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BULETIN PUSAT DIALOG PERADABAN UNIVERSITI MALAYA

JULY–SEPTEMBER 2008

No. 8

COLLOQUIUM ON "BRIDGING THE COMMUNICATION GAP BETWEEN SCIENTISTS AND THE MEDIA: DILEMMAS IN COMMUNICATING BIOTECHNOLOGY"

It is important for scientists and journalists to work hand in hand in enhancing the understanding of science among the public since knowledge in science is no longer a luxury but is a necessity as almost all aspects of our lives receive tremendous influence from science and technology. This colloquium is important for scientists to reach out to the general public for the enhancement of the understanding of science. The communication gap between scientists and media should be reduced and journalists should have a good understanding of science. The different *modus operandi* of scientists and the media causes friction between these groups and creates a communication barrier and the aim of this colloquium to identify and address some of these barriers. It was jointly organised by the **Malaysian Biotechnology Information Centre (MABIC)** and the Centre for Civilisational Dialogue, University of Malaya and on July 22, 2008 at the Centre. The Colloquium is also relevant to **the issue of the gap between the natural sciences and the humanities** which is one of the focus areas

of the Centre. A disjunction between the two can cause development to be lopsided.

This colloquium also aimed to understand the communication barriers that exist between scientists and the media, bridge the communication gap and enhance the understanding between scientists and the media, identify the constraints faced by scientists in communicating with the media, and vice versa.

Five invited speakers from both parties presented their ideas and talked about issues pertaining to science and the media followed by a roundtable discussion "Identifying and Addressing the Communication Barriers between Scientists and the Media". Issues like the causes or hindrances of communication between them, the accuracy of articles written by the media, scientists' responsibility in conveying correct information, and communicating science were discussed among others. A good network was also formed through this colloquium between both parties.



Ms. Mahaletchmy Arujanan, CEO of Malaysian Biotechnology Information Centre (MABIC)



Professor Dr. Norzulaani Khalida Head of Centre for Research in Biotechnology for Agriculture (CEBAR)

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PUBLIC LECTURE ON “WHAT WENT RIGHT: PEACEFUL ISLAMIC MOBILIZATION IN ISLAMIC ASIA” JULY 26, 2008, KATHA HALL, CENTRE FOR CIVILISATIONAL DIALOGUE

[Between July 26 - August 1, 2008, the Centre was very fortunate to have **Dr. Julie Chernov** from the California University Fullerton as a visiting researcher]. Below is a summary of her lecture.

In the west, some scholars are asking why certain Muslim states are so violent. However, this is not the most appropriate or the most interesting question. We should instead ask why some Muslim nations like Malaysia have been able to successfully encourage Islamist groups to utilize peaceful strategies and to reject violence, where other countries have fallen short, what problems have emerged?



Dr Julie Chenov delivering her public lecture Katha Hall, Centre for Civilisational Dialogue

This lecture examined the cases of Malaysia, Indonesia and Turkey and proposed a theory that the answer to these questions lie in the relationship between Islamist groups and the state. This research contends that the state has a great deal of power to influence the mobilization strategies that Islamist groups choose through the policies they adopt; the institutions they permit; and the capacities they possess.

Specifically, states are best able to encourage Islamist groups to adopt peaceful strategies, when

they provide opportunities for political participation. The vast majority of Islamist groups use those channels to work toward their goals. However, this alone is not sufficient. States must also discourage radical groups from resorting to violent strategies by ensuring security, education and social welfare. The combination of ensuring law and order and education and social welfare limits the abilities of radical Islamist groups to make inroads, legitimacy and popularity gains at the state's expense. This theory has been developed through field research in Indonesia, Malaysia and Turkey in 2006 and 2008. It is the subject of a book to be published by Palgrave Press.

VISITING SCHOLAR: DR. TOBRONI Msi, UNIVERSITY MUHAMMADIYAH, MALANG, INDONESIA

The Centre records its gratitude to the Vice Chancellor and the university for enabling Dr. Tobroni from the Muhammadiyah University, Malang, Indonesia, to be a Visiting Scholar at the Centre from June 16 to July 2, 2008.

In the 2 weeks period, he delivered two public lectures entitled *Pecepatan Peningkatan Mutu Pendidikan Madrasah di Indonesia* and *Dinamika Hubungan Etnik dan Agama di Indonesia* on June 27 and July 1, jointly organized by the Academy of Islamic Studies and Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences respectively. Besides that the Centre has benefited a lot from his expertise throughout his visit via his contribution of research arti-

cles publishable by the Centre through its publication series.

Dr. Tobroni expressed his opinion on the importance of the programmes carried out by the Centre. Expressing this he said:

“Saya berharap PDP dapat menjadi pusat kajian budaya dan peradaban bukan hanya untuk Malaysia tetapi untuk Muslim Asia Tenggara yang secara kebetulan menggunakan Bahasa Melayu (Malaysia, Indonesia, Singapura, Brunei, Thailand Selatan dan Philipina Selatan). Hal ini penting agar Muslim Asia Tenggara yang berjumlah yang sangat signifikan, mempunyai berbagai potensi, akan dapat menampilkan kekuatan Islam regional dan menjadi ‘ideal’ bagi Muslim di berbagai kawasan lain. Disamping itu Bahasa Melayu harus terus dikembangkan dan menjadi tuan rumah di negeri sendiri iaitu bagi masyarakat Melayu dan Nusantara. Untuk itulah

kerjasama dalam bentuk seminar, joint research, penerbitan, pensyarah pelawat, conference, exhibition dan sejenisnya sesama negara Asia Tenggara perlu lebih mendapatkan perhatian di masa datang. Universiti Muhammadiyah adalah satu diantara puluhan universiti milik persyarikatan Muhammadiyah insyaallah dapat ikut ambil bagian dalam program ini”.



During Dr. Tobroni's Public Lecture on “Dinamika Hubungan aEtnik dan Agama di Indonesia” at faculty of Arts and Social Sciences on July 1, 2008

INTERRELIGIOUS DIALOGUE ON CURRENT ISSUES~DIALOGUE OF LIFE (DIALOG ANTARA PENGANUT AGAMA BERKAITAN ISU-ISU SEMASA (DIALOG KEHIDUPAN))

On the 29-30th July 2008, the Centre was given the trust to work with the department of National Unity and Integration to hold a *Dialog Kehidupan* (Dialogue of Life) in which representatives of from different religious groups had the opportunity to discuss issues which may have arisen out of certain misunderstandings. The 2-day dialogue was officially opened by the deputy Minister of Unity, Culture, Arts and heritage Malaysia, YB Tuan Teng Boon Soon. For the department of Unity the dialogue was the first of its kind and its success paves the way for dialogue to be a mechanism for sustaining peace in our multicultural society. Deputy Director of the Centre, Dr Raihanah Abdullah took on the task of organizing the final report which was presented to the ministry after the dialogue for further action by the policy-makers concerned.

Dialog Kehidupan ini telah diadakan pada di Fakulti Undang-Undang Universiti Malaya. Dialog ini adalah salah satu program yang diadakan oleh **Jawatankuasa Kerja Perhubungan Antara Penganut Agama Panel Perpaduan Negara (PANEL)** yang diadakan pada 3 Januari 2008. Dialog kehidupan adalah nama yang diberikan kepada dialog yang diadakan antara penganut pelbagai agama yang prihatin tentang isu-isu semasa yang dihadapi oleh masyarakat. Tujuan dialog ini diadakan adalah untuk para pendialog berkongsi pengalaman dari perspektif adat, budaya dan kepercayaan masing-masing untuk mencari jawapan-jawapan dan penyelesaian-penyelesaian yang terbaik di dalam menangani cabaran dan masalah yang dihadapi secara bersama. Dialog ini adalah dengan kerjasama Pusat Dialog Peradaban, Universiti Malaya dan Jabatan Perpaduan Negara dan Integrasi Nasional (JPNIN).

Dalam keadaan masyarakat yang dihujani dengan pelbagai isu semasa, penjelasan dan penyelesaian kepada permasalahan yang timbul hendaklah dibuat dengan cara yang berhemah lebih-lebih lagi sekiranya ia melibatkan isu-isu yang agak sensitif. Sesi dialog kehidupan yang

dibuat secara tertutup dan dihadiri oleh mereka yang berautoriti, mampu untuk mendekatkan dan merapatkan kepelbagaian agama, budaya dan bangsa di antara pendialog. Ini adalah kaedah terbaik terutama dalam membincangkan dan menyelesaikan sesuatu perkara secara bersama dalam suasana yang intelektual dan harmoni. Ianya perlu diteruskan dari semasa ke semasa dengan menghimpunkan mereka yang bertanggungjawab dalam memastikan setiap perkara dapat dibincang dan diselesaikan melalui rundingan dan bukannya secara emosi.

Sebelum sesi dialog dimulakan, satu taklimat disampaikan oleh Y.Bhg. Profesor Datin Dr. Azizan Baharudin, Pengarah Pusat Dialog Peradaban Universiti Malaya. Taklimat yang disampaikan adalah mengenai adab dan etika berdialog. Ia amat penting agar peserta yang terlibat diberi garis panduan yang betul ketika berdialog dalam memastikan ianya berjalan dengan lancar.

Dialog agama bukanlah satu cubaan untuk menyamakan agama-agama dan juga bukannya debat untuk melihat kekalahan dan kemenangan. Ia adalah untuk mencapai persefahaman dan persepakatan yang dibuat secara bersama dan aman melalui saluran yang betul.

(continue at page 6)



YB Tuan Teng Boon Soon



Staf Pusat Dialog Peradaban sedang menjual buku dan penerbitan Pusat



Semasa sesi dialog berjalan



Delegasi perwakilan dan paakar rujuk Dialaog Kehidupan

A VENEZUELAN WEEK AT THE UNIVERSITY OF MALAYA

Last May 22nd, a group from the Venezuelan Embassy, led by H.E. Manual Antonio Guzman Hernandez, visited Deputy Vice Chancellor (Academic & International Affairs), YBhg Professor Dato' Dr Mohd Amin Jalaluddin to discuss collaboration between the Embassy and the University of Malaya in carrying out activities (exhibition, seminar, cultural performance etc) to commemorate the Venezuelan week at the University of Malaya.

The Venezuelans are hoping that this initial collaboration would lead to an expansion of ties in the context UM and Venezuela institutions of higher education.

1. Exhibition on "Indigenous Venezuela: Sonorous Universe" on July 1, 2008 – August 15, 2008 at the Museum of Asian Arts

A 3-D exhibition on "Indigenous Venezuela: Sonorous Universe" was held at the Museum of Asian Arts for one and a half months which aimed to expose their indigenous society through the sounds of their music equipments, rituals and dances that have been recorded. The exhibition was officially launched by the Vice Chancellor of University of Malaya, Datuk Rafiah Salim.

The ceremony was also attended by the Venezuelan Ambassador, H.E. Manual Antonio Guzman Hernandez and 100 guests.

2. Salsa Performance by the Pacheche y su Melao Group from Venezuela & Zapin by Kesuma University of Malaya on July 4, 2008 the Foyer of Za'ba Library

The salsa performance by the Pacheche y su Melao Group has performed 5 songs, while the Kesuma Group performed a traditional Zapin dance. The event was also attended by the Vice Chancellor, Datuk Rafiah Salim, Venezuelan Ambassador, H.E. Manual Antonio, and Ms Suhaimi Baba, a well-known film director among others.

3. International Conference on "Venezuela: A Window to International Dialogue" on July 15, 2008 at the Museum of Asian Arts

The invited speakers for the International Conference were H.E. Manuel Antonio Guzman Hernandez, Ms. Zhaylbel

Cardenas and Ms. Mina Haymara Perez Carrillo from the Venezuelan Embassy. The session was moderated by YBhg. Dato' Ahmad Mokhtar Selat, Lecturer, Department of International and Strategic Studies, University of Malaya, who has a lot of experience working in Venezuela as a "mantan" Ambassador for several years. Title of these papers are:

- "Venezuela Boosts Multipolarity" by H.E. Manual Antonio Guzman Hernandez
- "Venezuela, A land of Syncretism" by Ms. Mina Haymara Perez Carrillo
- "Venezuela: A window to the International Dialogue" by Ms. Zhaylbel Cardenas

4. To sign MoU agreement between the University of Malaya and Venezuela/ Venezuelan Embassy on the possible visit by the Venezuelan President, President Chavez, in year 2009



H.E. Manual Antonio, Venezuelan Ambassador; Datuk Rafiah Salim, Vice Chancellor; and Prof Datin Azizan, CCD Director at the launching of Venezuelan Week



Group picture of the organizers and the Embassy officials at the conference

SYARAHAN UMUM “FALSAFAH MELAYU - ISLAM MENGHADAPI KEPELBAGAIAN”

Pak Tenas is a renowned scholar from Pekan Baru who has dedicated the past 50 years compiling Malay wisdom in the form of Malay proverbs, pantuns and other indigenous experiences. Currently he is Karyawan Tamu at the Academy of Malay Studies. In his lecture Pak Tenas highlighted the ability of the Malays to face modern challenges through its own indigenous wisdom beautifully captured in the Malay proverbs.

Pada tanggal 14 Ogos yang lalu, Pusat Dialog Peradaban telah menganjurkan satu syarahan umum yang bertajuk “**Falsafah Melayu—Islam Menghadapi Kepelebagaian**” yang telah disampaikan oleh **YM. Dr. Tengku Nasyaruddin Said Effendy bin Tengku Said Umar Muhammad** atau lebih dikenali sebagai **Bapak Tenas Effandy** di Dewan Katha, Pusat Dialog Peradaban. Beliau merupakan Karyawan Tamu di **Akademi Pengajian Melayu, Universiti Malaya**. Pak Tenas telah mengabdikan dirinya lebih setengah abad mengumpul, mendo-kumentasi, meneliti, menulis dan memberi kuliah serta rundingan mengenai bahasa, sastera dan budaya melayu. Mereka yang giat dalam bidang pengajian melayu tidak mungkin tidak mengena-linya.

Selain di Indonesia dan Malaysia, Pak Tenas telah diundang untuk memberi ceramah di beberapa buah negara lain seperti Belanda,

Thai, Brunei Darussalam dan Singapura. Tidak kurang pentingnya, beliau telah menubuhkan **Yayasan Tenas Effendy** untuk membantu usaha mereka yang berminat meneliti kebudayaan melayu.

Beliau yang dilahirkan dari keluarga Nigrat yang mempunyai tradisi seni dan intelektual yang telah diturunkan oleh bapanya yang merupakan setiausaha kepada sultan. Seperti lazimnya dalam kerajaan Melayu lama, setiausaha sultan tergolong dalam golongan orang-orang yang paling terpelajar zamannya. Beliau (ayahanda Pak tenas) bukan sahaja menulis serta menjawab surat-surat diraja, menyimpan rekod dan peristiwa sezaman tetapi juga mahir dalam adat istiadat dan sejarah negara.

Syarahan umum Pak Tenas Effandy ini telah di pengerusikan oleh **YBhg. Profesor Emeritus Datuk Dr. Abu Bakar Abd. Hamid** dari Jabatan Pengajian Media, Fakulti Sastera dan Sains Sosial, Universiti Malaya dan telah mendapat sambutan yang menggalakkan dari dalam dan luar kampus.

Syarahan Pak Tenas Effendy bermula dengan melihat perkembangan dan cabaran-cabaran yang dihadapi oleh Tamadun Melayu. Namun keutuhan falsafahnya yang terpancar dalam Ungkapan Melayu menggambarkan keupayaan orang Melayu Islam itu menyediakan minda dan keari-

fannya (wisdom) sendiri bagi menangani berbagai pancaroba semasa seperti cabaran perpaduan, ekonomi dan pembangunan serta intelektual.

Beliau telah menyentuh nilai-nilai dalam Tamadun Melayu yang kini dilihat kian pudar, yang perlu dipupuk semula kerana ianya merupakan suatu elemen yang sangat penting dalam konteks menghadapi kepelebagaian hari ini dengan menjelaskan nilai-nilai tersebut melalui Ungkapan-Ungkapan Melayu. Beliau telah turut memberikan gambaran penerapan nilai-nilai murni tersebut dalam masyarakat Melayu terdahulu, yang dapat hidup dengan aman dan harmoni dengan menghargai diversiti. Beliau telah menekankan rukun hidup orang Melayu yang patut menjadi pegangan kita iaitu:

“Hidup serumah beramah tamah;

Hidup sebanjar, ajar mengajar;

Hidup sedusun, tuntun menuntun;

Hidup sekampung, tolong menolong;

Hidup senegeri beri memberi;

Hidup sebangsa, rasa merasa”



Antara warga Pusat Dialog yang bergambar bersama Pak Tenas



Pak Tenas dan Prof Emeritus Datuk Dr Abu Bakar semasa sesi soal jawab

FUNDAMENTAL RESEARCH GRANT SCHEME (FRGS): DEVELOPMENT OF A MORAL ENHANCEMENT MODULE

As a continuation of its first FRGS project in year 2007 on **The Study of Youth Moral Capability**, the Centre received a small grant to develop a module on **Youth Moral Enhancement**, which is to be finally completed by the end of 2008. The project is led by the Centre, with the help of 6 consultants who are also the experts in the field:

1. **Professor Dr Zulkifli bin A.Manaf**, Institute for Principals Studies
2. **Professor Dr Suradi Salim**, Department of Educational Psychology and Counseling, Faculty of Education
3. **Associate Professor Dr. Ananda Kumar a/l Palaniappan**, Department of Educational Psychology and Counseling, Faculty of Education
4. **Associate Professor Dr. Chang Lee Hoon**, Department of Educational Foundation

and Humanities, Faculty of Education

5. **Dr Loh Lee Lee, Ludher**, Social Economic Development Services
6. **Mr. Lau Chee Loong**, Social Economic Development Services

This project would not have been possible without the assistance of two Research Assistants:

1. Mohd Firdauz Sarip
2. Mawar Ainie Mustaffa

Activities augmenting the research included an in-depth study with 20 students from SMK Gombak Setia on July 19, 2008. Last August 22-23, 2008, the research group held a Seminar on Module Writing at Shah Village Hotel, Petaling Jaya. The structure and contents of the module were discussed meticulously along with

the planning of the workshop to test the module which is planned to be held in December 2008.

The project is deemed important because of the dilemma of the current situation where we have 'technological giants' in the world but coupled with moral 'midgetry' which can lead to un-



Research Assistants:

Mohd Firdauz & Mawar Ainie

INTERRELIGIOUS DIALOGUE ON CURRENT ISSUES~DIALOGUE OF LIFE (DIALOG ANTARA PENGANUT AGAMA BERKAITAN ISU-ISU SEMASA (DIALOG KEHIDUPAN))

(From page 3)

Oleh itu, peranan murni yang dimainkan oleh Pusat Dialog Peradaban Universiti Malaya mengadakan sesi dialog kehidupan ini adalah antaranya untuk mengeratkan lagi perpaduan dan keharmonian di kalangan masyarakat Malaysia yang terdiri daripada pelbagai latarbelakang agama, budaya dan bahasa. Kepelbagaian ini hendaklah sentiasa dijaga dan dihormati bagi menjamin keamanan dan keharmonian negara Malaysia..



cangkan adalah isu-isu dakwah, murad, pertukaran agama dan penceriaan.

Dialog yang dijalankan telah memberikan hasil yang sangat positif. Perbincangan terhadap isu-isu yang timbul telah membawa kepada cadangan dan tindakan dalam mengatasi isu-isu tersebut. Cadangan dan tindakan tersebut dibuat secara bersama dan objektif yang dirancang melalui dialog ini telah berjaya dipenuhi iaitu pendekatan penyelesaian kepada masalah dan bukannya hanya membincangkan isu semata-mata.

Hasil-hasil dialog iaitu cadan-

gan dan tindakan yang dipersejajuti oleh semua pendialog yang hadir akan dikemukakan kepada menteri yang bertanggungjawab untuk dibawa ke mesyuarat kabinet. Pada masa yang sama, hasil dialog ini juga akan didokumentasikan untuk rujukan pada masa-masa akan datang. Adalah diharapkan agar pada masa-masa akan datang, dialog seperti ini akan terus dilakukan. Pusat Dialog Peradaban Universiti Malaya sentiasa bersedia dengan pihak kerajaan dalam memastikan usaha-usaha ke arah persepakatan dan perpaduan negara dalam konteks masyarakat yang berbilang kaum, agama dan budaya.

Sesi Dialog telah dipengerusikan oleh Puan Hajah Ilani Dato' Haji Ishak, Pengerusi Jawatankuasa Kerja Perhubungan Antara Penganut Agama (PANEL). Isu yang telah dibin-

ASSOCIATED EVENTS: ACTIVITIES OF MEMBERS OF THE CENTRE ARE INVOLVED WITH

AZIZAN BAHARUDDIN

DIALOGUE FOR PEACE—SCIENCE UNIVERSITY MALAYSIA (USM, AUGUST 22-27, 2008)

REPUSM (Research and Education for Peace), SEACSN (South East Asian Conflict Studies Network), JICA (Japan International Cooperation Agency) and the STPN (Southern Thailand Peace Network) organized a peace building program “Promoting the Peace Dream: Creating and Supporting the Dream keepers in Southern Thailand” on August 22-27, 2008. The main aim was to create an awareness and understanding among selected student leaders from major universities in the Southern Thailand area about the conflict issues in Southern Thailand as well as to increase their understanding of the theories, and strategies of peace, conflict resolution and peace building. The Centre was happy to have been invited to enrich this seminar through a paper presentation by its Director on “Dialogue as a mechanism for Peace”.



PUBLIC LECTURE: AN ISLAMIC PERSPECTIVE ON THE COMMITMENT TO INTER-RELIGIOUS DIALOGUE, JULY 4, 2008, ORGANISED BY ISIS

The lecture by Associate Professor Dr Farid Al-Attas on the above topic was very well attended. It served as an eye-opener to the rich experiences and examples in Islamic history that speaks of tolerance in Islam. The director of the Centre made a contribution by making a brief presentation on the need to “demystify the conflict between the Islamic and Western world”.

TALK ON ADAPTING TO CULTURAL & ETHNIC DIVERSITY (UM, JULY 2, 2008)

The director was invited to give a talk on “Adapting to Cultural & Ethnic Diversity” to new foreign students of UM. The event was organized by the International Students centre UM on the July 2, 2008 at the Examina-

WORKSHOP ON ISLAM IN SOUTH-EAST ASIA (UM, JULY 28-29, 2008)

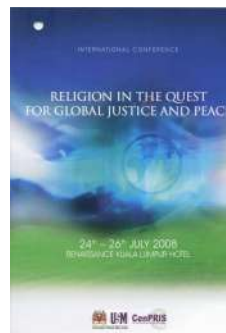
A workshop on Islam in UM SEA was organized by the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences and the Faculty of Arts, Monash University. The 2 major themes discussed were Islam and Civil Society and Islam and the Environment. The Centre is appreciative of the invitation by the organizers for it to be part of the workshop which aimed at promoting collaborative research on these 2 themes.



THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON HIGHER EDUCATION (UKM, AUGUST 22-24, 2007)

The ICHE 2008 was held in UKM on the 22-24 of August. Among the themes looked at was the Malay world as a “Cradle of Multi-Civilisations”. The Centre was invited to make an input. In her presentation Azizan highlighted the role and model of progress that the Malaccan Malay civilisation provided in the 13-16 centuries. The Islam-induced wave of globalization that the Malay world rode on then hold great lessons for the invigoration of the Malay society today.

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON “RELIGION IN THE QUEST OF GLOBAL JUSTICE & PEACE (JULY 24, 2008), SCIENCE UNIVERSITY MALAYSIA (USM)



The Director was invited to moderate the session on “Religious Values & Principles that Conduce Towards the Struggle for Global Peace and Justice”. This conference was very important as it seriously highlighted the need for a vision of global justice by religious communities working together.

INPUMA TRAINING PROGRAM ON “MULTICULTURAL NATION-BUILDING FOR SEMINAR AFGHAN OFFICIALS 26 JULY—9 AUGUST 2008

“Islam, Development and Nation Building” was the topic given for the Centre’s presentation. This topic is of relevance to the participants as the participants who are policy-makers are quite in the midst of their religion in integrating religion in their development efforts.

EMERITUS PROFESSOR OSMAN BAKAR

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM IN MAJORITY AND MINORITY MUSLIM SOCIETIES: STRATEGIES AND PERSPECTIVES, COLLEGE OF ISLAMIC STUDIES (CIS) THAILAND, AUGUST 23-25 2008

An international conference on educational systems in majority and minority Muslim societies was held on 23-25 August 2008 at the College of Islamic Studies (CIS), Prince of Songkla University (PSU), Pattani, Southern Thailand. The conference was co-organized by CIS, The Curriculum Reform for Pondok in Southeast Asia (CRP-Project), Yala Islamic University, and the IIIT Malaysia (International Institute of Islamic Thought Malaysia). Altogether, 18 papers were presented at the conference. Among the presenters were Professor Amin Abdullah (Indonesia), Professor Mulyadhi Kartanegara (Indonesia), Professor Ibrahim Abu Rabi (Canada), Professor Bogdan Ataulloh Kopanski (Poland), Professor Cemil Akdogan (Turkey), Emeritus Professor Osman Bakar (Malaysia) and Professor Khalijah Mohd Saleh (Malaysia).

At the conference's opening ceremony, Dr Surin Pitsuwan, a native of Southern Thailand who is currently Secretary-General of ASEAN, delivered his keynote address entitled "Reforming Islamic Education and Revitalizing the Ummah: Challenges to Muslim Educators in Southern Thailand." Also addressing the conference were Dr Sumate Yamnoon, Secretary-General of the Commission on Higher Education, Thailand and Dr Akinori Seki, President of Sasakawa Peace Foundation, Japan. The Sasakawa Foundation partially contributed to the funding of the conference.

The great majority of the conference participants are southern Thai Muslims who were clearly excited to see foreign academics and scholars coming to the town of Pattani to address them on various aspects of Islamic education. It was a rare opportunity for them to listen to and discuss with speakers from many different parts of the Islamic world. Most papers presented pertain to the issues of Islamic education and curriculum reform in Southeast Asia. But the conference participants were provided with the rare opportunity of comparing notes on the state of Islamic education in Southeast Asia with other Muslim communities in other parts of the world. Several papers dealt with Islamic education as experienced by the minority Muslim communities in South Africa, Ghana, and Liberia.

The conference papers will be published as a proceeding. Dr Surin himself promised a larger follow-up conference next year. Quite clearly, there was a widely shared feeling among the participants that at least for the ASEAN region this conference should be turned into an annual forum for the region's Muslim educationists and intellectuals to discuss issues of Islamic education confronting the Muslim ummah and articulate solutions that can be jointly pursued and implemented. One important issue which one speaker after another has not failed to bring up in his or her presentation is the problem of integration of the traditional and modern sciences in the educational curriculum of the pondoks and the government-aided religious schools. This issue has by no means been solved. It awaits solution and deserves a more serious attention from Muslim philosophers of education, education curriculum planners, and teachers.

HOKKAIDO SCIENCE SYMPOSIUM, HOKKAIDO, JAPAN, JULY 24-26, 2008

A unique and 'revolutionary' science symposium was held in Hokkaido, Japan near the city of Sapporo on 24th-26th July 2008. Attended by a small group of participants including Emeritus Professor Osman Bakar (seven people in all, excluding the moderator specially brought from Australia) comprising of natural and social scientists and philosophers of science, the Hokkaido symposium was hosted by Aleph, Inc. a Japanese company with a core business in organic farming products. Aleph's CEO and President, Mr. Akio Shoji is a champion of organic farming in Japan since the late 1960s. Mr. Shoji is also personally interested in the main goal of the Symposium, namely to reconsider the foundational assumptions of western science and to replace them, where necessary, with new assumptions that are sympathetic to the worldviews of non-western sciences.

With this goal in mind, the co-conveners of the Symposium, Dr Elisabet Sahtouris, a leading biologist, and Mr. Shoji, had chosen participants that would best represent not only the academic disciplines most needed for the intellectual task at hand but also the major spiritual traditions of the world. The participants have one major thing in common. They are all serious critics of the foundational assumptions of modern western science and they are all eager to see the emergence of a new global science founded on visions of reality that accept consciousness as something more fundamental than matter. Professor Osman himself has been invited to attend the Symposium as a contemporary Muslim critic of western science and as a representative of Islam's spiritual and philosophical tradition. The other participants are: Dr Yasuhiko Genku Kimura (Oriental philosophy), Dr William Turner (quantum physics and consciousness), Dr Brian Josephson (physics and consciousness), Dr Manjir Samanta-Laughton (medical science), Dr Enoe Texier (social science), and Dr Elisabet Sahtouris (biology).

In the three-day dialogue, the participants have undertaken a thorough re-examination of the assumptions of western science. By the end of the Symposium they succeeded in identifying the foundational assumptions that need to be discarded and in coming up with an impressive list of new assumptions of science. The main focus, however, is on the assumptions of biology and physics, the two branches of modern science with worldviews that are considered to be at greatest odds with the worldviews of many non-western cultures. In particular, the assumptions of these two sciences on the relationship between consciousness and matter are viewed by the participants as "problematic" not only in light of worldviews outside the practice of science but also in light of new discoveries in science. The new list of foundational assumptions needs further reformulation and refinement before these can be presented to the scientific community. This task will be an important aspect of the on going post-Symposium agenda and programs being pursued by members of the Hokkaido group.

The Symposium has also agreed to spearhead a public relations campaign that would create a greater consciousness, especially among scientists, of the urgent need in the contemporary world for a global science founded on the newly formulated assumptions. Toward that end, the seven-member group will create its own website, conduct a global survey to gauge the opinions of the scientific community concerning the new foundational assumptions, and organize dialogues, seminars and conferences on the theme of the new global science, both nationally and internationally. Aleph, Inc itself, whose philosophy of organic farming and agriculture is much in line with the "new scientific worldview," is committed to furthering the process begun in July 2008 with a larger symposium in 2009.

FORUM ON COMPARATIVE RELIGION, INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE OF ADVANCED ISLAMIC STUDIES (IAIS) MALAYSIA, SEPTEMBER 22, 2008

Emeritus Professor Osman Bakar was a panelist in a forum entitled “Studies of Comparative Religion: Do Our Universities and Colleges Need It?” The forum was organized by the newly established International Institute of Advanced Islamic Studies (IAIS) Malaysia and held on September 22, 2008 at the Institute’s premise at Jalan Ilmu formerly occupied by the Foreign Ministry’s Institute of Diplomacy and Foreign Relations (IDFR). The other panelists were Associate Professor Dr Baharuddin Ahmad, Deputy Dean of ISTAC (Institute of Islamic Thought and Civilization), International Islamic University Malaysia (IIUM), a scholar of comparative religion, and Assistant Professor Dr Yamin Cheng, a lecturer at the Kulliyah of Revealed Knowledge and Human Sciences at IIUM and who is also a Chinese Muslim.

Attended by about 40 participants of various faiths and professional backgrounds the forum was co-chaired by Professor Mohamad Hashim Kamali, the founding Chairman and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of IAIS and a former law professor at IIUM, and Tan Sri Mohamed Jawhar Hassan, the Chairman and CEO of Institute of Strategic and International Studies (ISIS) Malaysia. Issues of comparative religion are rarely discussed in Malaysia even in small and closed groups. The event was therefore of much intellectual and academic significance to Malaysians. While there was a general consensus among the panelists and participants that studies of comparative religion are good for a multi-religious and multi-cultural country like Malaysia they differ on the scope of comparative religion considered appropriate for Malaysian students as well as on whether the subject should be taught as electives or be made compulsory for all students. According to Professor Osman, several universities in Malaysia with Islamic studies programs including IIUM have introductory courses on comparative religion. He suggested that the institutions concerned take steps to broaden as well as elevate the quality of the courses so that studies of comparative religion become better known and more attractive to students and lecturers. Many feel that there should be a proper study of the issues involved before we can expect to see a popularization of comparative religion in this country.

LECTURE ON ISLAMIZATION AND INTEGRATION OF KNOWLEDGE AT INDONESIAN UNIVERSITIES, SEPTEMBER 12-14, 2008

Emeritus Professor Datuk Osman Bakar gave lectures at three private universities in Jakarta at the invitation of the International Institute of Islamic Thought (IIIT) Indonesia. The three universities are Universitas Muhammadiyah Jakarta (12 September), Universitas HAMKA (13 September) and Universitas Mohd Nasir (14 September). At all the universities Professor Osman was requested to address their respective academic staff on the subject of integration and Islamization of knowledge. The lecture in each university was well attended by the Rector and Deputy Rectors, Faculty Deans and lecturers. Following the lectures the leadership of each university indicated their interest to pursue study and research programs in Islamic epistemology, including Islamization of knowledge.

SEAFID MEETING IN JAKARTA, AUGUST 13-14, 2008

Following a series of roundtable discussions on “Islam and Democratization in Southeast Asia” since 2005, founding and core members of the group comprising of leaders and representatives of Muslim non-governmental organizations (NGOs) in ASEAN countries gathered in Jakarta on 13-14 August 2008 to discuss and approve the Charter of a new and more formal organization known as the Southeast Asian Forum on Islam and Democracy (SEAFID). Emeritus Professor Osman Bakar is a founding member of the group. The decision to establish SEAFID has been made in an earlier meeting of members in Manila in December 2007. The Jakarta meeting was hosted by the Center for Islam and Pluralism (ICIP) headed by Dr M. Syafi’i Anwar with the generous support of the Asia Foundation in Jakarta. The meeting’s opening ceremony was held at the Vice-Presidential Palace where the Vice President, Yusuf Kalla, delivered his opening address. Participants at the two-day meeting include representatives of Myanmar and Timor Leste. The meeting concluded with an endorsement of SEAFID Charter and the establishment of a Board of Governors comprising of representatives of all the ASEAN countries.

RAIHANAH ABDULLAH

MUNDOS DE MUJERES / WOMEN’S WORLD’S CONGRESS IN SPAIN, JULY 26-AUGUST 1, 2008

Associate Professor Dr Raihanah Abdullah, Deputy Director of the Centre has attended and presented a paper at the 10th Mundos de Mujeres / Women’s World’s Congress. The Congress was held for 5 days from 3rd - 8th of July 2008. This Congress for the first time was hosted by a Spanish University, the Complutense University of Madrid. This Congress is an international and interdisciplinary event of great importance and provides an opportunity to debate passionately on the many problems and issues that stand in the way of rights and opportunities for women.

In the programme book, the organizing committee noted that one of the main challenges of the new century is that attaining equality between men and women.



Under the slogan “Equality is not a Utopia – New Frontiers: Advances and Challenges”, the Congress offers a space for debate, dialogue and discussions on problems and issues affecting women’s lives. There were thirteen areas of discussions among others Feminisms and Social Movements; History; Economics, Political and Legal Action; Human Rights, Health, Science and Technology, Communication and the Media; Education and also Culture, Creativity and Art. In this Congress, Dr Raihanah has presented a paper entitled: The Role of Muslim Women NGOs in Enhancing Legal awareness on Islamic Family Law for the Muslim

Women in Malaysia.

A Venezuelan Week July 1-15, at University of Malaya



Colloquium on:

*“Bridging The Communication Gap Between Scientist and The Media:
Dilemmas in Communicating Biotechnology (22 July 2008)*



Public Lecture, August 1, 2008

“What Went Right: Peaceful Islamic Mobilization in Islamic Asia”
Oleh : Dr. Julie Chernov, California State University – Fullerton, US



Public Lecture, August 14, 2008

“Falsafah Melayu Menghadapi Kepelbagaian”
Oleh : YM. Dr. Tengku Nasyruddin S. Effendy (Tenas Effendy)



Moderator: Prof Emeritus Dato Dr. Abu Bakar Abd. Hamid



Pak Tenas with Prof Azizan



YM. Dr. Tengku Nasyruddin S. Effendy (Pak Tenas)

THE VENEZUELAN WEEK AT THE UNIVERSITY OF MALAYA ~ KOSMO, 5/8

Kosmo! Menyelami Hidup Anda Selasa 5 Ogos 2008

Keajaiban teleskop Levchenko /22
Melatih graduan kaunter hadapan /26&27

KENALI VENEZUELA

RENCANAUTAMA Selasa 5 Ogos 2008

Membawa nama 'mini Venice'

Ketamaduan sesebuah negara dapat dinilai dari aspek ketidapan penduduk berurusan dengan masalah di masyarakat kaum wanita dan orang tua. Datuk Republik Venezuela, Marufo Antonio Guzman Hernandez memunculkan hal negara ketamaduan kepada wartawan SUBASHINI RAJANDRA.

Jika bukan berhadapan dengan masalah yang dihadapi oleh kaum wanita yang berhadapan dengan masalah ketamaduan, maka akan berhadapan dengan masalah ketamaduan. Masalah ketamaduan ini adalah masalah yang dihadapi oleh masyarakat di seluruh dunia. Masalah ketamaduan ini adalah masalah yang dihadapi oleh masyarakat di seluruh dunia. Masalah ketamaduan ini adalah masalah yang dihadapi oleh masyarakat di seluruh dunia.

Info Selasa 5 Ogos 2008

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Venezuelan Photographic Exhibition

In conjunction with the Third Venezuelan Week 2008, a photographic exhibition entitled "A Glance at the Guajira" by Gustavo Bauer was held at the Wisma Kebudayaan SGM from June 29 to July 7, 2008. On hand to officiate the opening was Dato' Mirza Mohammad Tatyab, Director-General of Tourism Malaysia.

The Guajira people, or Wayuu, is an Amerindian ethnic group of the La Guajira Peninsula situated in northern Colombia and northwest Venezuela, most of which is of harsh environment. This ethnic group is the largest indigenous group in Venezuela, and they have never been subjugated by the Spanish. This proud, indomitable spirit is rightly immortalised in Gustavo Bauer's masterpieces – images of young people going about their daily activities brimful with joy, dreams and passions, as well as weathered faces of old women, beautifully textured and shining bright coppery in the sun.

For over 10 years, Venezuelan Gustavo Bauer has worked as an independent photographer. He was a graphic reporter during the El Salvador war, the United States occupation in Panama and the Fifth Centenary Commemoration of the Encounter of Two Worlds in the Dominican Republic.

NEWS STRAITS TIMES, 7/8/2008

COSMIC

NEW STRAITS TIMES THURSDAY, AUGUST 7, 2008

Abdullah calls for more interfaith dialogues

By Azura Abas and Irdiani Mohd Salleh
news@nst.com.my

KUALA LUMPUR: More interfaith dialogues should be held to ensure continuous harmony among Malaysians of different religions, Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi said yesterday.

The prime minister said he would ask Unity, Culture, Arts and Heritage Minister Datuk Seri Shafie Apdal to continue having such dialogues.

"I will tell Shafie to do what is good and have such meetings as regularly as he can. At some of these meetings, I plan to sit in, too," he said at the silver jubilee dinner of the Malaysian Consultative Council of Buddhism, Christianity, Hinduism, Sikhism and Taoism.

Abdullah assured those present that what he said was not merely a ploy to pacify and please non-Muslims.

"I understand your concerns and try to do whatever I can to find solutions to issues involving non-Muslims. We are brothers and sisters who must work together and continue practising tolerance and patience as a way forward for this nation."

Abdullah said non-Muslims, however, must understand and respect that matters relating to the *aqidah* (faith) of Islam could neither be "touched" nor "changed". But he assured non-Muslims that they would be treated fairly and justly as required by the Quran and Allah.

"When we are friends, between Muslims and the non-Muslims, it is easy to work things out."

Abdullah said he had been entrusted with the responsibility of looking after the affairs of all Malaysians.

"For me, justice for all is the most important thing. It is the command of Allah to be trustworthy in executing my duties. The people have trusted me and expect me to deliver."

"I am here to assure you that all are protected and can enjoy living in Malaysia as Malaysians."

Earlier, the council's president, Datuk A. Vaithilingam, said members had discovered that by sitting together and talking through interfaith differences, potential flashpoints and major problems could be avoided and disputes settled peacefully and amicably.

However, he claimed many non-Muslims felt marginalised in today's Malaysia.

The council, he said, supported and lauded efforts made by Abdullah's administration to make certain changes, including bringing judicial reforms, which it believed should begin as soon as possible.

COSMIC Aug 08 38

Students from National University of Singapore

On June 5, 2008, some 20 students from the National University of Singapore (NUS) University Scholars Programme (USP), led by Associate Professor Syed Farid Alatas, head of Malay Studies Department at the NUS, visited Wisma Kebudayaan SGM, Kuala Lumpur. Their visit is a part of USP's programme on inter-religious and interfaith dialogue that encourages students to engage in a wide range of activities beyond the classroom, both overseas and locally, and to learn about different cultures and religions.

After watching the introduction video of SGM and SGI, the NUS students had an informal exchange with the SGM representatives which was followed by a question and answer session with SGM leaders led by Deputy President Liu Cheng Choong, Deputy Secretary-General Prof.

RENCANAUTAMA

...kegiatan persembahan...
...kegiatan persembahan...
...kegiatan persembahan...

Positive start to religious dialogue



Both parties felt that they were so burdened with stereotypical images of each other. They proved themselves wrong and they showed that they were mature and strong enough to listen.

Prof Dr Azizlan Bahaudin, Director of the Cultural Dialogue Centre

MORE dialogue is necessary to increase understanding and resolve the problems between Muslims and non-Muslims. This is the conclusion...



Sabariah Abdullah, head of the Allied Coordinating Committee of Islamic NGOs...



Datuk A. Vaithilingam, head of the Malaysian Consultative Council of Buddhism, Christianity, Hinduism, Sikhism and Taoism...

can all sit down and talk with one another to find amicable solutions to our problems. Vaithilingam said the inter-religious dialogue...

...disatisfactions from both sides. Although we can't find all the solutions to the problems, it was a fruitful event. To continue with this spirit...

Moving forward — for unity and prosperity

Q: How would you describe the national unity post-March 8?
A: There have been some changes. But unity is still strong. Those days, the politics we engaged in were more racially focused...

Datuk Azman Amin Hassan tells TAN CHOE CHOE that Malaysians have come together stronger after the March 8 general election, but there is a need for more inter-religious dialogues to foster better understanding



among the younger generation. They have their own perceptions, their own beliefs and they expressed it in the last general election and it is healthy...

National University of Singapore Visit SGM

Christopher Boey and Study Department Chief Tan Kok Leong. The students asked the panel various questions regarding the basic tenets of Nichiren Buddhism...



There are now 3,838 RT bases and of these, 1,128 have set up the voluntary patrolling scheme. The volunteers are only eligible to apply for leave if they work between 12am and 5am...

Religious dialogue at UM: 10 recommendations

- There should be a code of conduct for the propagation of religion.
• Emphasise the freedom of religion. Increase understanding and enforcement of Article 11(4) of the Constitution...

Q: So what do you think of the dialogue? How did the participants behave?
A: They were very mature and civilised. It was a very dynamic discussion. My feeling is if you do not know the other person, how can you really understand what their issues are about?

CONGRATULATIONS

EXCELLENCE SERVICE AWARD

The Centre is extremely proud of its very experienced staff Mrs. Siti Rukiah bt Othman for receiving the Excellence Service Award at the ceremony on August 22, 2008. Mrs. Siti Rukiah began her service at the University in 1983 and at the Centre in the year 2000. In the 8 years that she has been with the Centre she has given an unparalleled dedication.



RE-APPOINTMENT OF DEPUTY DIRECTOR

Congratulations to the Associate Professor Dr Raihanah Abdullah for being appointed as Deputy Director at the Centre. Assoc. Prof. Dr. Raihanah is a scholar in the field of Shariah Law. She is also a lecturer at the Academy of Islamic Studies. At the Centre one of her portfolio is research and publication.



30 YEARS SERVICE

Professor Dr Azizan Baharuddin received her 30 years service award. Prof Azizan began her service at the University as a tutor at the Philosophy of Science Unit, Faculty of Science in 1978. She is currently a Professor at the Department of Science and Technology Studies, Faculty of Science as well as Director at the Centre for Civilisational Dialogue.



STAFF UPLIFTMENT PROGRAM

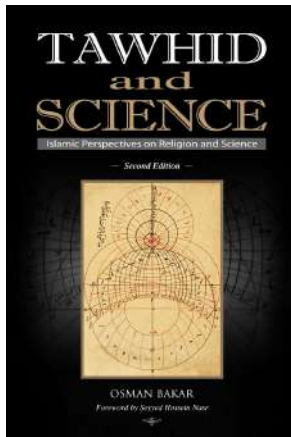
1. Mr. Jasni Nakman attended a course on computer maintenance September 15-16, 2008. Right now, Mr. Jasni is in-charge of the Centre's computer maintenance.
2. Mr. Anuar Mansur attended a course on Adobe Flash CS3 at the City Campus on September 8-9, 2008. He has also attended several other computer courses including website management. Mr. Anuar is currently in-charge of the Centre's web-site management.



Mr. Jasni

Mr. Anuar

LATEST PUBLICATIONS



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.



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 : Proceedings of the seminar on Bioethics: Meeting The Challenge

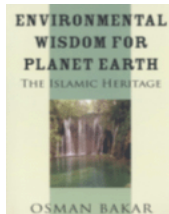
Editor : Alastair S. Gun, Azizan Baharuddin, Rofina Yasmin Othman, Maude E. Phipps, Wong Yut Lin

Year : 2008

Price : RM 25.00

About the Proceedings

Perhaps the most pressing area where ethical evaluation of new technology today is needed is in biotechnology, which encompass 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 establishment 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.



Title : Environmental Wisdom for Planet Earth: The Islamic Heritage
Editor : Osman Bakar
Year : 978-983-3070-20-6
Price : 2007
Harga : RM 12.00



Title : IBN KHALDUN, Pemikiran Ibn Khaldun & Relevansinya Dalam Tamadun Kontemporari (Proceeding: The Relevance of Ibn Khaldun's)
Editor : Professor Dr. Azizan Baharuddin, Dr. Zaid Ahmad, Nurdeng Deuraseh, Sri Rahayu Ismail, Haslinda Abdullah
Year : 2007
Price : RM 30.00

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HIGHLIGHTS OF FORTH COMING EVENTS ~ NOVEMBER - DECEMBER 2008

ALLIANCE OF CIVILISATION

The overall goal of the Alliance of Civilisation (AoC) is to improve understanding and cooperative relations among nations and people across cultures and religions and in the process, to help counter the forces that fuel polarization and extremism. The AoC is a United Nations initiative and was established in 2005 at the initiative of the governments of Spain & Turkey.

Working in partnership with governments, international and regional organizations, civil society groups, foundations, and the private sector, the Alliance is supporting a range of projects and initiatives aimed at building bridges among a diversity of cultures and communities. It is developing an online clearinghouse of best practices, materials and resources on cross-cultural dialogue and cooperation projects as well as a

Rapid Response media Mechanism to provide platforms for constructive debate and opinion during times of increased tensions around cross-cultural issues.

Among the Asia-Pacific countries, a serious initiative in support of the AoC is taken by New Zealand who hosted the first AoC Asia-Pacific symposium in Auckland 23-24 May 2007.

Representatives of the Malaysian New Zealand High Commission will be having discussions at the Centre in October to discuss collaborations in promoting the AoC goals.

Schedule of Events in 2008

- **15 October** — Public Lecture on “The Japanese Muslim Community: Its Interaction With The Japanese Society” by Mr. Ahmad Yuki Shiozaki, Visiting Research Scholar, CISMOR
Doshisha University, Japan
- **20 October** — Workshop JSPS-JCC Environmental Ethics Science & Engineering
- **17 November** — Seminar on “Commemorating World Philosophy Day”: The Role of Universities in Promoting Dialogue Through Philosophy
- **20 November** — Public Lecture on “Dialogue and Truth-Claims in Christianity and Islam” by Prof Dr Christian W. Troll, Kolleg St. Georgen, Frankfurt, Germany.
- **2-3 December** — FRGS Workshop

