

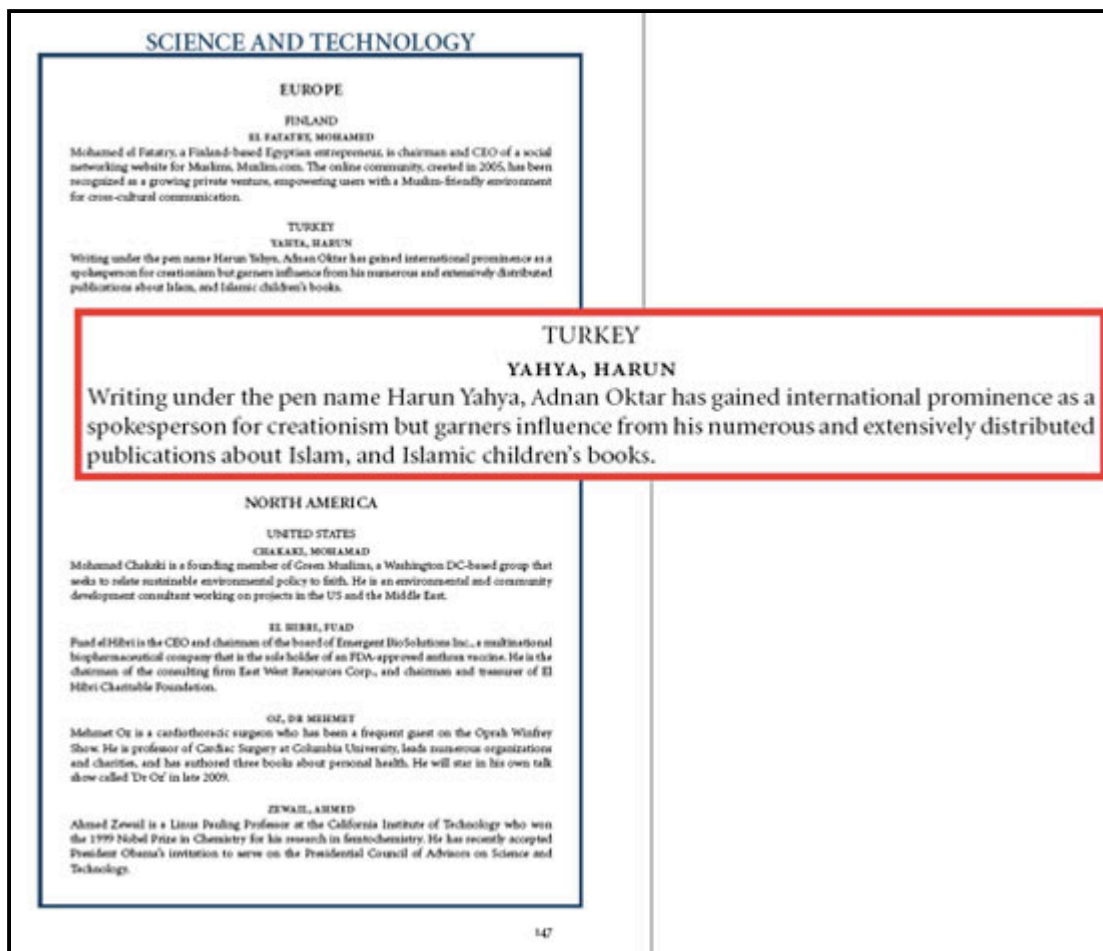
# 'Who is the most influential muslim in the world?' (17.11.2009 United Kingdom/Reuters)



Mr. Adnan Oktar has been included among the list of figures active in the field of science and technology in the book *The 500 Most Influential Muslims*, published by Georgetown University in USA. The listing in the book said:

## TURKEY / YAHYA, HARUN

Writing under the pen name Harun Yahya, Adnan Oktar has gained international prominence as a spokesperson for creationism but garners influence from his numerous and extensively distributed publications about Islam, and Islamic children's books.



Reuters, the world's leading news agency, carried a report on the book on its web site on November 17, 2009, headed "**POLL: The world's top 500 Muslims?**" Tom Heneghan, from the Reuters Paris office, sought an answer to the question "**Who is the most influential Muslim in the world?**" by publishing a new poll. **Some 2 million people voted in the poll, with 41% of respondents replying "Adnan Oktar" and 2% "Harun Yahya," thus declaring Mr. Oktar to be the most influential Muslim in the world.**

REUTERS

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### FaithWorld

**POLL: The world's top 500 Muslims? Read and vote**

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Posted by: Tom Henglein  
Tags: FaithWorld, common-wealth, gangesham, islam, jordan, king abdullah, muslim, muslim world, poll

If you've ever been confused by Muslim names you read in the news or unsure where important in the Muslim world, help is near. A new book called "The 500 Most Influential Muslims - 2009" lists prominent Muslims from different fields -- politics, religion, science, media, sport, academia -- with informative short biographies explaining who they are. It starts with an overall "Top 50" list and then surveys the most prominent Muslims in their fields.

The book, edited by Professors John Esposito and Ibrahim Kalin at Georgetown University in Washington, is the first of what is planned to be an annual survey of the top Muslim personalities around the world. It's a joint effort by the Royal Islamic Strategic Studies Center in Amman and Prince Abdullah Bin Talal Center for Muslim-Christian Understanding. Esposito is director of the Prince Abdullah Bin Talal Center and Kalin is spokesman for the Common World dialogue initiative we've written about on this blog before.

As the editors say in their introduction, "Influence in the Muslim world is particular to its context. There is not a clear hierarchy or organized clergy for Muslims to identify a leader, such as a pope for Catholic Christians or a pope for Muslims." They took a mix of factors into account in working out their top 50 list and have even asked readers to send in suggestions for next year's list. You can vote for your candidate for "most influential Muslim" in the poll at the bottom of this post.

**[ATTN: So many people have voted in the online poll that it takes a little while to load it from the website where it's hosted. Please be patient and sorry for the delay!]**

So who are the world's most influential Muslims, according to this book? Here are the top 10:

1. King Abdullah bin Abdul Aziz Al Saud, king of Saudi Arabia
2. Grand Ayatullah Hajj Sayyid Ali Khameeni, Supreme Leader of the Islamic Republic of Iran
3. King Mohammed VI, King of Morocco
4. King Abdullah II bin Al Hussein, King of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan
5. Recep Tayyip Erdogan, prime minister of the Republic of Turkey
6. Sultan Osman bin Faruk al-Salih, sultan of Oman
7. Grand Ayatullah Sayyid Ali Hussein Bakir, Marja of Iraq
8. Sheikh Al Zuhair bin Muhammad Sayyid Tantawi, grand shaykh of the Al Azhar University, grand imam of Al Azhar Mosque
9. Sheikh Dr. Yusuf Qaradawi, head of the International Union of Muslim Scholars
10. Sheikh Dr. Ali Gomra'i, grand mufti of the Arab Republic of Egypt

*(Photo: Saudi King Abdullah, 17 Nov 2008/Photage Request)*

A new initial comments about these 10 and the other 40 (check the PDF for the full list).

- Lots of kings and sultans (preying the top of the full list, with Recep Tayyip Erdogan being the only one in the top 10).

Who is the most influential Muslim in the world?

Top Results:

Adnan Oktar	41%
Sheikh Mehmet Nazim Adil Al Qubrusi Al Haqqani	33%
Shaykh Hisham Kabbani	12%
Mohammad Shaikh	8%
Harun Yahya	2%
Fethullah Gulen	0%
Sultanul Awwiya Mawfana Shaykh Nazim Adil Al Haqqani	0%
Erdogan	0%
Harun Yahya (Adnan Oktar)	0%
Fethullah Gülen	0%

Closed  
Total Votes: 1,882,172

<https://www.harunyahya.info/en/articles/who-is-the-most-influential-muslim-in-the-world-17112009-uk-reuters>