



# Islamic Scholarship in Comoros: An Ethnographic Study of Its History

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## Abstract

Islamic scholarship in Comoros has a rich history, influenced by both Arab and African intellectual traditions. The research employs qualitative methods including participant observation, interviews with scholars and community leaders, and archival research to document and analyse the history and current state of Islamic scholarship in Comoros. A notable theme emerging from this study is the integration of traditional African values into Islamic teachings, evident in the scholarly works of several prominent local scholars who emphasise communal welfare and education as central tenets. This ethnographic approach provides a nuanced understanding of how Islamic scholarship has evolved within Comoros' unique cultural milieu over centuries. Further studies could benefit from incorporating digital archives for comprehensive analysis, while policymakers could consider the educational benefits of aligning traditional Islamic teachings with modern values to foster social cohesion and development.

**Keywords:** *Islamic scholarship, Comoros, West Africa, anthropology, oral tradition, ethnohistory, participant observation*

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