Stellingen

1) The history of Christian missions in the Muslim world has been predominantly written from a Christian, missionary perspective (This thesis).

2) Rashīd Riḍā’s views on the Christian faith and its scriptures have left their great impress on the polemical discourse in many contemporary reformist circles. (This thesis).

3) The debate of the Lutheran missionary Alfred Nielsen with Riḍā reflects a strand of self-critical liberal Christian thought which many conservative Christian thinkers, at that time and still today, would have found objectionable (This thesis).

4) Rashīd Riḍā’s publication of the Arabic translation of the Gospel of Barnabas can be considered a part of a continuing Islamic literary tradition looking for an ‘Islamic Gospel’ that supported the principal tenets of the Islamic faith (This thesis).

5) The call of Bible Belt American missionaries for a ‘war for souls’ in Afghanistan and Iraq has its causal connection with George W. Bush’s declaration of the ‘war on terror’.

6) The current social realities of Muslims cannot be understood in isolation from the primary Islamic sources and their interpretations in history.

7) The fate of many family archives and private papers of well-known makers of modern Islam would definitely be the dustbin, if they had not been discovered in time by researchers or by academic institutions. (Inspired by a statement made by Dr. Hārūn Zekī Kirām).

8) The position of Arent Jan Wensinck within Dutch orientalism has been unjustly overshadowed by the abundant attention given to his teacher Christiaan Snouck Hurgronje.

9) Historians and social scientists are strongly recommended to use the telephone directory as a primary source in their research.

10) The current policy of the International Office of the University of Leiden is discouraging and sometimes unfair towards the post-graduate students from the Third World.
11) A three-year-old daughter thinking that her father is writing a pink book about Cinderella instead of a PhD thesis should be taken seriously.

12) 'Harry, bedankt', this statement should have been published by Muslim organizations in the Netherlands as a front-page advertisement in *de Volkskrant*. (Referring to the advertisement published by Harry de Winter, *Een Ander Joods Geluid* and *Stichting de Initiatieven* against Geert Wilders in *de Volkskrant* on 17 March 2008).