Religious Pluralism and the Constitutional State - Some Comparative Perspectives

Abstract:

How should the modern (African) constitutional state deal with the reality of religious plurality of its citizenry? No easy answer presents itself, even if comparative examples are consulted. States and their organs, especially the courts, often take refuge in secularism and neutrality. It is however submitted that these notions do not offer sustainable solutions. Acceptance of the need for state authorities to recognize the importance of religion in plural societies and for dealing with religious plurality fairly and objectively, is called for. [14/15 Jan 2013 15 minutes]

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