

Report on the Field School in Thailand

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Background and Objective of My Research

My research is about the activities called “Islamization of Science.” Recently, in the academic world, including scientific fields, Muslim scholars are getting more and more important role. They are recognized as intellectuals in their field. On the other hand, just scholars who have background of traditional Islamic education are often regarded as “intellectuals” in the Islamic discourse. My research will focus on the secularly educated Muslim intellectuals, who have unclear position as Muslim. I am trying to find out how these Muslim face this kind of academic environment and how they are trying to change the situations.

What I found out about this topic is that the discussions on “Islamization of science” are not developed independently in various areas, but developed through International connection, which means that many kinds of ideas about Islamization of Science are shared and argued in the global level and they are influencing each other. In fact, it is found out that activities in the United States, Europe, Middle East, South Asia and Southeast Asia is all developing, interacting and sharing their own ideas, opinions and theories on Islamization of science.

Another point that I found out is that the framework and the definition of Islamization of science is not placed clearly, though the discussion is shared internationally. The discussion on Islamization of science is in the situation that holders of the ideas and opinions just state their own opinions and few observe the discussion objectively. Then in my research activity, it is important to create the frameworks to view the discussion and to establish a systematic observation. And then, the result will be applied to my case studies in future as an analysis method.