

Mujeres imam en Marruecos

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The Moroccan government has found a new weapon in the war against extremism -- female priests. Its hoped that women will spread a more balanced and tolerant version of Islam.

Thousands of mosques in Morocco are led by badly educated Imams. The State considers these mosques breeding ground for terrorism and is closing them down. "They are extremist groupings in Mosques", states student Abd Salam. The King himself is behind many of the new reforms. Two years ago, he caused a minor scandal when he allowed a woman to read out the traditional Ramadan sermon for the first time. Now he wants women to play a leading role in modernising Islam and is allowing them to become Imams. Demands for a new, feminist interpretation of the Koran are coming from all sides. "We want a revolution -- but rather a soft revolution from within", states writer Asma Lamrabet. "We still have a long way to go. But well try."