



Bioethics and Organ Transplantation in a Muslim Society: A Study in Culture, Ethnography, and Religion (Bioethics and the Humanities)

By Farhat Moazam

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This is an ethnographic study of live, related kidney donation in Pakistan, based on Farhat Moazam's participant-observer research conducted at a public hospital. Her narrative is both a "thick" description of renal transplant cases and the cultural, ethical, and family conflicts that accompany them, and an object lesson in comparative bioethics.

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Editorial Review

Review

"This stylishly written book is much more than an account of comparative medical ethics. It is an insiders' story of how modern medicine can be made to work successfully in traditional societies where the demands of religion and extended families are central. It also details the daily struggle for survival in a megacity, and shows what happens when successive governments fail to provide basic housing and healthcare for the poorest." ?New Scientist

"Offering a unique contribution to the literature on interpretations of organ donation within Islam, Moazam deftly exposes a diversity of views, sketching the tensions between fatawa which prescribe both duties to save human life, and duties to respect the sacredness of the body... It is this essential humility suffusing Moazam's narrative which makes her many insights so powerful and so plausible. I am elated that this is her first book, and not her last one." ?American Journal of Transplantation

"This is a superb and insightful ethnography, with a wide appeal. It is highly useful for those with interests in the fields of healthcare, bioethics, or culture." ?Journal of the American College of Surgeons

From the Publisher

A richly detailed and deeply emotional account of the conflict between modern medicine and traditional society in Pakistan.

About the Author

Farhat Moazam is a pediatric surgeon, trained in the United States as well as Pakistan. She was founding Chair and Professor of the Department of Surgery, and Associate Dean of Postgraduate Education at the Aga Khan University Medical College in Karachi. She received her PhD in Religious Studies at the University of Virginia, and is currently Professor and founding Chair of the Center of Biomedical Ethics and Culture, SIUT in Karachi, Pakistan.

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