

Religious Education Journal

Volume 1 • Issue 1

August 2025

e-ISSN: 3108-4613

Editor in Chef

Abdurrahman Hendek, Ph.D., Sakarya University, Türkiye

Associate Editor

Ahmet Çakmak, Ph.D., Kocaeli University, Türkiye

Editorial Advisory Board

Asyraf Isyraqi Bin Jamil, Ph.D., Universiti Islam Antarabangsa Tuanku Syed Sirajuddin, Malaysia

Mohammad Thalgi, Ph.D., Yarmouk University, Jordan

Nigel Fancourt, Ph.D., University of Oxford, United Kingdom

Nurwanto Nurwanto, Ph.D., Universitas Muhammadiyah Yogyakarta, Indonesia

Recep Kaymakcan, Ph.D., Ministry of Youth and Sports, Türkiye

Yilmaz Gümüş, Ph.D., Osnabrück University, Germany

Secretary

Şeyma Nur Kayacan, MA, University of Copenhagen, Denmark

Religious Education Journal

Publisher: Ahmet Çakmak

Kocaeli University, Faculty of Theology, Umuttepe Campus, İzmit-Kocaeli, Türkiye

ahmet.cakmak@kocaeli.edu.tr

Director of Publication: Mustafa Fatih Ay

Akdeniz University, Faculty of Theology, Konyaaltı-Antalya, Türkiye

mustafafatihay@akdeniz.edu.tr

Published biennially, peer-reviewed, open-access academic journal.

<https://religiouseducationjournal.com/index.php/pub>

editor@religiouseducationjournal.com

Religious Education Journal

Volume 1 • Issue 1

August 2025

e-ISSN: 3108-4613

CONTENTS

EDITORIAL

Why a new journal on religious education?	iii
--	-----

RESEARCH ARTICLES

An evaluation of the possibility of religious education in early childhood in Türkiye	
Recep Kaymakcan	1-12

Students' perspectives on the implementation of the religious culture and moral knowledge course vision	
Safiye Akşit - İshak Tekin	13-32

Between being and not being- An analysis of elective religious course curricula in republican-era Türkiye	
Münir Ecer	33-42

A study on Jesuit education based on official Jesuit documents	
Esmâ Kar Zengin	43-55

Religious education in state schools in Kosovo	
Hase Elshani	57-67

Editorial

Why a new journal on religious education?

The world of thought has found expression through multiple avenues. Among these, books have long served as a central medium in both classical and modern contexts. With modernization, journals emerged as another vital channel of intellectual life, and in Türkiye, numerous journals appeared during the late Ottoman and Republican periods. With the establishment of universities, these institutions soon became the primary centers of academic publishing.

Theology faculties, too, established their own journals, many of which continue to be published today. Yet, various structural issues within these faculties—such as their composition of several distinct disciplines and the ongoing debate over the very nature of theology—have been reflected in these publications, resulting in broad-scope, multi-topic journals. In more recent decades, with the initiatives of individual scholars and institutions, thematic journals have begun to emerge. While thematic journals are well established in international academic practice, they are only beginning to take root in Türkiye and, similarly, in other non-Western academic contexts such as Malaysia and Indonesia.

In the field of religious education, there are several well-regarded international journals—such as the *British Journal of Religious Education*, *Religious Education*, *Journal of Religious Education*, *Journal of Beliefs and Values*, and *Religion & Education*. However, these journals operate within a paywall system, creating significant challenges for researchers, educators, and students at institutions unable to afford subscription fees. For this reason, we believe an open-access journal dedicated to religious education is not only timely but also necessary, as it ensures that scholarly knowledge and debate in this field remain accessible to all.

In light of these considerations, we have deemed it essential to launch an open-access journal devoted exclusively to the field of religious education, one that operates within a defined thematic framework. Our hope is that this endeavor will develop into a school of thought in religious education, establish a meaningful historical trajectory, and provide a platform for analyzing the historical development, contemporary challenges, future prospects, and global as well as local dynamics of religious education.