

Islamic NGOs in South Africa and their Modes of Politicization

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As new religious actors in the field of humanitarianism, Islamic NGOs have deployed a new form of social and economic activism in their communities, in the public space, and in the international arena. Many stories in local and national newspapers have made public the role of faith-based organizations in helping refugees after the xenophobic attacks occurred in South Africa, in May 2008. The “public” role of Islamic NGOs didn’t start these recent years. However, the specific context of democratization and economic liberalism contributed to its development. In this paper, I consider the role of Islamic NGOs as a way of political participation which reveals the diversity of social and political society in South Africa.