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BULETIN PUSAT DIALOG PERADABAN UNIVERSITI MALAYA

April—June 2008

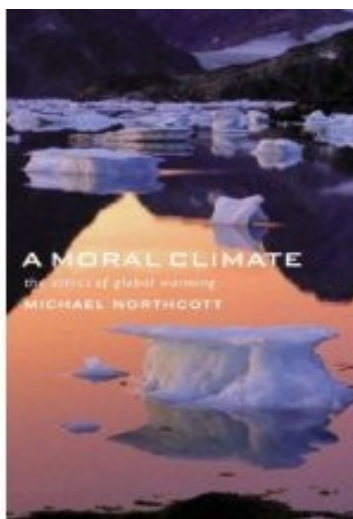
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INTERNATIONAL VISITING SCHOLAR: PROFESSOR MICHAEL S. NORTHCOTT

The Centre hopes that its efforts to help promote the University of Malaya across the globe, is in line with the university's internationalisation strategies. In the last 12 months, **30 International Scholars** from all over the world, namely The United States of America, Japan, New Zealand, The United Kingdom, Singapore, Indonesia among others have visited and taken part in the center's activities.

From May 17 to June the 8th for example, the Centre is proud to host the visiting scholar, Professor Michael S. Northcott, a Professor of Ethics (especially environmental ethics) at the University of Edinburgh, United Kingdom. During his attachment at the Centre, Prof Northcott delivered several lectures as well as carried out research which covered the turtles of Terengganu and the *orangutans* of Sabah. He gave his lectures at the UM, University Darul Iman as well as University Sabah Malaysia on topics pertaining to carbon footprinting and religion and the environment.

Prof Northcott delivered the key-note paper at the **International Conference on Values, Environment and the Future of Civilisation**, which was organized by the Centre and held on June 3-4, 2008 (more stories inside). His book “A Moral Climate—The Ethics of Global Warming” was also launched during the opening ceremony of this conference which was officially opened by *YBhg* Datuk Rafiah Salim, the Vice-Chancellor, University of Malaya.



Prof Northcott's book which was launched during the opening ceremony of the conference.

In his book, he wrote amongst others on how significant climate change is a consequence of human action. He said for example that “Some change is already occurring but quite what magnitude of change will occur and what it will bring to different parts of the world remains unknown”.

Meanwhile, despite the catastrophic forecasts of the dangers that a warming world poses to humans and other species, the consumer society of the North continues in its energy hungry path, and

the peoples of the South continue to bear the cost. In the face of this uncertain yet impending crisis, does it make sense to speak of a moral response? Prof. Northcott argues not only that it does, but that it is essential if we are to avoid further environmental disaster.

Besides that, he was also one of the speakers for the **Interfaith Dialogue** held in conjunction with the visit of the USP of the National University of Singapore. (more stories see page 5).



SIDANG REDAKSI

EDITOR

Prof Datin Dr Azizan Baharuddin
Prof Madya Dr Raihanah

Abdullah

Prof Emeritus Datuk Dr Osman

Bakar

PENGARANG & REKABENTUK/

SUSUNATUR

Cik Mawar Ainie Mustaffa

BULETIN

TEKNIKAL/PERCETAKAN

Puan Siti Rukiah binti Othman

Encik Anuar Mansor

Cik Sumitra a/p Rajan

SEMINAR ISLAM HADHARI— PEMBELAAN KUMPULAN MINORITI DI MALAYSIA

Gagasan Islam Hadhari yang menekankan pendekatan pembangunan manusia, masyarakat dan negara yang bersepadu merupakan satu dasar yang bersifat komprehensif. Antara elemen-elemen utama yang perlu dibangunkan adalah seperti keprihatinan, perpaduan, keharmonian, kesejahteraan, keadilan, pembelaan, kasih sayang serta rasa saling menghormati. Seminar Islam Hadhari yang memfokuskan kepada prinsip ke-tujuh Pendekatan Islam Hadhari, iaitu **Pembelaan hak kumpulan minoriti**, telah dianjurkan oleh Pusat Dialog Peradaban pada 10 hingga 11 April yang lalu bertempat di Institut Pengajian Siswazah, Universiti Malaya.

Matlamat utama penganjuran seminar ini adalah untuk menjelaskan konsep dan gagasan Islam Hadhari khasnya bagi golongan bukan Islam; membincangkan konsep dan isu-isu pembelaan hak minoriti dalam konteks Islam Hadhari; serta mengupas pelaksanaan dasar Islam Hadhari dalam menjaga kepentingan dan pembelaan hak kumpulan minoriti. Seminar ini telah

mendapat sambutan yang menggalakkan dengan seramai 100 orang peserta yang terdiri daripada wakil-wakil dari agensi Kerajaan, NGO, pensyarah dan para pelajar dari seluruh Malaysia telah hadir.

Seminar Islam Hadhari ini amat unik kerana ia turut dihadiri oleh peserta bukan Islam selain membariskan ahli-ahli panel yang juga bukan Islam untuk sama-sama berdiskusi dan membincangkan pendekatan Islam Hadhari seperti Profesor N.Kanthasamy (UM), Dr Sarjit Singh (UPM), Dr Lee Lee Luder (SEDS) dan Encik Ho Khek Hua yang merupakan Timbalan Pengarah Jabatan Perpaduan Negara & Integrasi Nasional.

Pada keseluruhannya seminar ini telah berjaya membincangkan secara terperinci tentang konsep, definisi dan kepentingan kumpulan minoriti terutamanya dalam konteks Malaysia. Selain itu, ianya juga telah menjadi satu platform perbincangan yang baik dan terbuka buat semua golongan sama-sama menghayati gagasan Islam hadhari tersebut.



Semasa sesi pendaftaran seminar



Antara hadirin yang menyertai seminar ini



Barisan ahli panel yang terdiri dari berbilang bangsa dan jantina

BENKEL UNESCO: PENDIRIAN MALAYSIA MENGENAI ISU-ISU SAINS DAN TEKNOLOGI

Jawatankuasa Kecil Tetap Sains UNESCO, di bawah tanggungjawab bahagian Antarabangsa MOSTI telah menganjurkan satu bengkel mengenai **Pendirian Malaysia Mengenai Isu-Isu Sains dan Teknologi yang berkaitan dengan UNESCO**. Bengkel ini telah dianjurkan pada 4-7 Mei 2008 yang lalu di Corus Paradise Resort, Port Dickson, Negeri Sembilan. Dokumen UNESCO 34 C/5 2nd Version II : Major Programme II – Natural Sciences dan UNESCO 34 C/5 2nd Version III : Major Programme III – Social and Human Sciences telah digunakan sebagai asas kepada setiap perbincangan dalam bengkel tersebut. Sehubungan dengan itu, pakar dan agensi yang berkenaan telah dijemput untuk membincangkan subject matter dalam 4 kumpulan mengikut **focus areas** yang ditetapkan.

Sehubungan dengan itu, Pengarah



dan Penolong Penyelidik Pusat Dialog Peradaban telah turut dijemput ke bengkel tersebut. Prof Dr Azizan Baharuddin juga telah dilantik untuk mengetuai perbincangan bagi Kumpulan D yang membincangkan isu berkaitan Sains Sosial dan **Ke-manusiaan** yang banyak bertumpu kepada bioetika. Antara dokumen UNESCO lain yang telah turut digunakan sepanjang perbincangan Kumpulan D ialah:

1. The Universal Declaration on Bioethics and Human Rights
2. Universal Declaration on the Human Genome and Human Rights
3. The International Declaration on Human Genetic Data.

Terdapat empat (4) bahagian atau topik yang telah dibincangkan menurut penekanan dan saranan yang terkandung dalam dokumen UNESCO 34 C/5, iaitu:

1. Promoting Research and Capacity-Building for the Sound Management of natural Resources
2. Promoting Policies and Strengthening Human and Institutional Capacities in Science, Technology and Innovation, with Special Emphasis on the Basic Sciences
3. Promoting Knowledge Networks for Disaster Preparedness and Mitigation and Enhancing National and Regional Coping Capacities
4. Promoting Principles, Practices and Ethical Norms Relevant for Scientific and Technological Development

Di akhir Bengkel setiap ketua kumpulan telah membentangkan pelan tindakan hasil daripada perbincangan. Cadangan serta input yang signifikan telah diusulkan kepada pihak MOSTI untuk tindakan selanjutnya diambil berkaitan dengan **focus areas** yang dijelaskan

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON ENVIRONMENT, VALUES AND THE FUTURE OF CIVILISATION

Since the Earth Day in 1970, the world has lost nearly 200 million hectares of tree cover. Deserts have expanded by over 120 million hectares. Thousands of plant and animal species become extinct each day. Freshwater fish are declining in many areas. Approximately 480 billion tons of top soil have been lost. It is no wonder that such facts

have led to the perception of many that the planet is experiencing a serious environmental crisis. The 1990s are a crucial decade. The East-West ideological conflict, which dominated world concerns for over a generation, has ended. No one can know what new political alignment will emerge in the future. But there is one certainty: unprecedented world-wide environmental damage has continued despite the efforts of legislators, agencies, environmental organizations, and individuals.

As mentioned this international conference on **Environment, Values and the Future of Civilisation** was held on 3-4 June 2008 at the Shah Village Hotel, Petaling Jaya. Its aims included: to examine the specific urgency of environmental conservation in Malaysia from the perspectives of biodiversity, ecosystems, and human health; **to engender dialogue between the scientific narrative of ecological crisis and the moral and spiritual narratives of the decline in virtues, and the growth in consumerism, individualism and materialism** which are implicated in the lack of concern for the environment shown by citizens, civil servants and corporations today; to explore moral and traditional resources in religious traditions, which have significant representation in Malay-

sia's multicultural society; as well as to enquire into the nature of environmental ethics and examples of virtuous practices in the global and Malaysian context and to find examples of environmental conservation initiatives at all levels of society including those of religious communities as well as scientific and government bodies and NGOs.

The conference was honored by the presence of YBhg Datuk Rafiah Salim, the Vice-Chancellor, University of Malaya, who officially opened the conference and gave a speech addressing the conference themes while supporting its objectives. She mentioned that she was personally working to develop initiatives to green the University of Malaya campus, especially in the reduction of its ecological footprint. In his presentation he emphasized the need to act rapidly to prevent global temperature from rising beyond a critical level, commonly said to be currently two degrees above the preindustrial level. While he expressed serious concern about our ability to turn around current trends in time, he noted a number of positive signs, including his own university's progress towards carbon neutrality. He argued forcibly that the obligation to prevent catastrophic climate change is a matter of justice.

There was general agreement that we need to develop specific projects that will make a difference. These could include:

- Progress towards a green campus, as advocated by the Vice-Chancellor of University of Malaya
- Introduction of environmental education at all levels from

primary to tertiary

- General public education about practical conservation, for instance rejecting plastic bags and buying local products where possible
- Institutions and businesses saving energy and avoiding waste.

(continue at page 9)



Vice-Chancellor of University of Malaya shaking hand with Prof Darryl Macer from UNESCO Bangkok



(from left) Prof Azizan, Datuk Rafiah and Prof Northcott at the opening ceremony and book launch ceremony on day one



Registration on the first day



Panelists for the first session



Prof Datin Mariati presenting token of appreciation to Assoc. Prof Alastair S. Gunn

UM UNESCO CLUB – NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR UNESCO MALAYSIA PROGRAMME



After its successful project, **VOCAL: Cave Expedition in Mulu National Park, Sarawak** in November 2007, the Malaysian

National Commission for UNESCO has embarked on another similar program this year, with the focus on mangrove study. The project which is based on the V.O.C.A.L concept was founded by the UNESCO Associated School Project Network (ASPNet) Malaysia, a concept introduced to inculcate the spirits of **volunteerism, caring and love** (VOCAL) among students. Its focus is primarily on environmental issues.

This year's Environmental Awareness Program 2008 is jointly organized by the Malaysian National Commission for UNESCO, UNESCO Malaysian International Hydrological Programme (MIHP), University Technology Malaysia (UTM), Langkawi Development Authority (LADA), Perak and Kedah State Forestry Departments and others. Through the CCD-UNESCO National Commission network, 3 UM students (UNESCO Club members) **Mohd Azhar, Nurul Fitrah &**

Noorzilah Jailani—joined the VOCAL 2008, held at Matang Mangrove Forest, Larut Matang, Perang and Langkawi Geopark, Kedah from May 4-10, 2008.

The students spent 4 days in the mangrove forest and another 4 days in Langkawi. They find activities at the mangrove very exciting as they had the opportunity to experience nature through jungle tracking, activities in the mud, boat trip via Matang River, mangrove tree planting, fireflies, and many more. In Langkawi, again, they had the golden opportunity to get up-close with nature with trips to Langkawi Geopark, Klim Geoforest, as well as close encounters with the Bats of Gua Kelawar.

The students (UM UNESCO Club members especially) have certainly learnt a lot from all activities carried out both at the mangrove forest and Langkawi, besides all the excitement throughout the programme. This programme is very useful and will certainly create awareness as well as educate our students to get closer and appreciate nature more.



Pictures of the students during the ASPNet programme



Those interested to join the UM UNESCO Club, please see http://groups.yahoo.com/group/um_uc/

or contact Ms. Mawar at **03-79675521**

THOUGHTS ON CIVILISATIONAL DIALOGUE: VERONICA ROVOLETTO (VISITING POSTGRADUATE) - OCTOBER 2006—SEPTEMBER 2007

“

Whenever we speak about progress, we can't split this word from dialogue. This, of course, if we intend "progress" as a condition related not only to economic growth but also to intellectual and spiritual growth.

Dialogue is not only the basis for creating a peaceful coexistence among the different civilizations of the world. It's a powerful instrument to get to know each other and improve ourselves, which allows us to take from everybody the best of what he can teach us, and giving the best that we know or have learned.

The fact that centres for civilizational dialogue have spread in many countries and among oth-



ers, in Muslim countries as Malaysia or Iran (thanks to its former president Khatami) is a sign of hope: only with dialogue and not confrontation people can develop their ideas.

But we have to be aware of the differences and of the similarities if we want to create a fruitful dialogue, with an open mind. What does "open mind" mean?

Having an open mind means listening and avoiding any position of superior attitude. Nothing is obvious or clear from someone who comes from a culture that is different from our own, so we have to be ready to explain things that for us are completely clear or since a long time part of our common knowledge and traditions.

I'd like to report some examples. After the 11th September and what happened in the USA it seems that many people consider Islam as a danger. But do people really know what Islam is? And do they know the difference between Islamism and Islam? And at the same time, does anybody know, on the other side, that, for example, for Italians "islamismo" has a positive meaning, whereas in other linguistic contexts the ending - **ism** is always related to something negative, as extremism? In Italian with the word Islam we refer to the religion and all the rituals related to it and with "islamismo" to a conception of the man (follower of Islam) and of the world that refers to the values of Islam” .

INTER-RELIGIOUS DIALOGUE 2008 – UNIVERSITY SCHOLARS PROGRAM VISIT, NATIONAL UNIVERSITY SINGAPORE

This programme is an annual programme of the National University of Singapore (NUS). This is the second time the University Scholars Programme (USP). NUS and the Centre for Civilisational Dialogue, UM and Faith University, Istanbul jointly organize activities for 20 students (including 2 from UM). The program, consists of 3 weeks of study tour of Singapore, Kuala Lumpur, and Istanbul. The 2 UM's students who were chosen were:

1. Surendran a/l Sumdraraj (EEE050222)
2. Mohammad Fauzan bin Maaruf (CEA050212)

The study tour is headed by Professor Dr. Syed Farid Al-Attas, Head, Department of Sociology, NUS, with the assistance of Miss Gurvinderjit Kaur. Its main aim is to encourage the culture of dialogue among future leaders besides building mutual understanding between different cultures, religions, and nationalities, in the promotion of peace and harmony.



Prof Dr Syed Farid Al-Attas and Prof Emeritus Datuk Dr Osman Bakar at the dialogue session

Whilst in KL (2-6 June) the participants were hosted by the Centre. Throughout the 5 days here, the students were given exposure to Islamic, Buddhist and other Asian architectures and cultures through programmes carried out by and through

the Centre, as well as visits to several places such as:

1. The Masjid Wilayah,
2. Museum of Islamic Arts, KL
3. Museum of Asian Arts, UM
4. Gambus performance at the KL residence of Dr Syed Al-Attas,
5. Sokka Gakai HQ.

Besides that, in line with the Centre's role and function in promoting dialogue, the students also participated in several discussion/dialogue sessions during:

1. The International Conference on Values, Environment and the Future of Civilisation (June 3-4, 2008, Shah Village Hotel)

2. Inter-Religious Dialogue: Christian-Muslim Relations (June 5, 2008, Centre for Civilisational Dialogue)
3. Visit to the Centre for Public Policy Studies (CPPS) and Soka Gakkai Malaysia.

Besides the activities planned for them, the students made full use of their 5 days by getting to know the International Visiting Scholars at the Centre.

This programme is a unique and important one, as it is tailored to shape our future leaders' way of thinking. It is also a good exposure for students from 3 different countries to sit together and discuss about their common values while experiencing living in peace coexistence.



The students at one of the dialogue sessions at the Centre

SEMINAR KEBANGSAAN TEACHING OF TRAINERS MODUL TAMADUN ISLAM DAN TAMADUN ASIA

Lanjutan kepada Bengkel akhir semakan modul TITAS yang telah diadakan pada 21 hingga 23 Mac 2008 di Port Dickson, Negeri Sembilan yang lalu, pihak Kementerian Pengajian Tinggi (KPT) telah mengadakan Seminar Kebangsaan Teaching of Trainers (TOT) yang dilaksanakan pada 28 hingga 29 Jun 2008 di Shah Village Hotel, Petaling Jaya di bawah perancangan dan panduan PDP. Di seminar ini, wakil-wakil tenaga pengajar TITAS dari setiap IPTA telah dijemput sebagai pembentang bagi mengupas kaedah pembelajaran dan pengajaran (P&P) di IPTA masing-masing di samping memberi cadangan penambahbaikan modul TITAS baru yang

disediakan oleh PDP untuk JPT. Penulis keenam-enam bab dan pihak KPT telah hadir sebagai fasilitator.

Tujuan utama TOT ini diadakan adalah untuk melengkap dan mengukuhkan kesepaduan ilmu dalam pendidikan pelajar, serta membincangkan kaedah pendekatan yang paling berkesan bagi P&P TITAS.

Pengajian ketamadunan merupakan suatu elemen yang semakin penting hari ini dalam membina masyarakat bangsa yang bersatu-padu selain membentuk serta melatih generasi bakal pemimpin hari ini. Di akhir seminar ini, beberapa pandangan telah diambil

untuk mengukuhkan status penyarah TITAS dan bidang TITAS itu sendiri sebagai disiplin akademik yang penting.



PDP merupakan sekretariat kepada JK Induk TITAS dan Pengarahnya adalah Pengerusi JK Induk tersebut.

GALLERY OF EVENTS 2008



INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

“Values, Environment and The future of Civilisation” 3 – 4 June 2008, Shah Village Hotel, PJ



NUS PROGRAMME—INTER-RELIGIOUS DIALOGUE : CHRISTIAN MUSLIM DIALOGUE

5 June 2008, KATHA Seminar Hall, CCD



NUS PROGRAMME—PUBLIC LECTURE

“Environmental Wisdom: An Intercivilisational Perspective” 6 June 2008, KATHA Seminar Hall, CCD



PUBLIC LECTURE— INTERNATIONAL SCHOLAR, CENTRE FOR CIVILISATIONAL DIALOGUE DR. TOBRONI, UNIVERSITI MUHAMMADIYAH, MALANG, INDONESIA

“Pecepatan Peningkatan Mutu Pendidikan Madrasah Di Indonesia” 1 June 2008,
Balai Ilmu, Academy of Islamic Study , 1 July 2008

CONFERENCE AT THE UNIVERSITY OF SZCZECIN, POLAND

Between the 26-28 of march, the CCD had a wonderful opportunity to network with the University Szczecin Poland through a landmark conference on inter-religious dialogue. Sensitive to the fact that Muslims and the religion of Islam is gravely misunderstood in the West, the theology Faculty University Szczecin organized An international Conference on Interreligious Dialogue.

Prof Azizan Baharuddin was invited to present a paper in the first session entitled: "Islamic Perspective on the Dialogue of Civilization". On the next day, she also presented a paper on "The Muslim Response to Modern Science". Being an overwhelming by catholic community this is the first time such a dialogue has taken place in the Szczecin community. Other speakers included

scholars and faith leaders of the Buddhist, Christian and Hindu traditions from Thailand, India and Europe. Other topics covered and discussed included "The Place and meaning of Religion in Culture"; Ethics and Social Philosophy; Identity and Inter-religious Dialogue; Religion as a Vehicle for Intercultural Dialogue etc. The 2-day conference was very well attended by the Szczecin community. The local TV station "TVP Szczecin" and *Polish Rodio Polskie* Station aired portions of the conference for the benefit of the public.



Prof. Azizan at the conference

INDUSTRIAL TRAINING AT THE CENTRE

For the first time since its establishment, the Centre was honored to receive 2 students who did their industrial training for the duration of 8 weeks (May 13-July 4). Both of the students are from the Institute of Biological Sciences, Faculty of Science, majoring in Genetics and Molecular Biology. They are:

1. Liew Min Kang
2. Fazlisya Ramly

The students are very much interested in bioethics issues and had spent most of their time at the CCD studying and doing research on it. They also had the

opportunity to be exposed to the Centre's roles and function as a centre for research, seminars and publications which include topics on bioethics. The students also had the chance to interact and work with the CCD's International Visiting Scholars. Throughout the duration of 8 weeks, they were exposed to the processes and procedures in carrying out a research project (outside of their lab) on bioethics with 2 major assignments pertaining to it.

They also managed to carry out a survey on the level of awareness of "The Universal Declara-

tion on Bioethics and Human Rights amongst UM's scientists". Their research produced some significant results. (Please contact the Centre for further information)

This attachment programme has benefited both parties—the 2 students as well as the Centre. It is hoped that there will be more students interested to do their Industrial Training with the Centre in the future.

"I'm very grateful to the Centre for exposing me to the environment of dialogue — a vital bioethical approach in our pluralistic nation"
- Liew Min Kang



"The one word that can describe my internship with the Centre would be the one word that holds the centre together — Excellence"
- Fazlisya Ramly

SEMINAR ISU-ISU SEMASA TAMADUN UMMAH IPTA/IPTS PERINGKAT KEBANGSAAN

Pada 25 Jun 2008 Jabatan Kemajuan Islam Malaysia (JAKIM), Pertubuhan Muafakat Sejahtera Malaysia (MUAFAKAT) dan Pusat Dialog Peradaban (PDP) Universiti Malaya telah mengadakan **Seminar Isu-Isu Semasa Tamadun Ummah IPTA/IPTS Peringkat Kebangsaan** bertempat di Dewan Ballroom, Hotel Grand Season, Kuala Lumpur. Profesor Emeritus Datuk Dr Osman Bakar, Felo Penyelidik Kanan PDP telah menyampaikan kertas dasar di seminar ini. Kertas beliau berjudul **Penguasaan Ilmu Dalam Era Globalisasi**.



MUAFAKAT



Penyampaiannya di-pengerusikan oleh Yg. Bhg. Profesor Dato An-sary Ahmed, Naib Canselor Universiti E-Asia.

Sebuah forum tentang isu-isu semasa umat Islam telah juga diadakan. Ahli-ahli panel terdiri daripada Profesor Dato Muhammad Abu Bakar, Dekan F a k u l t i Sastera dan Sains Sosial, Universiti Malaya dan

Sdr Yusri Mohamed, Presiden Angkatan Belia Islam Malaysia (ABIM) yang juga seorang penyarah di Universiti Islam Antarabangsa, Malaysia (UIAM).

Acara Forum diikuti dengan sesi bengkel yang membincangkan isu-isu yang telah dibangkitkan dalam ucapan Profesor Osman dan dalam Forum. Seminar sehari ini berakhir dengan majlis penutup yang diadakan selepas makan tengah hari. Majlis seminar dan penutup dirasmikan oleh YB Dato Dr Mashitah Ibrahim, Timbalan Menteri di Jabatan Perdana Menteri. Turut hadir dan berucap di majlis tersebut ialah Datuk Wan Mohamad Sheikh Abdul Aziz, Ketua Pengarah JAKIM.

PELANCARAN BUKU “TAWHID & SCIENCE” OLEH PROFESOR EMERITUS DATUK DR. OSMAN BAKAR, FELO PENYELIDIK KANAN PDP

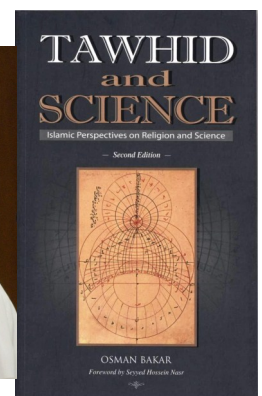
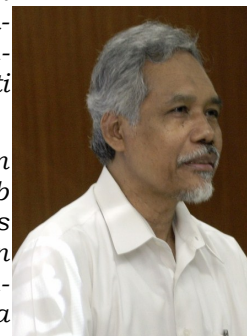
Pada 3hb Jun 2008 jam 10 pagi bertempat di Kelab Diraja Selangor, Jalan Raja, Kuala Lumpur di sebelah Dataran Merdeka buku karangan Profesor Emeritus Datuk Dr Osman Bakar telah dilancarkan oleh Yg. Amat Berbahagia Tun Ahmad Sarji Abdul Hamid selaku Pengerusi Institut Kefahaman Islam Malaysia (IKIM). Buku tersebut adalah dalam bahasa Inggeris dan berjudul **Tawhid and Science: Islamic Perspectives on Religion and Science** (sila lihat catatan berasingan tentang buku in). Seramai lebih kurang 200 tetamu telah menghadiri majlis pelancaran tersebut. Ramai mereka terdiri daripada ahli-ahli akademik di institusi-institusi pengajian tinggi tanah air.

Majlis pelancaran dianjurkan bersama oleh **Arah Pendidikan Sdn Bhd**, iaitu penerbit buku Tawhid and Science, dan Bahagian Perhubungan Awam, Univer-

siti Malaya. Naib Canselor Universiti Malaya, Yg. Bhg. Datuk Rafiah Salim dan Pengerusi dan Ketua Pegawai Eksekutif Arah Pendidikan, Yg. Bhg. Tan Sri Abdul Rashid Hussain hadir di majlis tersebut. Turut hadir ialah Yg. Bhg. Dato Dr Amin Jalaludin, Timbalan Naib Canselor (Akademik dan Antarabangsa) dan staf Universiti Malaya.

Majlis bermula dengan bacaan doa diikuti dengan ucapan Naib Canselor. Seterusnya penulis buku, Profesor Emeritus Osman telah menyampaikan ucapannya yang antara lainnya menjelaskan tentang mesej utama buku itu. Ucapan terakhir disampaikan oleh Yg. Bhg. Tun Ahmad Sarji yang mengakhiri majlis itu dengan pelancaran buku. Sebelum majlis bersurai para tetamu telah diraikan dengan jamuan ringan. Serentak dengan itu mereka mengam-

bil kesempatan untuk membeli buku pada harga pelancaran dan mendapatkan tandatangan autograf pengarang.



(Sesiapa berminat mendapatkan buku pada harga pelancaran, iaitu RM35 sila hubungi Pusat Dialog Peradaban)

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON ENVIRONMENT, VALUES AND THE FUTURE OF CIVILISATION (from page 3)

Papers that were presented during the 2-day conference are as listed below:

1. **Bridging Human Needs, Values and Conservation : The BBEC Experience** by Professor Datin Dr. Maryati Mohamed
2. **Moral and Spiritual Resources for Environmental Conservation : The Rewards of Pluralism** by Professor Dr. Alastair S. Gunn
3. **Corporate Social Responsibility: Islamic Point of View** by Mr Md. Tareq bin Hussain
4. **Environmental Ethics and Corporate Responsibility in Environmental Conservation** by Dato Ghazali bin Dato Yusoff
5. **Practical Issues in Developing Ethical Policy for Environmental Conservation** by Dr.Loh Chi Leong
6. **Christians and Climate Change in Malaysia** by Profesor Dr. Lee Chai Peng
7. **Moral and Spiritual Resources for Environmental Conservation in a Plural Society** by Datuk Osman Bakar
8. **Inner Reform and World Citizenship- The Key To Bridge The Gap Between Science and Values in the Discourse of Environmental Crises** by Assoc Prof. Lee Kok Kheng
9. **Heading Towards Environmental Collapse** by Assoc Prof Dr. Rosli Omar
10. **Anthropogenic Climate Change and the Sacred Cosmology of Justice** by Professor Dr. Michael S.Northcott
11. **Religious Studies, Theology and Sustainable Development : An Islamic Perspective** by Professor Datin Dr. Azizan Baharuddin
12. **Participatory Approach in Bridging The Gap Between Science and Values in The Discourse of Environmental Crisis with The Orang Asli** by Mrs. Rosta Harun
13. **Exploring The Role of Environmental Ethics In Environmental Innovation** by Ms. Zeeda Fatimah Mohamad & Ms. Aishah Abdullah
14. **Health and Environmental Hazards of Flash-Floods in Kuala Lumpur: Prevention and Control** by Dr. Htay Moe



Panelist of the 5th session. (From left: Puan Aishah, Ms Zeeda, Prof Nik Meriam, dan Datuk Salleh Md Noor



Some of the delegates, organizing committee and staff of the centre



The audience

MULTICULTURALISM AND NATION-BUILDING: THE MALAYSIAN EXPERIENCE

The Centre congratulates INPUMA (The International Institute) for being given the honor of organizing the training programme on “**International Politics & Economics for ASEAN Public Officials**”. The Centre records its thanks and gratitude to INPUMA for inviting its Director to make presentation entitled “**Multiculturalism and**

Nation-Building: The Malaysian Experience” to the participants of the programme. One of the main aims of the programme was to foster better understanding and cooperation between Malaysia and ASEAN member states.



Teks Ucapan Yg Bhg Datuk Rafiah Salim, Naib Canselor Universiti Malaya di Majlis Pelancaran buku *Tawhid and Science* di Royal Selangor Club, Kuala Lumpur



“
Yg. Bhg
Tan Sri Dato
Seri Ahmad
Sarji,
Pengerusi
IKIM, Tan Sri
Abd Rashid
Hussain,
Pengerusi

Eksekutif, Arah Pendidikan, Penerbit buku *Tawhid and Science*, Profesor Emeritus Datuk Dr Osman Bakar, penulis buku *Tawhid and Science*, Tan Sri-Tan Sri dan Puan Sri-Puan Sri, Dato-Dato dan Datin-Datin, seterusnya pada hadirin sekalian, assalamu alaikum wa rahmatullahi wa barakatuh dan salam sejahtera.

Bagi pihak Universiti Malaya saya ingin mengalu-alukan kehadiran tuan-tuan dan puan-puan sekalian di majlis pelancaran buku *Tawhid and Science: Islamic Perspectives on Religion and Science* pada pagi ini. Saya juga berterima kasih kepada pihak penerbit buku ini, iaitu Arah Pendidikan Sdn Bhd dan Pengerusi Eksekutifnya, Yg Bhg Tan Sri Abdul Rashid Hussain kerana bekerjasama dengan Universiti Malaya dalam menjayakan majlis pelancaran ini. Memandangkan bahawa buku yang kita lancarkan ditulis dalam bahasa Inggeris dan terdapat sebilangan yang hadir yang tidak memahami bahasa Malaysia maka izinkan saya menyampaikan ucapan ringkas saya ini dalam bahasa Inggeris.

Ladies and Gentleman. On behalf of the University of Malaya I would welcome you to the launching of an important book written by one of our senior academics, Emeritus Profesor Emeritus Datuk Dr Osman Bakar. The complete title of the book is **Tawhid and Science: Islamic Perspectives on Religion and Science**. Dr Osman, our Deputy Vice Chancellor (Academic and Research) from 1995-2000 is an Emeritus Professor of Philosophy of Science at the Department of Science and Technology Studies, Faculty of Science, University of Malaya. I am made to understand that the first edition of *Tawhid and Science* was published in 1991, that is seventeen years ago when the author was still an associate

professor and a deputy dean at the Faculty of Science. But the first edition has been well received by academics and scholars in many Muslim countries. It has been translated into Indonesian language, Turkish, Persian, and Albanian. I have also been made to understand that the book has been widely used in many universities in Muslim countries either as a textbook or as major source of reference in the fields of history and philosophy of science in Islamic civilization and more generally in the field of Islamic studies. I am happy and proud to hear of one of our academic staff gaining recognition as an international scholar and authority in the field of Islam and science. Through Professor Osman's book the University of Malaya has also been made known in many institutions of higher learning in the Islamic world.

We also welcome the new and expanded edition of *Tawhid and Science*. The author has made many new additions that we hope will enhance its literary and scholarly value. I understand from the author that after September 11, 2001 the book has also been used as a major reference in courses on Islam and modernity in several American universities. We are delighted to hear that the new edition is now in the process of being translated into Arabic, Chinese and the Bosnian language. This worldwide positive response to the book clearly shows that the book's message and the various issues it discusses is of great interest to many people both among Muslims and non-Muslims.

It is my sincere hope that Emeritus Professor Osman Bakar would continue to produce works of international standard not only in the field of history and philosophy of science in Islam but also in the wider field of Islamic studies. I hope with his long experience and contributions in Islamic studies he would be able to inspire and guide our younger generation of academicians to be productive in their scholarship. I am aware that Professor Osman still teaches at the Faculty of Science, contributes

to the activities of the University's Centre for Civilizational Dialogue which he founded in 1996 and supervises Masters and PhD students both at the Faculty of Science and the Academy of Islamic Studies.

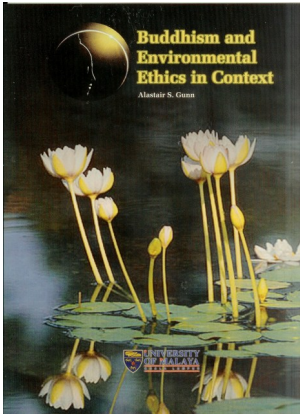
I would also like to take this opportunity to thank Tan Sri Abdul Rashid Hussain and his publishing company, Arah Pendidikan, for having agreed to work with us in organizing today's programme. I follow with interest his new venture to publish high quality academic books in both Bahasa Malaysia and English. We need our academicians to write and publish more high quality books in all fields of knowledge and at the same time we want to see publishers who are meticulous about the quality of their publications. In other words, we would like to see books that are of good quality both in form and content. There is the proverb 'don't judge a book by its cover!' But why not judge by both its cover and content? I think the present book we are honoring today is precisely of this category. Hopefully Tan Sri Rashid Hussain can cooperate with the University in helping to inspire our academic community to publish more writings of international standard.

In conclusion, I would like to extend the University of Malaya's greatest appreciation to Tan Sri Ahmad Sarji for taking invaluable time off his busy schedule just to be with us this morning to launch *Tawhid and Science*. It does show he is very much in the Islamic tradition of patronization of knowledge, the tradition in which eminent public figures take great interest in promoting intellectual and scholarly activities. Let me also convey our appreciation to Tan Sri Ahmad Sarji on behalf of Tan Sri Abdul Rashid Hussain and his Arah Pendidikan. Last but not least, thank you to all of you who are here today to lend support to this special gathering.

Wassalamualaikum

warahmatullahi wa barakatuh ”

LATEST PUBLICATIONS



Title : Buddhism and Environmental Ethics in Context

Author : Alastair S. Gunn and Ruth Walker

Year : 2008

Price : RM 25.00

About the book

The Centre recently published *Buddhist Environmental Ethics in Context* by Associate Professor Dr Alastair S. Gunn and Dr Ruth Walker, both of the Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies, University of Waikato, New Zealand.

The central argument of the book is that Buddhism implies and provides support for a developed environmental ethic, on the basis of its coherent and comprehensive worldview - specifically its epistemology, metaphysics and ethics. Topics include the moral status of animals, species and natural systems, as well as genetic modification and other issues in bioethics. The authors also relate the Buddhist view to other positions, especially the Judeo-Christian tradition and modern secular environmental ethics; they argue that Buddhist teachings incorporate timeless truths that can speak to everyone, regardless of their religious affiliation.

Title : Asian Islam in the 21st Century

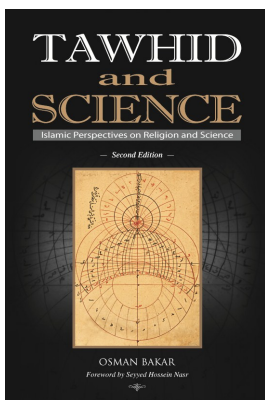
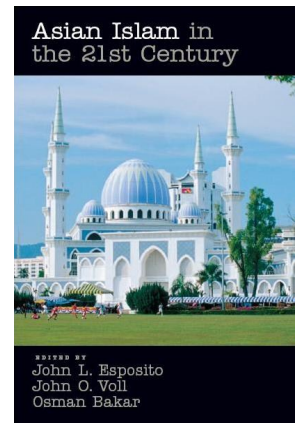
Editor : John L. Esposito, John O.Voll, Osman Bakar

Year : 2008

Price : RM

About the book

In *Asian Islam in the 21st Century*, terrorism and its effects are placed within the broader context of Muslim politics and how Islamic ideals and movements, mainstream and extremist, have shaped Asian Muslim societies. Democratization experiments -- successful and unsuccessful -- are examined. The rise of radical militant movements is analyzed and placed in historical perspective. The result is an insightful portrait of the rich diversity of Muslim politics and discourse that continue to affect Asian Muslim majority and minority countries. Specialists and students of Islamic studies, religion and international affairs, and comparative politics as well as general readers will benefit from this sorely needed comprehensive analysis of a part of the world that has become increasingly important in the 21st century.



Title : Tawhid and Science: Islamic Perspectives on Religion and Science

Author : Osman Bakar

Year : 2008

Price : RM 35.00

About the book

This book provides an extensive and in-depth discussion of the manifold relationships between religion and science as these have been understood and developed in Islamic civilization. It demonstrates clearly that the central idea determining the relationships in question is the metaphysical doctrine of Divine Unity (*al-tawhid*) as contained in Islam's first testimony of faith, *La ilaha illa' Llah* ("There is no god but Allah"). The principle of *al-tawhid* constitutes the core teaching of the religion of Islam. This book also shows the importance of the Shari'ah, the Islamic Divine Law, to the cultivation and progress of science in Islamic civilization. For more than a millennium Islamic civilization cultivated and developed many sciences which were to influence the rise of modern western science. These sciences – the natural, the mathematical, the medical, the engineering, and the cognitive – deserve to be named 'Islamic science' because they are conceptually related to *al-tawhid* and the Shari'ah. This book helps to reveal the different dimensions of the organic link that exists between *al-tawhid*, the Shari'ah and Islamic science. It is, therefore, extremely important for all those interested in the pursuit and development of science from the Islamic point of view.

LATEST PUBLICATIONS



Title : **Proceedings of the seminar on Bioethics: Meeting The Challenge**
Editor : Alastair S. Gun, Azizan Baharuddin, Rofina Yasmin Othman, Maude E. Phipps, Wong Yut Lin
Year : 2008
Price : RM 25.00

“Perhaps the most pressing area where ethical evaluation of new technology today is needed is in biotechnology, which encompasses the application of technology to all forms of life (human, animal and plant) at all levels from the ecosystem through species, individual organisms, and genes. This is the discipline of bioethics. In Malaysia, despite the rapid expansion of biotechnology in the country as demonstrated by the establishments of the Centre for Research in Biotechnology for Agriculture (CEBAR) and others, currently there is not much that can be drawn from the literature. There is little or no regulation of assisted human reproduction, for example, or of bioethics in general, except where it is part of a programme of medical research.

Whether there should be more regulation is a matter for Malaysian society to consider but it is suggested that there should at least be a public debate. Given the multiracial and multi religious character of Malaysia, which itself is a blessing and an asset, the involvement of the Centre for Civilisational Dialogue can help to facilitate the interfaith and intercultural discussions and dialogues that inevitably, need to be carried out so that the various communities can dwell on the issues at hand and look for prescriptions or principles that could aid in the formation of policies and guidelines in the use of biotechnology”.

Papers in the proceeding include:

1. Empowering educators for social, cultural and ethical challenges in turbulent times - Darryl Macer
2. Bioethics: Issues for Malaysia - Alastair S. Gunn
3. Bioethics Education: Fragile! Handle With Care! - Siti Nurani Mohd Nor
4. Ethics in Clinical Trials: Empowerment of the Ethics Committee - Zahurin Mohamed
5. The Legal Position of Research on Embryos: An Overview - Ida Madieha bt. Abdul Ghani Azmi Majdah bt. & Zawawi
6. Islamic Perspective on Research and Development in Biotechnology - Shaikh Mohd. Saifuddeen Mohd. Salleh
7. Goals of Bioethics Education: Teaching Materials for Bioscience Ethics - Irma Pollard
8. Is Bioethics Education a Waste of Time? - Maude E. Phipps
9. Bioethics: Meeting the Challenges - Dzulkifli Abdul Razak
10. Bioethics: Meeting the Challenges - Md. Khadzir Sheikh Ahmad
11. The new biotechnologies — Are we ready for so much information? - Rofina Yasmin Othman
12. Animal Experimentation and Ethics in Biomedical Research - Subramaniam Krishnan
13. Genetically Modified Food (GM): Islamic Perspective - Khadijah Mohd Hambali, Anisah Mohd Hambali & Abdul Razak Mustafa
14. Genetic Engineering, Biosafety and Bioethics: Striking A Balance in Regulatory Frameworks: A Developing Country View - Gurdial Singh Nijar
15. Bioethics: Meeting the Challenges - Alastair V. Campbell
16. In Vitro Refertilisation- Veronica Rovoletto
17. Bridging Science and Religion: Laying the Foundations of Bioethics - Azizan Baharuddin
18. Science Leading Ethics: Challenges and Responsibilities - Abdul Rahman Jamal
19. Ethics Curricula in Medical Education - Patrick S.K. Tan

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS ~ JULY - SEPTEMBER 2008

Schedule of Events

- **1 July** - Public Lecture “*Dinamika Hubungan Etnik di Indonesia*” by Dr. Tibroni, Universitas Muhammadiyah Malang at the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, UM
- **1-15 July** - A Venezuelan Week at the University of Malaya
- **15 July** - Conference of “Venezuela: A Window to International Dialogue” at the Museum of Asian Arts, UM
- **22 July** - Colloquium on “Bridging the Communication Gap between Scientists and the Media: Dilemmas in Communicating Biotechnology” with Malaysian Biotechnology Information Centre (MABIC)
- **29-30 July** - Dialogue session on “*Dialog Antara penganut Agama Mengenai Isu-Isu Semasa (Dialog Kehidupan)*” with the Department of National Unity and Integration, Ministry of National Unity and Integration.
- **1 Aug** - “What went Right? - Peaceful Islamic Mobilisation” by Julie Chernov, California State University-Fullerton.