In April 2010 researchers at Cardiff Law School and the Centre for the Study of Islam in the UK at Cardiff University began a study of religious courts and tribunals across the UK. The research has been funded by the AHRC/ESRC Religion and Society Programme.

The project, ‘Social Cohesion and Civil Law: Marriage, Divorce and Religious Courts’, has explored how religious law already functions alongside civil law in the area of marriage and divorce by examining the workings of three religious courts in detail: a Jewish Beth Din; a matrimonial tribunal of the Catholic Church; and a Muslim shariah Council). The project asked ‘What is the legal status of these courts?’ and ‘How do they operate in relation to marriage, divorce and remarriage?’

On 18th May 2011 a symposium will be held at Cardiff Law School in order to discuss the key findings from the project and the wider debate concerning Britain’s religious courts.

The symposium is aimed at academics and practitioners.

Places are limited; please download a booking form from our website: http://www.law.cf.ac.uk/clr/research/cohesion.html by 6th May.

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