

Religion in the Military Worldwide

How does religion affect the lives of professional soldiers? How does religion shape militaries, their organization, procedures, and performance? This volume is the first to address these questions by comparing religious symbols and practices in nine countries: Japan, Canada, the United Kingdom, Pakistan, Israel, Iran, India, the United States, and Turkey. The contributors explore how and why soldiers pray, the role of religious rituals prior to battle, the functions that chaplains perform, the effects of religion on recruitment and unit formation, and how militaries grapple with ensuing constitutional dilemmas.

Ron E. Hassner is an associate professor in the Department of Political Science at the University of California, Berkeley. He is the codirector of Berkeley's Religion, Politics, and Globalization Program and the founder and first chair of the International Studies Association's section on Religion and International Relations. His first book, *War on Sacred Grounds* (2009), examines the causes and characteristics of disputes over sacred places around the globe and analyzes the conditions under which these conflicts can be managed. He has also published on the topic of religion and conflict in *International Security*, *Security Studies*, *Civil Wars*, *International Studies Quarterly*, *Terrorism and Political Violence*, and others journals. He has contributed chapters on similar themes to several edited volumes.

Religion in the Military Worldwide

Edited by

RON E. HASSNER

University of California, Berkeley



Cambridge University Press
 978-1-107-03702-1 — Religion in the Military Worldwide
 Edited by Ron E. Hassner
 Frontmatter
[More Information](#)

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY PRESS

University Printing House, Cambridge CB2 8BS, United Kingdom
 One Liberty Plaza, 20th Floor, New York, NY 10006, USA
 477 Williamstown Road, Port Melbourne, VIC 3207, Australia
 314-321, 3rd Floor, Plot 3, Splendor Forum, Jasola District Centre, New Delhi - 110025, India
 103 Penang Road, #05-06/07, Visioncrest Commercial, Singapore 238467

Cambridge University Press is part of the University of Cambridge.

It furthers the University's mission by disseminating knowledge in the pursuit of education, learning and research at the highest international levels of excellence.

www.cambridge.org

Information on this title: www.cambridge.org/9781107037021

© Cambridge University Press 2014

This publication is in copyright. Subject to statutory exception and to the provisions of relevant collective licensing agreements, no reproduction of any part may take place without the written permission of Cambridge University Press.

First published 2014

A catalogue record for this publication is available from the British Library

Library of Congress Cataloging in Publication data

Religion in the military worldwide / [edited by] Ron E. Hassner.

pages cm

Includes bibliographical references and index.

ISBN 978-1-107-03702-1 (hardback) – ISBN 978-1-107-61364-5 (paperback)

1. Military chaplains – Case studies. 2. Armed Forces – Religious life – Case studies. 3. Soldiers – Religious life – Case studies. 4. Religion and state – Case studies. 5. War – Religious aspects – Case studies. I. Hassner, Ron E. (Ron Eduard)

UH20.R45 2014

355.3'47-dc23 2013022229

ISBN 978-1-107-03702-1 Hardback

ISBN 978-1-107-61364-5 Paperback

Cambridge University Press has no responsibility for the persistence or accuracy of URLs for external or third-party internet websites referred to in this publication, and does not guarantee that any content on such websites is, or will remain, accurate or appropriate.

Contents

<i>List of Contributors</i>	<i>page vii</i>
Introduction. Religion in the Military Worldwide: Challenges and Opportunities <i>Ron E. Hassner</i>	I
PART I: RITUALS, BELIEFS, AND PRACTICES	
1 Japan <i>Aaron Skabelund and Akito Ishikawa</i>	23
2 Canada <i>Joanne Benham Rennick</i>	45
3 United Kingdom <i>Victor Dobbins and Stephen Deakin</i>	68
PART II: RELIGIOUS DEMOGRAPHICS IN THE ARMED FORCES	
4 Pakistan <i>C. Christine Fair</i>	91
5 Israel <i>Stuart A. Cohen</i>	114
PART III: RELIGION AND MILITARY OPERATIONS	
6 Iran <i>Mahsa Rouhi</i>	143
7 India <i>Amit Ahuja</i>	159

PART IV: CONSTITUTIONAL CHALLENGES

8	United States I <i>Martin L. Cook</i>	181
9	United States II <i>Pauletta Otis</i>	196
10	Turkey <i>Ayşegül Komsuoğlu and Gül M. Kurtoğlu Eskişar</i>	208
	Conclusion. Promising Themes, Future Approaches <i>Eric Patterson</i>	227
	<i>Contributor Biographies</i>	241
	<i>Index</i>	245

Contributors

Amit Ahuja, assistant professor of political science, University of California, Santa Barbara.

Joanne Benham Rennick, assistant professor of contemporary studies, Wilfrid Laurier University.

Stuart A. Cohen, professor of politics, Ashkelon Academic College, Israel.

Martin L. Cook, professor of professional military ethics, U.S. Naval War College.

Stephen Deakin, senior lecturer, Royal Military Academy Sandhurst.

Victor Dobbin, retired chaplain general, British Army.

Gül M. Kurtoğlu Eskişar, associate professor of international relations, Dokuz Eylül University.

C. Christine Fair, assistant professor in the Center for Peace and Security Studies, Georgetown University.

Ron E. Hassner, associate professor of political science, University of California, Berkeley.

Akito Ishikawa, assistant professor in the Faculty of Letters, Hokkaido University.

Ayşegül Komsuoğlu, associate professor of political science, Istanbul University.

Pauletta Otis, professor of security studies, Marine Corps University.

Eric Patterson, Dean of the School of Government, Regent University.

Mahsa Rouhi, PhD candidate in international relations, University of Cambridge.

Aaron Skabelund, assistant professor of history, Brigham Young University.