

MKR & Associates

*Public Relations * Public Affairs * Marketing Communications Specialists*

MARK DURIE BIOGRAPHY



Mark Durie's educational background and experiences have well served him in his role as author and expert in the field of Islam. In 1979 Mark Durie completed an Arts Degree with First Class Honors and a University Medal in Germanic Languages and Linguistics at the Australian National University. He gained his PhD in Linguistics from the Australian National University in 1984 with a study of the language of the Acehnese, a Muslim people of Indonesia. He conducted field research trips in Aceh during the 1980's and 1990's, producing several books, and many research articles. The dialects he documented were among those obliterated by the Indian Ocean Tsunami in 2004.

Dr. Durie was a visiting researcher at the University of Leiden in 1985. He then spent two years in the United States as a Harkness Fellow (funded by the Commonwealth Fund of New York), holding positions as visiting researcher at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, the University of California at Los Angeles and Santa Cruz, and Stanford University. After moving to Melbourne in 1988, Dr. Durie became Head of the Department of Linguistics and Language Studies before taking up an Australian Research Council Senior Research Fellowship in 1992. He was elected a Fellow of the Australian Academy of Humanities in 1991, and awarded an Australian Centennial Medal in 2001 for contributions to linguistics.

After a change in career, Dr. Durie now works as the Vicar of St. Mary's Anglican Church, Caulfield in Melbourne. He is a human rights activist, writing and speaking extensively in Australia and internationally on issues relating to freedom of religion, freedom of speech, and the persecution of religious minorities, particularly Christians living under the Islamic sharia. He speaks across Australia and internationally on Islam. He also writes on issues related to world missions, interfaith dialogue and religious conflict. He was the facilitator for the Muslims Issue Group of the Lausanne Forum on World Evangelization, held in Thailand in 2004.

Dr. Durie has had opinion pieces and articles published in *The Age*, *The Australian*, *Inquirer Magazine* (*The Australian*), *Quadrant*, *Church Scene*, *The Melbourne Anglican*, *The Herald Sun*,

Australian Style, Technic, Market-Place, The Tasmanian Anglican, The Southern Cross, Alive Magazine, Zadok Perspectives and On Line Opinion. He has also conducted numerous radio interviews.

Dr. Durie's book *Revelation: do we worship the same God?* was published by CityHarvest in July 2006 and is into its second edition. His latest book *The Third Choice: Islam, Dhimmitude and Freedom* by Deror Books, is on the experience of non-Muslims living under Islamic rule. It will be released February 2010. A further book, on the pastoral care of Christians affected by Islam, will be published later in 2010.

134 Sconset Lane, Guilford, CT 06437 917-743-7836 office / cell melindakayronn@aol.com