

“Female Preachers in Dakar and in Ouagadougou: New Strategies for Religious Education?”

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Since the early 1990s, religion has acquired new visibility and developed a new dynamic through media. This new situation has provided the context for women to engage in Islamic activism. This article presents a comparative analysis of the religious schooling strategies of several women who preach on radio in Ouagadougou (Burkina Faso) and in Dakar (Senegal), and how they deal with different educational systems. We show that most of these women have almost the same religious education, having studied in local Arabic schools and *madrassa*. Some also had the good fortune to enhance their religious education by studying abroad before they got married. The most original conclusion of the article is that these women belong to different and alternative networks which offered them chance to improve both their schooling and preaching strategies—ultimately enabling them to find teaching positions.