

## Yusuf al-Qaradawi and the Egyptian Muslim Brotherhood on Human Rights and the Role of Religion in Politics.

Due to his program on al-Jazeera and his presidency of several international Muslim organizations, Yusuf al-Qaradawi is the most prominent Sunni Islamic scholars in the Arab World today. Since the 1980s he has been involved in political debates on how to direct the Islamic awakening, and has thus gradually been forced to engage in thinking on political representation and rights. Similarly, since the early 1990s, the Muslim Brotherhood of Egypt has tried to establish more aggressive democratic credentials and pursue a path to influence through representation in a political system that is only formally democratic, and this, in turn, has led the Brotherhood into even more practical engagement with issues of democracy and rights. The paper asks the question whether this may be considered an Islamist appropriation of human rights.