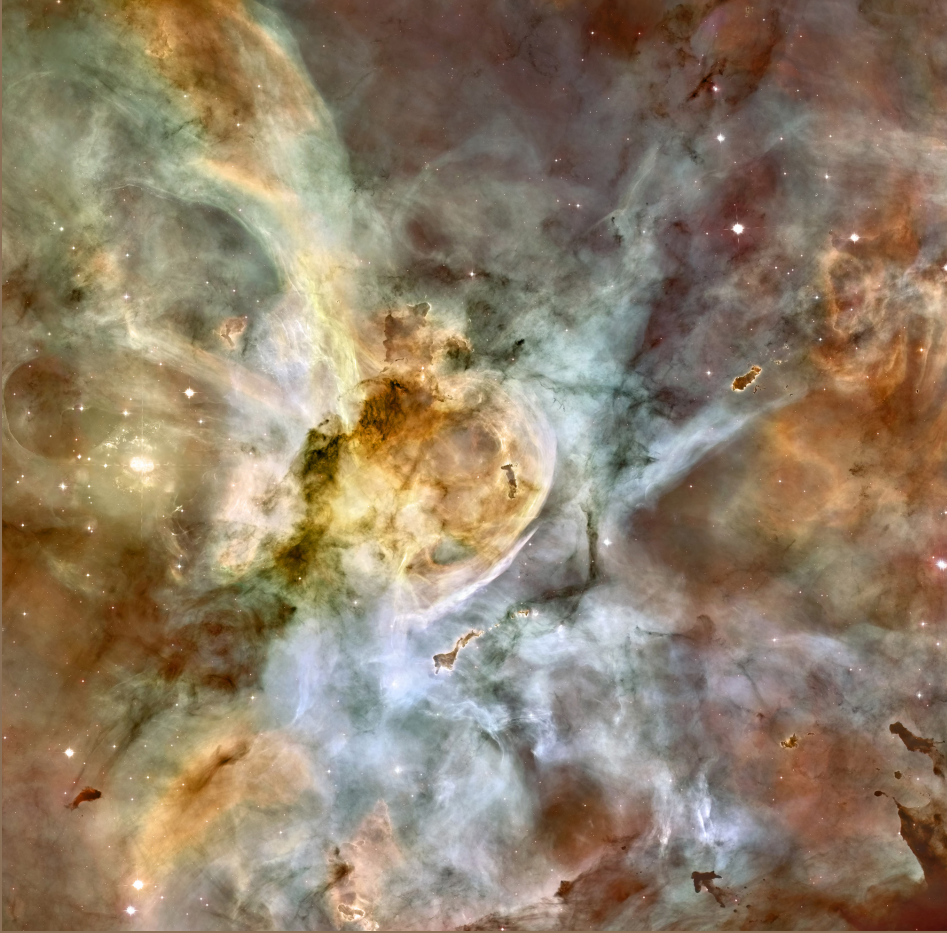


OCCASIONALISM REVISITED

New Essays from the Islamic and Western Traditions

Second Edition

ASIPT Series in Islamic Philosophy and Theology - 2



Edited by
Nazif Muhtaroglu

OCCASIONALISM REVISITED

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LOCKWOOD PRESS
Columbus, GA • 2025

American Society of Islamic Philosophy and Theology

Islamic Philosophy and Theology Series, volume 2

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First printing, 2025

ISBN: 978-1-957454-75-7

Online: <https://asipt.org>

This work is copyrighted by its authors and/or publishers American Society of Islamic Philosophy and Theology (ASIPT)

This publication was made possible through the support of Grant 62642 from the John Templeton Foundation. The opinions expressed in this publication are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the views of the John Templeton Foundation.

Published by Lockwood Press on behalf of the
American Society of Islamic Philosophy and Theology

Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data

Names: Muhtaroglu, Nazif, editor.

Title: Occasionalism revisited : new essays from the Islamic and Western traditions / edited by Nazif Muhtaroglu.

Description: Second edition. | Columbus : Lockwood Press, [2025] | Series: Islamic philosophy and theology | Includes bibliographical references and index. | Summary: "This expanded and updated second edition, edited by Nazif Muhtaroglu, weaves together philosophical perspectives from both the Islamic and Western traditions, exploring the roots and contemporary expressions of occasionalism. From its origins in the works of Islamic scholars like the Ash'arites and Maturidites, to its evolution in the thought of European philosophers such as Malebranche and Berkeley, this book bridges historical insights with contemporary philosophical inquiry"-- Provided by publisher.

Identifiers: LCCN 2024047661 (print) | LCCN 2024047662 (ebook) | ISBN 9781957454757 (hardcover) | ISBN 9781957454245 (adobe pdf)

Subjects: LCSH: Occasionalism--History. | Islamic Philosophy--History. | Philosophy, European--History.

Classification: LCC B745.O3 O23 2025 (print) | LCC B745.O3 (ebook) | DDC 147--dc23/eng/20250103

LC record available at <https://lcn.loc.gov/2024047661>

LC ebook record available at <https://lcn.loc.gov/2024047662>

Printed in the United States of America

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There are two ways to live your life. One is as though nothing is a miracle. The other is as though everything is a miracle.

Albert Einstein

Preface

This book represents an expanded and updated edition of *Occasionalism Revisited*, originally published by Kalam Research and Media in 2017. This new edition is structured into three distinct sections: “Occasionalism in Islamic Intellectual History,” “Occasionalism in Modern European Philosophy,” and, notably, a new section on “Occasionalism in Contemporary Philosophy.”

This addition addresses a gap in the first edition, which included only a single paper on current philosophical discourse—specifically, “Divine Compositionism as Occasionalism.” In this revised edition, the aforementioned paper has been thoughtfully relocated to the third section and retitled “Physical Occasionalism is Divine Compositionism,” reflecting its enhanced analytical depth.

Additionally, we have included two significant new chapters: Alvin Plantinga’s “Law, Cause, and Occasionalism,” previously published but reprinted here within this new context, and “Occasionalism in a Contemporary Context” by Douglas Kutach and Özgür Koca.

All chapters in this book except the one authored by Plantinga are original contributions, many of which were initially presented at the conference “Occasionalism East and West,” which I had the pleasure of organizing at Harvard University in May 2013. This edition aims to further illuminate the vibrant and evolving discourse on occasionalism, bridging past insights with contemporary philosophical inquiry.

Finally, this book is also designed to guide scholars who may want to outline courses on occasionalism. For this reason, a list of selected readings on occasionalism in English is added as an appendix. Both considerable primary and secondary sources can be found within it. A timeline for occasionalism is included as well, which covers all significant dates relevant to occasionalism.

Acknowledgement

I am deeply grateful to Aaron Spevack and Michaela Spampinato for their invaluable assistance in preparing this new edition. I also extend my gratitude to the Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations at Harvard University and the Philosophy Department at Yale University for supporting my research fellowship during this period.

I wish to reiterate my appreciation for the generous research funding provided by the John Templeton Foundation, Kalam Research and Media Foundation, and TUBITAK (Bidep 2232-Program) for the first edition.

Many of the chapters in this book were first presented at the conference “Occasionalism East and West,” which I had the honor of organizing at Harvard University in May 2013, as well as the subsequent conference “Occasionalism and Theories of Causality” held at Boğaziçi University in June 2015. Special thanks go to Ahmad Ragab, Khaled El-Rouayheb, Jeffrey McDonough, Chryssi Sidiropoulou, and Himmet Taşkömür for their pivotal roles in organizing these conferences. Their collaboration and support were instrumental in bringing together the diverse perspectives and insightful discussions that have enriched this edition.

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