

Freedom of Expression in Islam

“Is Freedom of Expression in Islam Compatible with Article 10 Of ECHR”

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Abstract

A predominated opinion has emerged in the West that Islam disregards Human Rights, especially the Freedom of Expression. Many Western scholars have explicitly expressed their views through literature. This article examines Islam's freedom of expression and its compatibility with Article 10 of ECHR. Some research has been carried out to understand the clear picture of freedom of expression in Islam and its limitations. However, no research has been conducted on the proposed topic of Freedom of Expression in Islam and its compatibility with Article 10 of ECHR. This study, therefore, attempts to fill the gap in this much-debated area. This study is based on theoretical research and uses secondary data. It adopts an explanatory research design based on the literature, articles, books, newspapers, electronic media, and reports of international bodies such as the UN, ECtHR caselaws, Human Rights Watch Reports, Amnesty International and Liberty reports. The research has found that Islam propagates the same views as adopted by the ECHR and the ECtHR, where disturbing the peace of the community has been restricted. Still, on the other hand, the revolt against the dictatorial and tyrant government has been promoted. Therefore, the principles of freedom of expression and its limitations are identical in Islam and ECHR. These findings conclude that the opinion being expressed in the West about Islam is unsubstantiated, therefore making these opinions biased and discriminatory.

Keywords: Freedom of Expression, Freedom of Expression in Islam, Islam and Article 10 of ECHR, Limitation on Freedom of Expression in Islam