseas Development Institute.
Summary: This Project Briefing draws on lessons learned in Democratic Republic of Congo, South Sudan and Kenya, arguing that humanitarian actors need to help FBCs build up their emergency capacity on HIV services. Equally, to work effectively with humanitarian actors, FBCs should address stigma, theological misunderstandings and discrimination.
URL: http://www.odi.org/publications/4821-hiv-aids-religious-groups-emergencies
Keywords: partnership, local faith communities, HIV, DRC, South Sudan, Kenya, Africa, effectiveness

Title: Spirituality and Mental Health in Humanitarian Contexts: An Exploration Based on World Vision’s Haiti Earthquake Response
Author(s): Schafer, A.
Year: 2010
Publisher/Publication: Intervention: International Journal of Mental Health, Psychosocial Work and Counselling in Areas of Armed Conflict, 8(2)
Summary: For World Vision, the Haiti earthquake response revealed a significant gap in materials and interventions that combined spiritual needs with the mental health and psychosocial support needs of affected communities. Despite growing scientific evidence that spirituality can have beneficial effects on mental health and psychosocial wellbeing, there is little guidance and consensus about psycho-spiritual approaches in humanitarian contexts. Churches, the clergy and peoples’ spirituality are an important area for humanitarian practice to explore, particularly within the mental health and psychosocial support domain.
URL: http://journals.lww.com/interventionjnl/Abstract/2010/07000/Spirituality_and_mental_health_in_humanitarian.4.aspx
Keywords: psychosocial, Haiti, Christianity

Title: Religion and Belief Systems: Drivers of Vulnerability, Entry Points for Resilience Building?
Author(s): Schipper, E.L.F.
Year: 2015
Summary: An explanation of the differing religious approaches to perceptions/attitudes and behaviour/responses to disasters with an overview of religious perspectives on hazards and risks as well as recommendations for entry points for examining religion in the context of disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation.
Keywords: resilience, disaster risk reduction, climate change adaptation

Title: Chapter 2: How religion and belief influence attitudes to risk, World Disasters Report: Focus on Culture and Risk
Author(s): Schipper, E.L.F., Merli, C., and Nunn, P.
Year: 2014
Publisher/Publication: International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies
Summary: This chapter describes how people’s perceptions and attitudes towards risk are shaped by religion, custom and social norms. Religion is a particularly important driver of
perceptions and behaviour. The two dimensions of belief that emerge most prominently in the context of disaster risk reduction (DRR) are the way it forms an obstacle to reducing risk and influences people’s understanding of it.


**Keywords**: disaster risk reduction

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**Title**: Asylum-Seeking, Migration and Church  
**Author(s)**: Snyder, S.  
**Year**: 2012  
**Publisher/Publication**: Ashgate  
**Summary**: Creatively exploring biblical and theological traditions surrounding the 'stranger', Snyder argues that as well as practising a vision of inclusive community churches would do well to engage with established population fears. Trends in global migration and the dynamics of fear and hostility surrounding immigration are critically and creatively explored throughout the book. Inviting more complex, nuanced responses to asylum seekers and immigrants, this book offers invaluable insights to those interested in Christian ethics, practical theology, faith and social action and mission, as well as those working in the field of migration.  
**Keywords**: displacement, Christianity

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**Title**: Refugee Status in Islam: Concepts of Protection in Islamic Tradition and International Law  
**Author(s)**: Shoukri, A.M.  
**Year**: 2010  
**Publisher/Publication**: Tauris  
**Summary**: In this book, Shoukri delves into fifteen centuries of Arab and Islamic history examining hundreds of ancient sources to establish Islam’s position on refugees. This is the first examination of the 1951 Geneva Convention on refugees from an Islamic perspective. In adopting this approach, Shoukri is able to compare and contrast the principles of international law with those of the Islamic tradition.  
**Keywords**: displacement, Islam, law

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**Title**: Religion and coping with trauma: Qualitative examples from Hurricanes Katrina and Rita  
**Author(s)**: Tausch, C., Marks, L.D. et al.  
**Year**: 2011  
**Publisher/Publication**: Journal of Religion, Spirituality & Aging 23(3)  
**Summary**: The intersection of religious coping and the experience of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita in adults is studied. Three dimensions of religion were represented across participants' responses. These dimensions included: 1) faith community, in relation to the significant relief
effort and involvement of area churches; 2) religious practices, in the sense of participants' behavioral responses to the storms, such as prayer; and c) spiritual beliefs, referring to faith as a mechanism underlying individual and family-level adjustment, acceptance and personal growth in the post-disaster period.

Keywords: psychosocial, local faith communities, North America

Title: High Commissioner's Dialogue on Protection Challenges: Faith and Protection
Author(s): UNHCR
Year: 2012
Publisher/Publication: United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
Summary: The fifth High Commissioner’s Dialogue on Protection Challenges took place on December 12-13, 2012 in the Palais des Nations in Geneva. The theme – “Faith and Protection” - highlighted the important role that faith-based organizations and local religious communities play in protecting asylum-seekers, refugees, the internally displaced and stateless people. Documents found online include the High Commissioner’s Opening and Closing Statements, “Welcoming the stranger: Affirmations for faith leaders,” “Biblical Foundations for Humanitarian Workers” (World Vision) and briefing notes from Muslim, Hindu, Christian, and Buddhist perspectives.
Keywords: protection, displacement, religious leaders, Islam, Hinduism, Christianity, Buddhism

Title: Partnership Note on Faith-Based Organizations, Local Faith Communities and Faith Leaders
Author(s): Volker T., Riera, J., and Poirier, M-C.
Year: 2014
Publisher/Publication: United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
Summary: A Partnership Note in follow-up to the High Commissioner’s Dialogue on Faith and Protection. This Partnership Note sets out broad guidance for UNHCR staff about engaging with, reaching out to and partnering with faith-based organizations, local faith communities and faith leaders. The Note describes UNHCR’s understanding of the range of faith actors and the role they play in humanitarian responses; flags challenges of partnership and red lines; identifies examples of good practice and lessons learned from existing partnerships in the field; highlights principles that are a point of departure for dialogue and cooperation with faith actors and communities; sets out actions and activities to put these principles into practice.
Keywords: partnership, local faith communities, religious leaders

Title: Faith and Resilience After Disaster: The Case of Typhoon Haiyan
Author(s): Wilkinson, O.
Year: 2015
Publisher/Publication: Misean Cara
Summary: Research was commissioned by Misean Cara to understand the role of faith in building post-disaster resilience. The results cover three areas: what assistance was important for building resilience in the eyes of research participants; the specific role of faith in building personal, family and community resilience following the typhoon; and how
organisations responding to the disaster impact resilience, particularly regarding how faith affects perceptions of both secular and faith-based organisations.


Keywords: local faith communities, resilience, Philippines, FBOs, secular

Title: Faith and the Asylum Crisis: The Role of Religion in Responding to Displacement

Author(s): Wilson, E.K., and Mavelli, L.

Year: 2014

Publisher/Publication: University of Groningen; University of Kent

Summary: This briefing paper is a distillation of the main points and recommendations that arose during two two-day workshops held in Washington DC in May 2014 and Brussels in June 2014. The workshops, funded by the British Council USA Bridging Voices program, assembled scholars, policymakers and practitioners focused on issues of asylum, refugee and protection in contemporary global politics and the current and potential future roles of faith and faith actors across the US and Europe.

URL: https://kar.kent.ac.uk/45313/

Keywords: displacement, protection, North America, Europe
**WHS Consultation Submissions and Reports**

**Title:** The Role of Faith-based Organizations in Humanitarian Response: A Reflection on the Unique Role of FBOs in Humanitarian Crises  
**Author(s):** ACT Alliance  
**Year:** 2015  
**Publisher/Publication:** WHS  
**Summary:** A reflection on the continuing importance of religion and FBOs in humanitarian action with emphasis on need to engage with local religious leaders for program effectiveness, addressing issues of fragmentation of humanitarian action, and building capacities and relationships of trust that will endure in post-crisis environments.  
**URL:** [https://www.worldhumanitariansummit.org/node/504049](https://www.worldhumanitariansummit.org/node/504049)  
**Keywords:** FBOs

**Title:** Key messages from Asian FBO round table discussion  
**Author(s):** Asian Disaster Reduction and Response Network (ADRRN)  
**Year:** 2015  
**Publisher/Publication:** WHS  
**Summary:** Report from the Asian Round Table Dialogue for Faith Based Organizations and Religious Leaders in Humanitarian Action.  
**URL:** [https://www.worldhumanitariansummit.org/node/502731](https://www.worldhumanitariansummit.org/node/502731)  
**Keywords:** Asia, religious leaders, FBOs

**Title:** A Call to Commitment  
**Author(s):** Aten, J. D., Josh Ayers, David Boan, Oenone Chadburn, Sheryl Haw, Peter Howard, Timothy Ingram, George Kalantzis, Lucas Koach, Christine MacMillan, Daniel Martinson, Marianne Millen  
**Year:** 2015  
**Publisher/Publication:** WHS  
**Summary:** A World Evangelical Alliance position paper on the role of the evangelical community in humanitarian response, with recommendations both for the broader humanitarian community and the evangelical community.  
**URL:** [https://www.worldhumanitariansummit.org/node/504292](https://www.worldhumanitariansummit.org/node/504292)  
**Keywords:** FBOs, evangelism

**Title:** Highlighting the role of faith leaders in the Ebola virus disease outbreak in West Africa  
**Author(s):** CAFOD, Islamic Relief Worldwide  
**Year:** 2015  
**Publisher/Publication:** WHS  
**Summary:** A joint agency position paper in which CAFOD and Islamic Relief urge humanitarian policy makers to learn from the upcoming research (Report "Keeping the Faith") on the role of faith leaders in the Ebola response and to recognise the special role that faith leaders can play in reinforcing balanced and accurate communications for social mobilisation and sensitisation.  
**URL:** [https://www.worldhumanitariansummit.org/node/503479](https://www.worldhumanitariansummit.org/node/503479)  
**Keywords:** religious leaders, Ebola, West Africa
Title: A Faith-based Perspective for the World Humanitarian Summit  
Author(s): Caritas Internationalis  
Year: 2015  
Publisher/Publication: WHS  
Summary: A position paper following the main themes of the WHS and emphasising the contributions made by FBOs and religious leaders after disaster and conflict.  
URL: https://www.worldhumanitariansummit.org/node/504119  
Keywords: FBOs, religious leaders

Title: Live Online Consultation: Faith and Religion in Humanitarian Action  
Author(s): PHAP  
Year: 2015  
Publisher/Publication: Professionals in Humanitarian Assistance and Protection and World Humanitarian Summit.  
Summary: PHAP hosted a live online consultation in support of the World Humanitarian Summit focusing on the challenges and opportunities faced by faith-based humanitarian organizations and how we can overcome the obstacles hindering faith-based and other organizations from working more closely together. The event focused on the following questions: 1) What are the particular challenges that faith-based humanitarian organizations face in their work?; 2) Do faith-based organizations have a unique role to play in humanitarian action?; 3) What are the main obstacles hindering faith-based and other organizations from working more closely together?; 4) In general, is the way that religion is handled in humanitarian action currently appropriate? A report and recording of the consultation are available online.  
URL: https://phap.org/civicrm/event/info?reset=1&id=289  
Keywords: organisational identity, secular, local faith communities

Title: Proposals for the World Humanitarian Summit  
Author(s): Soka Gakkai International  
Year: 2015  
Publisher/Publication: WHS  
Summary: A position paper from Soka Gakkai International that highlights the particular role of FBOs.  
URL: https://www.worldhumanitariansummit.org/node/504309  
Keywords: FBOs, Buddhism

Title: Religions Together for Humanitarian Action  
Author(s): Sovereign Order of Malta  
Year: 2015  
Publisher/Publication: WHS  
Summary: The report on the symposium organised by the Order of Malta to explore how faith-based organizations and institutions and humanitarian actors can better assist and protect civilians in times of conflict and to reflect on the connection between conflict, religion and humanitarian action.  
URL: https://www.worldhumanitariansummit.org/node/502313  
Keywords: conflict, FBOs.
Title: Interfaith Panel on ‘Faith and the Humanitarian Response’ for the upcoming World Humanitarian Summit
Author(s): Swami Chidanand Saraswati
Year: 2015
Publisher/Publication: WHS
Summary: Proposal for special panel of interfaith leaders at the WHS.
URL: https://www.worldhumanitariansummit.org/node/504285
Keywords: Hinduism, religious leaders

Title: Local Faith Groups And Humanitarian Assistance
Author(s): UNHCR
Year: 2015
Publisher/Publication: WHS
Summary: A policy brief from UNHCR following the report from El Nakib and Ager on local faith groups and humanitarian action in Irbid, Jordan.
URL: https://www.worldhumanitariansummit.org/node/504272
Keywords: local faith communities, policy

World Humanitarian Summit Global Religious Forum Consultations

Title: Global Religious Forum of the World Humanitarian Summit Working Meeting LONDON
Author(s):
Year: 2015
Publisher/Publication: JLIFLC
Summary: Report from GRF meeting in London with humanitarian organisations to identify key issues for discussion on faith and religion in humanitarian action at the WHS.
URL: http://jliflc.com/resources/regional-working-meeting-report-london/
Keywords: FBOs, secular

Title: Global Religious Forum of the World Humanitarian Summit Working Meeting WASHINGTON DC
Author(s):
Year: 2015
Publisher/Publication: JLIFLC
Summary: Report from GRF meeting in Washington DC with humanitarian organisations to identify key issues for discussion on faith and religion in humanitarian action at the WHS.
URL: http://jliflc.com/resources/regional-working-meeting-report-washington-dc/
Keywords: FBOs

Title: Global Religious Forum of the World Humanitarian Summit Working Meeting NAIROBI
Author(s):
Year: 2015
Publisher/Publication: JLIFLC
Summary: Report from GRF meeting in Nairobi with humanitarian organisations to identify key issues for discussion on faith and religion in humanitarian action at the WHS.
URL: http://jliflc.com/resources/regional-working-meeting-report-nairobi/
Keywords: FBOs
Title: Global Religious Forum of the World Humanitarian Summit Working Meeting COLOMBO
Author(s): World Vision, Muslim Aid and Sarvodaya
Year: 2016
Publisher/Publication: JLIFLC
Summary: Report from GRF meeting in Colombo, Sri Lanka with humanitarian organisations to identify key issues for discussion on faith and religion in humanitarian action at the WHS.
URL: http://jliflc.com/resources/regional-working-meeting-report-colombo/
Keywords: FBOs

Title: Global Religious Forum of the World Humanitarian Summit Working Meeting WHEATON (The Role of Faith-based Academic Institutions in Sustainable Development)
Author(s): Wheaton
Year: 2016
Publisher/Publication: JLIFLC
Summary: Report from GRF meeting in Wheaton, Illinois with humanitarian organisations to identify key issues for discussion on faith and religion in humanitarian action at the WHS.
URL: http://jliflc.com/resources/the-role-of-faith-based-academic-institutions-in-sustainable-development/
Keywords: FBOs

Title: Global Religious Forum of the World Humanitarian Summit Working Meeting BERLIN
Author(s): Wheaton
Year: 2016
Publisher/Publication: JLIFLC
Summary: Report from GRF meeting in Berlin with humanitarian organisations to identify key issues for discussion on faith and religion in humanitarian action at the WHS.
URL: http://jliflc.com/resources/regional-working-meeting-report-berlin/
Keywords: FBOs

Title: Global Religious Forum of the World Humanitarian Summit Working Meeting MEXICO CITY
Author(s): Wheaton
Year: 2016
Publisher/Publication: JLIFLC
Summary: Report from GRF meeting in Mexico City with humanitarian organisations to identify key issues for discussion on faith and religion in humanitarian action at the WHS.
URL: http://jliflc.com/resources/regional-working-meeting-report-mexico-city/
Keywords: FBOs