

Reviewer's report

Title: The 'Four Principles of Bioethics' as Found in A 13th Century Muslim Scholar Mawlana's Teachings

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Reviewer: Prof A. S Daar

Level of interest: A paper whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

Advice on publication: Accept after discretionary revisions

Discretionary Revisions

1. Situate Sufism within Islam-what role does it play; how is it distinguished from other forms of organization within Islam
2. Situate Rumi's position within Sufism
3. Explain the Sufi concepts used in the manuscript, eg "universal existence" "universal man", etc
3. Cut back on unnecessary biographical detail about Rumi
4. The relationship between Rumi and Shams-i-Tabrizi seems crucial. Explain how this affected Rumi's thoughts on the issues discussed in the manuscript.
5. Page 8 "although he was a great Sufi he did not suggest causing pain to his self". Explain what this means.
6. Discuss how this manuscript relates to the one submitted by the authors to Med and Law J (ref. 37)
7. Discuss how contents relate to paper by Serour (ref 36)
8. Provide a reference for the quotations from the Qur'an
9. In the conclusions section, last sentence, you refer to " two radically different traditions, namely Islamic and Western ones". Islam, Judaism and Christianity are major Western monotheistic traditions with common origins (hence designation by some as "Abrahamic" traditions)- you might want to re-word this section to reflect this commonality while pointing out differences

Compulsory Revisions

Poor English language use. Will need radical rewriting with help of a good English language user or editing service to reach acceptable level.

Competing interests:

None declared.