

Review of: "From Avicenna to Salam: The Excommunication of Muslim Scholars in the Islamic World"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

This is a fairly good article and deserves to be published. I would like to add that Steven Weinberg, a Nobel Prize winner in Physics, holds a view that is in line with Hosseini's argument about the decline of science in Islam. Weinberg talks about a time in history when important figures like Al-Ghazali rejected the idea of natural laws, which hurt scientific progress.

Both Weinberg and Hosseini say that suppressing scientific views, like the excommunication of scholars, has made science stop growing in the Islamic world. Weinberg also mentions that religious leaders do not like pure science but are receptive to technology because they think science is bad for their faith. This supports Hosseini's idea that the clash between religion and thinking has stopped scientists from asking questions.

In short, both agree that problems with religion have, had, and will hurt science in the Islamic world.