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**Baber Johansen**, born 1936 in Berlin, one of the world's leading scholars of Islamic Law, was Professor of Islamic Religious Studies and Research Professor of Islamic Studies, Harvard Divinity School; Acting Director of the Islamic Legal Studies Program, Harvard Law School (2006-2010); Director of The Center for Middle Eastern Studies, Harvard University (2010-2013); Faculty Associate and Executive Committee Member of The Weatherhead Center for International Affairs, Harvard University; Professor for Islamic Studies at the Freie Universität Berlin (1972-1995); Directeur d'études at the Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales (Centre d'étude des normes juridiques), Paris (1995-2005)

Johansen was **visiting professor** at the University of Ca' Foscari in Venice, at the Institut du Monde Arabe in Paris, he was an Individual Resident at the Rockefeller Foundation Bellagio Center, and H.A. R. Gibb Scholar at Harvard University. Johansen was twice elected a member of the School of Historical Studies, Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton, and has been a visiting professor at the Watson Institute (Providence) and Harvard University.

**His research and teaching** focus on the relationship between religion and law in the classical and the modern Muslim world. His book *Muhammad Husain Haikal: Europa und der Orient im Weltbild eines ägyptischen Liberalen* (1967), translated into Arabic in Abu Dhabi in 2010, examines twentieth-century liberal interpretations of Islam; *Islam und Staat* (1982) looks at modern Muslim debates on state models; and *Islamic Law on Land Tax and Rent* (1988) considers long-term changes in classical and postclassical legal doctrine. *Contingency in a Sacred Law: Legal and Ethical Norms in the Muslim Fiqh* (1999) focuses on law, social practice, and ethics in Islam.

Johansen was one of the **co-founders and editors** of *Islamic Law and Society* (Brill), and has served as area editor for Islamic Law in the *Oxford Encyclopedia of Legal History* (2009) and as adviser for the *Encyclopedia of Law and Society* (Sage, 2009).

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