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Centre For Civilisational Dialogue  
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## BULETIN PUSAT DIALOG PERADABAN UNIVERSITI MALAYA

JANUARY—MARCH 2009

No. 10

### A PUBLIC LECTURE BY PROFESSOR HOWARD ROBERT HORVITZ 2002, NOBEL LAUREATE - "BASIC BIOMEDICAL RESEARCH DRIVES THE DISCOVERY OF NEW TREATMENTS FOR HUMAN DISEASE", MARCH 17, 2009



*Professor Howard Robert Horvitz delivering his keynote speech at Dewan Tunku Canselor, University of Malaya*

Biomedical science, world health and world peace are vitally interconnected. World peace is threatened by inequalities around the world in wealth, education and health, and without good health neither the education nor wealth of general populations can be substantially improved. An international focus on global health requires the active involvement of governments, foundations, pharmaceutical companies and dedicated individuals, and advances in methods for diagnosing, treating and preventing disease are dependent on discoveries driven by basic biomedical science. This was the primary idea that was delivered by Professor Howard Robert Horvitz, 2002 Nobel Laureate in his lecture held at the Dewan Tunku Canselor, University of Malaya on the 17th of March 2009 which was also attended by His Royal Highness, Raja Dr. Nazrin Shah, Prince of Perak, Pro-Chancellor of the University of Malaya. This lecture was a collaborative effort between the International Peace Foundation and the University of Malaya. It was strongly supported by Sime Darby, Sultan Azlan Shah Foundation, Le Meridien, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia Airlines, PETRONAS and the Academy of Science Malaysia.

In his lecture Prof. Horvitz exemplified how basic research in biology can lead to discoveries that promise to provide new approaches to the treatment of disease. In particular, one of the most striking findings in the history of science is the discovery that genes - regions of DNA that make us what we are - are so remarkably conserved among different organisms that we can study what they did in a yeast that is used to brew beer, in a microscopic worm or in a fruit fly and learn how they work in humans and how we can intervene with them to cure human disease.

He focused on the studies from his research labo-

ratory that led him to receive the Nobel Prize in Physiology of Medicine in 2002. In this work he discovered genes that control the process of how certain cells in a roundworm that lives in the soil "commit suicide" as the animal develops. Corresponding genes have proved to control the process of cellular suicide in all animals, including humans, and the misregulation of this process of "programmed cell death" has been implicated in a broad variety of human diseases, such as cancer, liver disease, heart attacks, strokes and neurodegenerative diseases. This understanding has provided new approaches to the development of pharmaceutical agents to be used to treat such disorders. Professor Horvitz had opted to study a basic problem in biology - how genes control cell suicide in a microscopic roundworm-he discovered fundamental biological mechanisms shared by animals as diverse as roundworms and humans.



*The Vice-Chancellor of University of Malaya, Prof. Ghauth Jasmon conferring with Prof. Howard Robert Horvitz.*



YBhg. Professor Dato' Dr. Mohd. Amin Jalaluddin, Mr. Uwe Morawetz and Professor Howard Robert Horvitz



Professor Horvitz and Mr. Uwe Morawetz with CCD staff member

When he first started with his studies., neither the generality nor the application of his efforts was at all clear. He studied an organism that was unknown in the general world and obscure even to professional biologists. He did not target any disease, and he did not know what he found would be relevant to any organism other than this tiny worm. Nonetheless, Professor Horvitz's studies established mechanisms that appear to be universal among animals, and his findings may prove that basic research is the driver of scientific knowledge.

He also raised the important issue of "how should basic research be - supported?" True basic research cannot be supported by the private sector, as no company can confidently know ahead of time whether a research will lead to a finding of relevance to its business plan. For this reason, Professor Horvitz strongly advocates that governments and foundations allocate a significant portion of their research portfolios to basic research, as it is basic research that most often results in the

truly unexpected discoveries that drive science and technology forwards. Only with support for such basic research can biomedical scientists make the discoveries that will lead to the novel pharmaceuticals that will improve world health and help us on the road toward world peace. This notion has definitely received strong support from the audience who were made up of people from diverse professions. This include mostly scientists, students of secondary and higher learning institutions as well as educators and policymakers from the government sectors. The lecture invited interesting questions from the public. Professor Horvitz himself is already a great motivator to the scientists trying to make discoveries through the conventional method. This lecture was one of the many series of lectures by Nobel Laureates under the Bridges program organized by the International Peace Foundation.

Background of Prof. Horvitz:

- Professor Horvitz is a microbiologist who shared the 2002 Nobel Prize for Medicine

for discoveries concerning the genetic regulation of organ development and programmed cell death (apoptosis)

- He comes from a multi-disciplinary background. He did mathematics and economics for his undergraduate studies and only pursued biology for his doctoral degree.
- Professor Horvitz is a member of the U.S. National Academy of Sciences and a recipient of the Gairdner Foundation International Award, the Alfred P. Sloan, Jr. Prize from the General Motors Cancer Research Foundation, the Bristol-Myers Squibb Award for Distinguished Achievement in Neuroscience and the Louisa Gross Horvitz Prize from Columbia University. He received the MIT's James R. Killian Jr. Faculty Achievement Award for 2005-2006.

### CANADIAN AUTHOR , TAREK FATEH SPEAKS ON ISLAM AND MULTICULTURALISM MARCH 4, 2009

Mr. Tarek Fatah, a prominent Canadian Muslim was a guest speaker at a forum jointly organized by the Center for Civilizational Dialogue and the International Institute of Advanced Islamic Studies, Malaysia (IAIS). The forum was held at IAIS on March 11, 2009. Mr. Fatah also attended the World Islamic Economic Forum (WIEF) in Jakarta on 2-3 March. Born in Pakistan and now a Canadian citizen, he founded the Muslim Canadian Congress in the aftermath of September 11. At the forum he spoke mainly about the Canadian Muslim experience of multiculturalism, which he said was far more positive compared to many multicultural Muslim majority countries. He believes Canadian Muslims enjoy more freedom and progress compared to other Western Muslim minorities.

*Prepared by Emeritus Datuk Dr. Osman Bakar*

### DIGITALIZATION OF KATHA: JOURNAL OF THE CENTRE FOR CIVILISATIONAL DIALOGUE

"Malaysian Abstracting and Indexing System (MyAIS) is an open access system for abstracts and indices of articles published in refereed scholarly Malaysian journals. This system, managed by the Faculty of Computer Science and Information Technology (FSKTM), University of Malaya, also provides full-text access to scholarly articles in journals as well as conference proceeding published in Malaysia or abroad. MyAIS relies on the voluntary contribution from Malaysian academics and professional publishers. This is a non-profit making project that attempts to serve Malaysian educational and research community with information about what has been published in Malaysian refereed journals each year and in the various disciplines. Self-submission and archiving of abstracts and full-text articles is en-

couraged. As part of its internationalization effort the CCD decided to digitalized its journal into this system. This project took about 3 months to complete. Today, 17 articles from KATHA – The Official Journal of the Centre for Civilisational Dialogue and *Jurnal Peradaban – Jurnal Rasmi Pusat Dialog Peradaban, Universiti Malaya* can already be accessed online through MyAIS. In the long run, the CCD is planning to further use this open access system to promote all its new publications such as monographs and books. The CCD would like to thank the FSKTM especially Professor Dr Zainab Awang Ngah, UM and all individuals for making this project a success.

**Source of quote:**

<http://myais.fsktm.um.edu.my/>

## INTERFAITH DISCUSSION ON "ISLAM AND CHRISTIANITY", MARCH 10, 2009



Dr. Fahad A. Alhomoudi, Consultant of the Centre for Islamic Contemporary Studies and Dialogue of Civilization, Saudi Arabia

On March 10, 2009 the International Institute Advanced of Islamic Studies (IAIS) organized a discussion on interfaith dialogue between Islam and Christianity. The main speaker was Dr. Fahad A. Alhomoudi a guest of IAIS. Those in attendance included Reverend Michael Chua Ecclesiastical Assistant Archdiocesan Ministry of Ecumenical & Interreligious Affairs (AMEIA). This discussion was moderated by Dato' Osman Bakar.

Some of the main points covered during the discussion included Interfaith programs in Saudi Arabia. Since 9/11 dialogues between Islam and other religions/ organizations had mushroomed, so as to figure out why the conflicts have arisen and to find solutions. Most problems come from misunderstanding between the different of religions which bring chaos especially in The Islamic World. Islamic interfaith dialogues are also held in Saudi Arabia as a result of initiations by King Abdullah. This dialogue was being held among the various races in Saudi itself and include the main doctrines in Islam, the Sunni and Syiah group. The Centre for Civilisational Dialogue was represented by Mr. Amer Hamzaeni, Research Officer.

\* Dr. Fahad A. Alhomoudi was born in Saudi Arabia. He obtained his PhD in Islamic studies from McGill University and his thesis was entitled On the Common Link Theory. The research areas include prophetic tradition, Islamic Law and legal thought. Dr. Fahad A. Alhomoudi currently is a Assistant Professor and Vice-Dean for Academic Research and Publication at IMSIU beside being a consultant at Centre for Islamic Contemporary Studies and Dialogue of Civilization (CICSDC).



Dr. Fahad and Emeritus Prof. Datuk Osman



Dialogue session at IAIS

## UM UNESCO CLUB—CELEBRATES NOROOZ : "A CELEBRATION OF THE END AND THE REBIRTH OF LIFE" - MARCH 26, 2009

In harmony with the rebirth of nature, the Iranian New Year, or Norooz, always begins on the first day of spring on March 21st of each year. Norooz ceremonies are symbolic representations of two ancient concepts - the End and Rebirth of Life. Norooz, at the beginning of spring is considered as the rebirth, is a time of great joy and celebration. *Shahnameh*, - the Persian epical poetries- dates as far back to the reign of Jamshid, -ancient Persian empireor who saved mankind from a killer winter that was destined to kill every living creature. The Islamic scholar Abu Rayhan Biruni of the 10th century A.D., in his book "Kitab al-Tafhim li Awa'il Sina'at al-Tanjim" says: "It is the belief that Norooz marks the first day when the universe starts its motion". Norooz in Persian means "New Day" and brings hope, peace and prosperity to the world and has been celebrated among people regardless of ethnic background, political views or religions in many countries around the globe from the western part of china until the south east of Europe. Countries as such Iran, Afghanistan, Azerbaijan, Turkey, Uzbekistan, Pakistan, Georgia, Iraq, Tajikistan, Syria, Armenia and north India, celebrate Norooz in different beautiful ways.

On the 26<sup>th</sup> of March 2009 , UMUC celebrated its own NOROOZ with the theme : "A Celebration of the End and the Rebirth of Life" as its first group activity for 2009. As explained by the president of the club, Rahim Kaviani, the main objectives of NOROOZ are; to Introduce Norooz as a cultural activity with a 7000 year history to UM UNESCO CLUB members and international

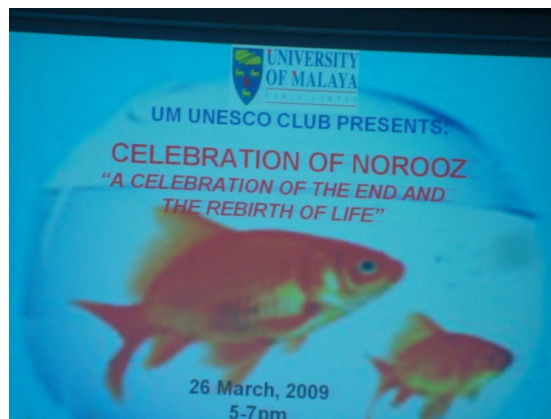
students as a cultural activity that is relevant to current ideas about respect for nature and culture. To celebrate Norooz with others in order to share joy and happiness and hence enhance collegiatship among members of the club.

NOROOZ is also celebrated festively among diverse nationalities by club members. It was attended by at least 70 people and it was held at the KATHA Seminar Room, Centre for Civilisational Dialogue, University of Malaya. Throughout the evening, guests and members alike were enlightened by a warm welcoming speech by YBhg. Prof. Datin Dr. Azizah Baharuddin, The Director of the Centre for Civilisational Dialogue and also an introduction on NOROOZ by the President of UMUC himself, Rahim Kaivani. Apart from that, a performance on Iranian traditional music by the well known

Saba' Group was definitely a hit among the guests. A major Tradition of Norooz is the setting of the **Haft seen** (the seven S) seven items with letter **s** or **seen** in Persian alphabet on table cloths was definitely new to many of the members and many took opportunities of photography with it. It was a great honour for the club, to have had the Honourable Mr. Vahedi, **The Cultural Counsellor of The Embassy of The Islamic Republic of Iran, graced the humble ceremony**. He sincerely expressed his thanks and would love to participate in future activities by UMUC . At the end of the day, the members and guests embrace of this festive celebration as an occasion that transcend cultures, race and religion as it shares a common point of celebrating the goodness of life by starting over with positivities and leaving behind negativities. UMUC ALSO RECORDS ITS APPRECIATION to the **Iranian Embassy for its support for the event**.



Member of the Saba' Group



Backdrop of Event

## VISIT BY SPECIAL COMMISSION FOR THE RIGHTS OF NON-MUSLIMS IN THE NATIONAL CAPITAL (SCORNOM), SUDAN - 16 FEBRUARI 2009



Delegasi dari Sudan bersama Pengarah dan Timb. Pengarah, Pusat Dialog Peradaban, UM serta Pegawai-pegawai daripada Jabatan Perpaduan Negara

Satu perjumpaan telah diadakan oleh Pusat Dialog Peradaban dengan ahli-ahli Suruhanjaya di Rumah Universiti. Ahli-ahli Suruhanjaya ini terdiri daripada En. Abdul Majeed Khalifa Khojali, En. Mohammed A. Rahman Hussein, Rev. Tut Kuong, Dr. Deng Awur dan Puan Rabab Abu Geseisa. Mereka juga diiringi oleh tiga orang pegawai dari Jabatan Perpaduan Negara dan Integrasi Nasional, Putrajaya iaitu En. Hilal bin Hj. Othman, En. Yong Kun Hing dan juga En. Zaimudin Ali Chua. Pengarah Pusat Dialog dan Peradaban iaitu Prof. Dr. Azizan Baharudin telah menyampaikan maklumat-maklumat tentang tamadun / agama yang telah banyak dilaksanakan oleh Pusat Dialog dan Peradaban sejak tertubuhnya pada tahun 1996. Kandungan taklimat ini banyak kerelevanannya pada objektif lawatan Suruhanjaya ini. Secara umumnya, Suruhanjaya ini melihat Malaysia sebagai negara yang menjadi "role model" dalam konteks keharmonian antara agama dan etnik.

Ketua rombongan iaitu En. Abdul Majeed Khalifa Khojali menyatakan bahawa Suruhanjaya ingin mencari idea-idea dan contoh-contoh untuk meningkatkan keamanan dan keharmonian antara kumpulan Muslim dan Kristian yang mempunyai sejarah pertelingkahan sejak tahun 1955 lagi.

Dr. Deng Awur iaitu seorang lagi ahli rombongan yang merupakan Dekan Fakulti Undang-undang di Universiti Juba yang juga penganut agama Kristian menjelaskan bahawa sebenarnya terdapat pelbagai faktor lain lagi yang menyebabkan berlakunya pertelingkahan ini antaranya termasuklah persepsi negatif golongan Kristian terhadap penggunaan hukum syariah bagi seluruh Negara Sudan, jurang perbezaan dan peluang ekonomi yang tidak saksama di antara bahagian

Utara dan Selatan bahagian Sudan serta adanya campur tangan oleh pihak luar. Suruhanjaya ini telah dilantik oleh Presiden Sudan. Ia mempunyai seramai 27 orang ahli yang terdiri daripada pelbagai agama yang mana ia bertanggungjawab memberi nasihat kepada Presiden dalam mengendalikan hal-hal yang berkaitan dengan isu-isu hubungan antara agama di Sudan. Di akhir pertemuan, ketua rombongan iaitu En. Abdul Majeed Khalifa Khojali telah menyoal harapan untuk menjalin kerjasama dengan Pusat Dialog dan Peradaban dalam bentuk latihan bagi resolusi dan juga persidangan-persidangan tentang isu-isu yang berkaitan dengan dialog peradaban.

### VISIT BY SPECIAL COMMISSION FOR THE RIGHTS OF NON-MUSLIMS IN THE NATIONAL CAPITAL (SCORNOM), SUDAN - FEB 16, 2009

A special visit by the Commission for the Rights of Non – Muslims in the National Capital of Sudan (SCORNOM) took place on the 16<sup>th</sup> of February 2009. SCORNOM members wanted to learn about the activities of the CENTRE FOR Civilisational Dialogue in their efforts to enrich SCORNOM'S own mandate for improving the Christian- Muslim relations in Sudan. The visitors led by Mr. Abdul Majeed Khalifa Khojali were also accompanied by Mr. Hilal Othman of the National Unity and National Integration Department.

## DIALOG MENGENAI "GAP BETWEEN ISLAM AND WEST", - 11 FEBRUARI 2009

Puan Alia Hogben, Pengarah Eksekutif Majlis Wanita Islam Kanada (CCMW) yang diiringi oleh rakan setugasnya Cik Saadia Gassim telah berada di Kuala Lumpur bagi menghadiri Persidangan Global Musawah pada 13 hingga 17 Februari, 2009. Dalam lawatan mereka ke Malaysia, Pesuruhjaya Tinggi Kanada telah mengatur program selama dua hari iaitu pada 11 dan 12 Februari 2009 untuk mereka. Seperti sebelum ini, Suruhanjaya Tinggi mengambil kesempatan ini untuk bekerjasama dengan Pusat Dialog Peradaban untuk mengadakan sesi dialog meja-bulat.

Pada 11 Februari 2009, Pusat Dialog dan Peradaban telah mengadakan dialog yang bertajuk "Gap between Islam and West" di IAIS. Seminar ini

turut dihadiri oleh Puan Alia Hogben, Pengarah Eksekutif Majlis Wanita Islam Kanada yang dipengerusikan oleh YBhg. Prof. Emeritus Datuk. Dr. Osman Bakar. Antara lain dari segi kepelbagaian budaya, Alia Hogben berpendapat bahawa kesaksamaan seharusnya ditanamkan di dalam kebebasan beragama.

### Dialogue on the "Gap between Islam and West", Feb. 11, 2009

Together with the Institute for Advanced Islamic Studies (IAIS), on the 11<sup>th</sup> of February 2009 the Centre for Civilisational Dialogue held a dialogue on the gap between Islam and the West. The main participant was CCD'S visitor Mrs. Alai Hogben Executive Director of the Canadian Muslim

Women's Committee. Among others Mrs. Hogben stressed the importance of respect for the choice of adhering to religious in the context of a secular society.



Puan Alia Hogben menyampaikan hujah-hujahnya.

**SEMINAR ISLAM DAN SAINS DALAM PEMBANGUNAN TAMADUN, 26-27 MAC 2009,  
UNIVERSITI MALAYA**



Perasmian seminar oleh Yang Di-Pertua YADIM  
Opening Ceremony by the Director of YADIM

Peserta seminar yang hadir.  
Participants of the seminar

Yayasan Dakwah Islamiah Malaysia (YADIM), Pusat Dialog Peradaban Universiti Malaya dan Yayasan Ilmuwan telah bekerjasama Menganjurkan seminar "Islam dan Sains; Dakwah Dalam Alaf Ketiga", 26-27 Mac 2009 telah dirasmikan oleh YBhg. Datuk Haji Nakhaie Haji Ahmad, Yang Di-Pertua Yayasan Dakwah Islamiah Malaysia (YADIM). Islam adalah suatu cara hidup yang lengkap yang merangkumi segala aspek kehidupan. Apabila disebut "Islam seharusnya ia melangkaui batasan amalan ritual semata-mata. Sewajarnya Islam turut dilihat meliputi segala bentuk dan cabang ilmu pengetahuan. Ketamadunan Islam yang mencapai kemuncaknya pada abad ke-13 Masihi memperlihatkan ramai tokoh ilmuwan yang menguasai bukan sahaja ilmu yang diklasifikasikan hari ini sebagai "ilmu agama" atau "ilmu akhirat" seperti Fiqh, usuluddin dan seumpamanya; malahan menguasai ilmu-ilmu yang kita anggap hari

ini sebagai "ilmu secular" atau "ilmu dunia" seperti sains, matematik, teknologi dan seumpamanya.

Islam, dan begitu juga sebaliknya, melihat isu sayang sekali hari ini umat Islam gemar mewujudkan pengasingan ilmu seperti ini, lantaran melihat bidang ilmu seperti sains seperti terasing daripada am itu mengetepikan sains. Maka di sini timbul satu cabaran kepada umat Islam kontemporari untuk mengembalikan kegemilangan keilmuan Islam itu kembali dengan menyepadukan kembali pandangan alam terhadap ilmu yakni dengan melihat bahawa ilmu di dalam Islam merangkumi segala macam bidang dan cabang, dan tidak wujud apa yang dilabelkan sebagai "ilmu dunia" dan "ilmu akhirat". Di samping itu, bidang sains dan teknologi wajar dimanfaatkan untuk tujuan dakwah Islamiah. Ini kerana banyak alat yang terhasil daripada teknologi moden boleh digunakan untuk meningkatkan kecekapan penyampaian dakwah.

Selain daripada itu, ilmu sains itu sendiri boleh dijadikan sebagai hujah-hujah dalam menyampaikan dakwah. Seminar Islam dan Sains ini telah dihadiri seramai 200 orang peserta yang terdiri daripada wakil-wakil NGO, wakil-wakil Kementerian dan operasi kerajaan yang ada kaitan dengan Sains dan Teknologi, pensyarah dan para pelajar dari seluruh Malaysia. Keseluruhannya, seminar yang dijalankan merupakan kerangka konsep umum yang mampu untuk menjambatani Islam dan sains. Pemerolehan ilmu dan pengetahuan yang didapati daripada seminar ini perlu disebar luaskan ke dalam komuniti masyarakat Negara ini bagi mendapat kesan yang menyeluruh secara optimum. Dalam wahyu pertama yang diturunkan

kepada Nabi s.a.w. menerusi Jibrail sebagai watakah pelantikan kenabian. Turut disertakan ayat bagi menyuruh Muhammad s.a.w. untuk membaca dan menulis. Jika difahami, diteliti dan dikaji, secara simboliknya Islam itu jelas mementingkan budaya penyelidikan melalui pengkajian. Antara kandungan dan inti pati al-Quran turut mengandungi fenomena kejadian alam untuk dikaji oleh umat Islam untuk tamadun yang gemilang melangkaui zaman.

**SEMINAR  
"ISLAM AND SCIENCE IN  
CIVILISATIONAL  
DEVELOPMENT"  
26 - 27 MARCH 2009**

The main focus of this 2-day seminar was to highlight the critical role of science and technology in the development of civilization in general and in the Islamic civilization in particular. In his opening speech, Dato' Nakhaie, Director of YADIM highlighted among others the need from Muslim scientists, ulama and the believers in general to first of all realize the harmonious nature of the relationship between science and religion (values) in Islam. The conference was well received in terms of participation by paper presenters and participants who came from the academic as well as the government sector related to science and technology. The main objective of wanting to create the understanding that science cannot be divorced from religious life was well received.



Sesi soal-jawab  
Q & A session

## PUBLIC LECTURE ON CLASSIFICATION OF KNOWLEDGE IN ISLAM, FEBRUARY 20, 2009

On the 20<sup>th</sup> February 2009, a public lecture was held in Balai Ilmu, Academy of Islamic Studies, University of Malaya, Kuala Lumpur. Emeritus Datuk Dr. Osman Bakar was the speaker and Prof. Madya Dr. Mohd Fakhruddin Abdul Mukti from the Department of Akidah



Prof Ahmad Hidayat, Director of the Academy of Islamic Studies presenting Datuk Osman with a token of appreciation



Emeritus Prof Datuk Osman during the talk.

and Islamic Thought, Academy of Islamic Studies, University of Malaya chaired the session. This event involved about 200 participants consisting of lecturers and students of the university.

There are many important points raised during this lecture: the classification of knowledge was an important intellectual and scholarly activity in Islamic civilization; this activity was pursued with the

following objectives in mind. First, Muslim scholars were greatly interested in cataloguing, systematizing and classifying all the known sciences according to principles that would help to protect and preserve the Islamic worldview and belief system. Second, they wanted to uphold the unity of the sciences which is an important corollary of the principle of *al-tawhid*, the core teaching of Islam. Third, they wanted to put in place an educational curriculum that would maintain a harmonious balance between the permanent needs of man and society and their changing needs. Fourth, they wanted to secure a good balance between generalization and specialization in the human pursuit of knowledge. All the above mentioned objectives are not merely of historical interest but is important to us today. These are perennial problems confronting all highly civilized societies. These objectives are certainly relevant to Malaysia and the global community at large, not only to Muslims but to all humankind. The Muslim intellectual tradition of classification of knowledge is therefore important to be studied and discussed in our contemporary civilizational setting.

The discussion segment attracted a great interest from the audience. Most wanted similar programs to continue in the future.

## ASSOCIATED EVENTS

### PROFESOR EMERITUS DATUK DR. OSMAN BAKAR

#### WIEF di Jakarta

Forum Ekonomi Islam Sedunia (WIEF) yang kelima telah berlangsung di Jakarta pada 2-3 Mac yang lalu. Presiden Indonesia, Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono, selaku tuan rumah telah merasmikan pembukaan Forum tersebut. Majlis penutupnya telah disempurnakan oleh Pembantu Presiden Republik itu, Yusuf Kalla. Turut hadir di Forum itu ialah Tun Abdullah Ahmad Badawi, mantan Perdana Menteri Malaysia yang juga merupakan Penaung WIEF. Sekretariat WIEF bertempat di Kuala Lumpur. Menurut Profesor Emeritus Osman Bakar, Felo Penyelidik Kanan, Pusat Dialog Peradaban, yang menghadiri Forum itu, WIEF ke-5 merupakan yang terbesar pernah diadakan Menurut banyak peserta ia juga yang terbaik. Memandangkan bahawa dunia sekarang ini sedang dilanda krisis ekonomi dan kewangan maka tidak hairanlah sekiranya pihak penganjur WIEF ke-5 telah membuat keputusan untuk menonjolkan krisis tersebut sebagai isu terpenting untuk

perbincangan.

#### Seminar Isu-Isu Semasa Tamadun Umat untuk Para Mahasiswa

Sebuah seminar sehari membincangkan isu-isu semasa yang berkaitan dengan pembangunan dan cabaran tamadun umat Islam pada alaf baru ini telah diadakan di Akademi Pengajian Islam, Universiti Malaya pada 7 Februari 2009. Seminar itu yang ditujukan khas kepada para mahasiswa di pusat-pusat pengajian tinggi awam dan swasta di Lembah Kelang telah dianjurkan bersama oleh Jabatan Kemajuan Islam Malaysia (JAKIM), MUAFAKAT, iaitu sebuah badan bukan kerajaan, Pusat Dialog Peradaban, Universiti Malaya dan Majlis Agama Islam Wilayah Persekutuan (MAIWP). Sekitar 600 orang pelajar telah menyertai seminar tersebut.

Kertas seminar pertama telah dibentangkan oleh Profesor Emeritus Osman Bakar. Juduhnya, *Cabaran Ilmu Dalam Era Globalisasi*. Pembentang kedua ialah Ustaz Muhammad Uthman El-Muhammady, seorang Felo Amat

Utama di Institut Pemikiran dan Tamadun Islam (ISTAC). Beliau telah membicarakan isu-isu yang terbit daripada pelbagai aliran pemikiran yang menular masuk ke negara ini yang beliau sifatkan sebagai bertentangan dengan pegangan agama golongan Sunnah wa'l-Jamaah Seminar berakhir dengan sebuah forum yang dianggotai oleh tiga tokoh Islam di Malaysia dewasa ini, iaitu Profesor Dato Mohammad Abu Bakar, mantan Dekan Fakulti Sastera dan Sains Sosial, Universiti Malaya, Profesor Sidek Baba, tokoh pendidik dari Universiti Islam Antarabangsa, Malaysia dan Encik Yusri Mohamad, Presiden Angkatan Belia Islam Malaysia (ABIM). Tajuk forum ialah tentang peranan semasa mahasiswa.

#### Inisiatif Dialog Antara Agama oleh YADIM

Pusat Dialog Peradaban telah dijemput oleh Yayasan Dakwah Islam Malaysia (YADIM) untuk menghadiri satu perbincangan tentang dialog antara agama di pejabat pertubuhan itu pada 6hb Februari yang lalu. Pusat Dialog Peradaban telah diwakili oleh Profesor Emeritus Osman Bakar. Beberapa individu yang aktif dalam bidang dialog

**PROF. DATIN DR. AZIZAN BAHARUDDIN**

in Mexico City, 8-9 May 2009.

**30<sup>th</sup> of January 2009**, 3pm – Meeting of National Committee for TITAS (*Tamadun Islam dan Tamadun Asia Tenggara*). Participated as the Chair of the National Committee for TITAS. The meeting was held on the 30<sup>th</sup> of January 2009 at the Department of Higher Education of Ministry of Higher Education. One of the important highlights of the meeting was the latest module of TITAS teaching used in all public universities.

**2<sup>nd</sup> of February 2009** – Was a guest for the radio talk show by *Radio Bernama*. The title of discussion was: Indigenous Theory on Feminism.

**10<sup>th</sup> of February 2009**: Setting up of the National Bioethics committee. Attended a meeting with regards to the steps to be taken for the committee at the Ministry of Women, Family and Community Development. In Conjunction with the setting up of the National Bioethics Committee, CCD has been invited to attend the European Commission-UNESCO Conference on Joint Action For Capacity Building in Bioethics

**21<sup>st</sup> of February 2009** : Participated and presented a paper at a Seminar organized by *Akademi Sains Malaysia*, International Islamic University Malaysia. Title of paper : “Sustainability Science: Islamic Perspective”.

**14<sup>th</sup> of February 2009** : Presented a paper at the *MUKTAMAR WANITA ISLAM DI ALAM MELAYU*. Title of paper : *Perjuangan gender tajaan barat dan pengaruhnya ke atas hakisan jati diri wanita Islam*. Organized by Yayasan Dakwah Islamiah Malaysia (YADIM) at the Palace of Golden Horses.

**19<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup> of February 2009** : Participated as a moderator *Seminar Serantau Ahlul Sunnah wal Jamaah*. Organised by YADIM and YADMI of Indonesia.

**18<sup>th</sup> of March 2009**: Took part in forum organized by the Institute of Islam Hadhari, UKM. The forum was



**FORUM SAINS ISLAM: PEMANGKIN PERADABAN UMMAH**

- Prof. Datin Dr. Azizan Baharuddin (UM)
  - Prof. Emeritus Dato' Dr. Osman Bakar (IAIS)
  - Prof. Dr. Abdul Latif Samian (UKM)
  - Prof. Madya Dr. Mat Rofa Ismail (UPM)
- 18 Mac 2009 bersamian  
21 Rabiulawal 1430H (Rabu)  
2.30 petang  
Bilik Senat, UKM



entitled “Islamic Science—Catalyst for the Ummatic Civilisation”.

6th Feb-Sempena Bulan Dakwah YADIM-JAKIM, Pengarah Pusat Dialog Peradaban telah dilantik sebagai Pengerusi Kluster Sains dan Teknologi dan wartawan Utusan Malaysia telah merakamkan sedikit maklumat seperti atas.

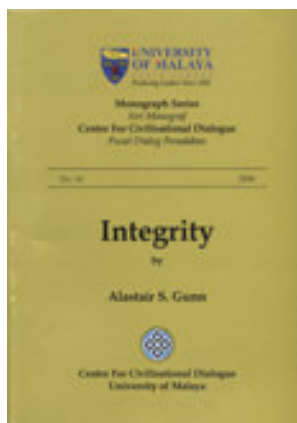
**ASSOC. PROFESSOR DR. RAIHANAH ABDULLAH**

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Raihanah Abdullah, Deputy Director succeeded in getting her article entitled “The Malaysian Shariah Courts: Polygamy, Divorce and the Administration of Justice”, published in the *Asian Women Academic Journal 2009* (an ISI Journal). Congratulations to Dr. Raihanah.

**ACTIVITIES APRIL—JUNE 2009**

- April 23, 2009 - Public Lecture “Dialogue of Life/Cultural Dialogue in the Context of Converts in Sabah” (*Dialog Kehidupan dalam Konteks Muallaf di Sabah: Peranan Muallaf dan Implikasi Dialog*) oleh Puan Suraya Sintang, *Universiti Malaysia Sabah*
- June, 24, 2009 - International Conference on “Ibn Arabi” collaboration with Iran Cultural Centre
- July 14-15, 2009 - Regional Workshop for Islamic Scholars “Islam and Biotechnology: Friends or Foes?” collaboration with *Ilmuan Foundation* and MABIC
- April 29, 2009 - Workshop on “Sustainability” at Seminar Room, Institute of Post-Graduate Studies, UM collaboration with Sustainability Science Cluster Office and Dept. of Science & Technology Studies
- April 30 2009 - Public Lecture “The Management of Religious Diversity: The Role of Religion in Democracy” at Dept. of Civilization Studies, UPM
- May 5, 2009 - Public Lecture “The Globalization of God: Religion and The Future” at Centre for Civilisational Dialogue, UM by Visiting Scholar Professor Dr. Paul Morris, University of Victoria, New Zealand.

## LATEST PUBLICATIONS



**Title** : **INTEGRITY - Monograph Series Centre For Civilisational Dialogue**

**Author** : Alastair S. Gunn

**Year** : 2009

**Price** : RM 15.00

**About**

**The Book**

This monograph is intended as a small contribution to the goal of establishing integrity as a social norm. While it is impossible to say whether corruption is increasing, there is certainly increased awareness of and public concern about breaches of it. Factors include greater public access to increasingly sophisticated investigative technologies and media as well as the work of organizations such as Transparency International. The concept of integrity is not straightforward. This monograph also concentrates on integrity issues from the academic perspective in terms of the increasing in numbers of plagiarism by students in the university. The author considers the first year of tertiary education as the ideal time to provide values education because it is a time when students are very open to new ideas. The author also provides an outline of a course on integrity, drawing from his own experiences with a variety of professional and business groups as well as in university ethics courses. Finally, he identifies obstacles to integrity, which may include pressures to compromise in order to achieve results, bad governance and poor institutional structures.

**Title** : **SOME IDEAS ON CIVILISATION AND GHANDHI'S PRINCIPLE OF NON-VIOLENCE - Monograph Series Centre For Civilisational Dialogue**

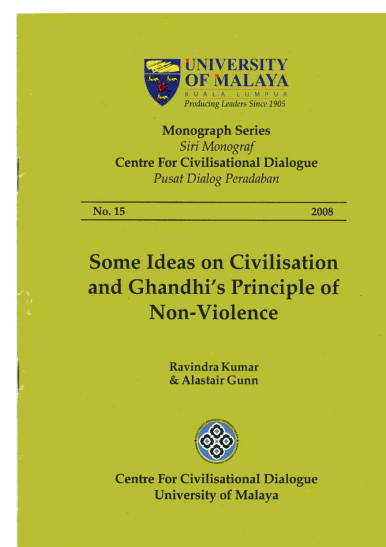
**Author** : Ravindra Kumar & Alastair S. Gunn

**Year** : 2009

**Price** : RM 15.00

**About the book**

This monograph is a collection of writings on civilization and Gandhi's philosophy of non-violence. Dr. Kumar was a Visiting Scholar at the Centre for Civilisational Dialogue in 2005; Dr. Gunn was a Visiting Scholar in 2006 and 2008, and Visiting Professor in 2007. The first section focuses on non-violence, morality and freedom as the three fundamental characteristics of civilization. The downfall of a civilization, according to Gandhi, is caused by relations of dominance and destruction of freedom. The authors propose that Gandhi's way of non-violence provides a way to achieve harmony within a civilization, including harmony with the environment. Gandhism is a mixture of Gandhi's concepts and practices, grounded in non-violence, which is central to Gandhi's philosophy. The authors review the relevance of Gandhism at the operational level of modern politics with India as a case in point and the significant role Gandhi played in the pursuit of democracy for the men and women of different social classes in India. In Gandhi's terms, the pursuit of true democracy is through non-violence.



**Title** : **OCCIDENTALISM AND ORIENTALISM**

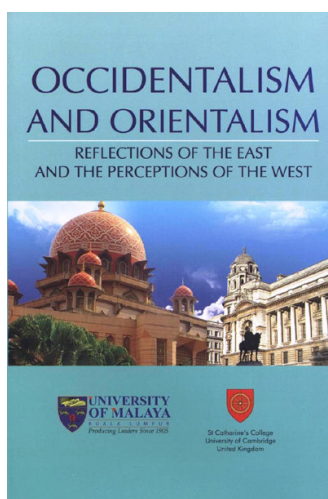
**Editors** : Azizan Baharuddin & Faridah Noor Mohd. Noor

**Year** : 2008

**Price** : RM 30.00

**About the book**

This book is a collection of papers presented by renowned academic figures in the field of dialogue and philosophy. Amongst the contributors are: Shamsul Amri Baharuddin, Hans Van De Ven, Shad Saleem Faruqi, Mohd Hazim Shah, Khaw Lake tee, Badariah Sahamid, Sharifah Suhanah Ahmad, Shaharil Talib & Gareth A Richards, Khoo Kay Kim and Lee Poh Ping. It focuses on issues such as; Colonial knowledge and the Deepening of Orientalism; Orientalism At War: Shanghai 1937; Human Rights – Reflections of the East, Perceptions of the orient by the occident; Twisted visions, false dreams and embracing the other, the reception of English law-Eastern customs and practices through the eyes of English judges in Malaya; fluidity and fixing in the making of Southeast Asia; the impact of the of the Dualization of the Orient and the Occident and East –West Interaction and the future: Three scenarios. The authors of the papers aim at exploring the concepts of Orientalism and Occidentalism through multidisciplinary analysis (e.g.: philosophy, law and sociology) in attempts at defining and understanding the culture that both concepts depicts.



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