



Islam is not compatible with Calvinism

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The European Stability Initiative prepared a report in which they deemed Kayseri the center of Islamic Calvinism. The report asserts that the economic development of Kayseri demonstrates that free market capitalism is compatible with Islam. However, scientists found the term "Islamic Calvinism" artificial. Views on this issue are as follows:

Prof. Dr. İsmail Karaçam (Marmara University, Theology Department):

Islam is a whole. It forms a unity with its confession (belief in god), religious service/prayer and moral provisions. It is not right to associate it with laicism or economic doctrines. Once upon a time there was a communist-like view regarding the dominance of rich people in trade. And now liberalism is on the agenda. Attributing these to Islam or Islam to these will not bring any good.

Asst Prof Dr. Cüneyd Akalın (Marmara University):

I think the comparison to "Islamic calvinists" is an imposed one. It seems like there is a effort to stir things up. The real issue is that the West is afraid of Islamic radicalism. They want to develop an understanding of Islam that is in harmony with the Western system.

Prof. Dr. Ali Yaşar Sarıbay:

Anatolian Tigers are traders, not capitalists. The fact that they are Muslim might make them look like they fit into a Weberian approach, however this is 'weberification'. There is a tie between trader/trade and religion. This is not proof of a Weber-like situation. If this is not academic discrimination, then there is a political reason underlying it.