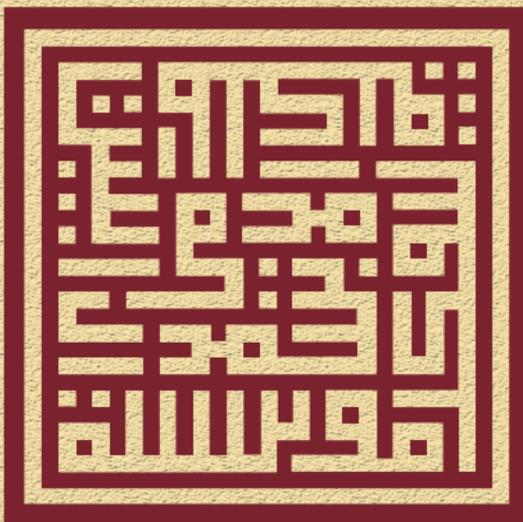


بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

THE
ROYAL AAL AL-BAYT
INSTITUTE FOR
ISLAMIC THOUGHT



2016

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

INTRODUCTION

Established in 1980, the Royal Aal al-Bayt Institute for Islamic Thought is an independent, international Islamic non-governmental organization (NGO) headquartered in Amman, Jordan with its own legislation. Since 2000 CE, H.R.H. Prince Ghazi bin Muhammad—*Chief Adviser* to H.M. King Abdullah *for Religious and Cultural Affairs* and *Personal Envoy* of H.M.—has been the Institute’s Chairman of the Board of Trustees. The Institute comprises a Royal Academy with roughly 100 senior fellows who include many of the world’s leading Islamic scholars from over 40 countries. It has two think tanks. It also hosts an impressive research library in its central premises in Amman.



VISION

The Royal Aal al-Bayt Institute for Islamic Thought (RABIIT) aims to promote traditional *usuli* Islam—the way of Prophetic beauty and wisdom—in the modern global village, where everyone is connected. By combining an elect cadre of scholars with historic initiatives, the Institute is arguably one of the leading—one of the most successful and influential—Islamic institutes in the world.

The Institute's aims are:

1. To spread knowledge of Islam and Islamic thought, reflect their luminous sides, contribute towards purifying Islamic culture of all adventitious elements, and correct misconceptions about Islam;
2. To present a modern, integrated Islamic conception of the values and systems of society, as well as to anticipate future developments and address the renewed problems and challenges of the time with practical Islamic solutions;
3. To present Islam's love of the Prophet Muhammad ﷺ and his family (the Aal al-Bayt) and their contribution to history and building of Islamic civilization, and to elaborate on their mission in *Da'wa* (call) to middle ground, moderation, and tolerance;
4. To assess Islamic contributions to knowledge and culture and the role of Islam in world progress and civilization; to undertake Islamic research in the various fields of human knowledge, and to revive Arab Islamic heritage and publish it;

5. To present an Islamic view of the methodology of various fields of knowledge, and to orientate Arab and Islamic universities and research centres in this regard;
6. To enhance dialogue and cooperation among the Islamic *madhahib* (schools of thought), and to bring them nearer together to achieve maximum rapprochement among their adherents in accordance with Shari'ah rules and its basic principles;
7. To establish strong contacts among Muslim scholars in order to enhance intellectual interplay among them, and to acquaint them with the conditions of Muslims all over the world; and
8. To cooperate with other academies, research centres, institutes, scholarly societies, and universities to further the aims of the Institute.

SOME SENIOR FELLOWS:

(Full list on p. 15)



Prof. Dr. Sheikh
Ahmad Muhammad
Al-Tayyeb, Egypt



Dr. Sheikh
Muhammad Taqi
Usmani, Pakistan



Sheikh Dr. Ali
Gomaa, Egypt



Amirul Mu'minin
Sheikh as Sultan
Muhammadu Sa'adu
Abubakar III, Nigeria



Sheikh Omar Bin
Muhammad Bin
Hafiz, Yemen



Prof. Dr. Sheikh Yusuf
Al-Qaradawi, Qatar

INITIATIVES

The Royal Aal al-Bayt Institute for Islamic Thought has facilitated initiatives that radiate outwards—from a core of traditional Sunni orthodoxy to intra- and inter-faith initiatives—and ultimately touch all people of good will (including those of no particular faith) in some initiatives, such as the World Interfaith Harmony Week.

(Continued from p. 3)



Sheikh Abdullah bin Bayyah, Mauritania



Prof. Dr. Seyyed Hossein Nasr, USA



Sheikh Hamza Yusuf Hanson, USA



Sheikh Habib Ali Zain Al Abideen Al Jifri, Yemen



Sheikh Ibrahim Saleh al-Hussaini, Nigeria



Prof. Dr. M Din Syamsuddin, Indonesia



Maulana Mahmood Madani, India



Dr. Aref Ali Ahmed Al-Nayed, Libya



Sheikh Usama Al-Sayyid Al-Azhari, Egypt



Prof. Dr. Sheikh Mustafa Ceric, Bosnia

ISLAM-FOCUSED INITIATIVES

ONGOING PROJECTS

AlTafsir Website

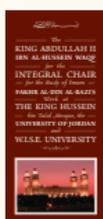
www.altafsir.com

AlTafsir.com is the world's largest (and free) Qur'anic exegesis resource online. It displays hundreds of works from all eight schools of Islamic scholarship, the rules of Qur'anic recitation, audio recordings of the Qur'an, translations of the Qur'an into 30 languages, and books on the historical context of revelation (*asbab al-nuzul*). In 2014, the website received over 15 million users.

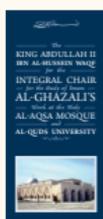


Professorial Chairs

In 2012, the Royal Aal al-Bayt Institute for Islamic Thought established two Integral Professorial Chairs for the study of the works of Imam Ghazali (in Al-Aqsa Mosque, Jerusalem) and Imam Razi (in the King Hussein Mosque, Amman).



Download:



Download:



The Amman Message

www.AmmanMessage.com



The Amman Message is one of the most seminal intra-faith initiatives of modern times. It represents a consensus among Muslims on three issues: the eight schools of thought of Islam, the core beliefs uniting all Muslims, and the recognition that the issuance of *fatwa* must be in accordance with a sound methodology based on one of these eight schools.

The Royal Islamic Strategic Studies Centre

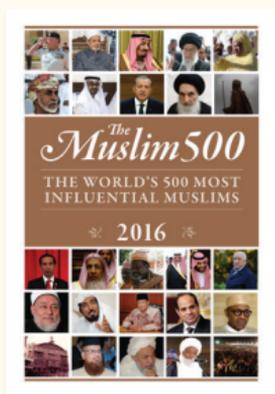
www.rissc.jo



The Royal Islamic Strategic Studies Centre is an independent research entity affiliated with the Royal Aal al-Bayt Institute for Islamic Thought. Its primary responsibilities include: supporting *The Amman Message*, publishing and translating books and annual reports, administration of the World Interfaith Harmony Week, and any religious initiative or project made by His Majesty King Abdullah II of Jordan.

The Muslim 500

www.TheMuslim500.com



Starting in 2009, *The Muslim 500*, the leading annual publication of the world's most influential Muslims, has been produced by the Royal Islamic Strategic Studies Centre. The publication covers influential Muslims from

a variety of spheres of influence, including: politics, scholarship, sports and entertainment, science and technology, and social service. Each biographical entry includes highlights about accomplishments, areas of influence, and school of thought (where relevant). It is a valuable resource for understanding living Muslim demographics and diversity.



First Seminar of the Catholic-Muslim Forum, the Vatican, 2008

INTERFAITH INITIATIVES

A Common Word

www.ACommonWord.com



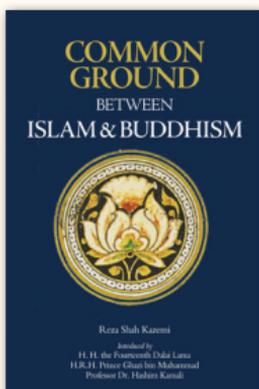
In 2007, the Royal Aal al-Bayt Institute for Islamic Thought facilitated the organization and publication of *A Common Word Between Us and You*, an open letter which was signed by 138 leading Muslim scholars and intellectuals (including such figures as the Grand Muftis of Egypt, Syria, Jordan, Oman, Bosnia, Russia, and Istanbul), to the leaders of Christian churches and denominations around the world, including Pope Benedict XVI, and became perhaps the most successful Muslim-Christian interfaith peace initiative in history.

The Catholic-Muslim Forum

Following the success of *A Common Word Between Us and You*, the first Catholic-Muslim forum was held in 2008, focusing on high-level discussions between the Vatican and Muslim leaders on ways in which Catholics and Muslims can work together to solve common problems. The forum is held every two to three years, alternating between Amman and the Vatican.

Common Ground Between Islam and Buddhism

www.IslamBuddhism.com



In 2010, the Dalai Lama and a panel of select scholars launched *Common Ground Between Islam and Buddhism*. The specific intention and goal of this endeavour was to identify a spiritual common ground (authentically based on the religious sacred texts of Islam and Buddhism) between Muslims and Buddhists that would enable both communities to love and respect each other not merely as human beings in general, but also as Muslims and Buddhists in particular. The Common Ground initiative is significant in that it represents a scholarly interfaith initiative where Muslims reach out to adherents of a non-Abrahamic tradition.

WIHOW STATISTICS

- 408** Letters of Support
- 627+** Events in 2016
- 1009** Events in 2015
- 409** Events in 2014
- 363** Events in 2013
- 290** Events in 2012
- 213** Events in 2011
- 6** Historic Weeks

The World Interfaith Harmony Week (WIHW)

www.WorldInterfaithHarmonyWeek.com

Later in 2010, after the launch of the Common Ground initiative, H.R.H. Prince Ghazi bin Muhammad crafted the idea of an all-inclusive global interfaith event: the World Interfaith Harmony Week.



H.M. King Abdullah II
at the U.N.

Focusing on two principles—the love of God (or the Good) and the love of the Neighbour—the initiative was proposed by H.M. King Abdullah II to the United Nations and immediately adopted. It is held during the first week of February every year.

Far from being an exercise in syncretism or unifying divergent beliefs, the World Interfaith Harmony Week emphasizes core commonality despite fundamental differences. People around the world can relate to loving God (or the Good) and loving their neighbours despite their differences. RABIIT also awards prizes

to each of the three best events or texts organized in honour of the United Nations' WIHW. The prizes are: \$25,000 and a gold medal; \$15,000 and a silver medal; and \$5,000 and a bronze medal.



WIHW Prize Logo

NEW PROJECTS

Sirah Timeline

Headed by H.E. Professor Ali Gomaa, the Sirah Timeline (*Yawmiyyat*) aims at presenting an authentic timeline of major events in the life of the Prophet Muhammad ﷺ. Over 200 events from the Sirah (Prophetic biography) will be fully described—indexed by Hijri and Gregorian dates—including biographical entries for each event’s participants and notes on historical and geographical sites (e.g. geographical coordinates) of importance in the Sirah.



Prof. Ali Gomaa

WISE University & Imam Training College

www.wise.edu.jo

The Royal Aal al-Bayt Institute for Islamic Thought established the World Islamic Sciences and Education (WISE) University in 2007. It offers programs in traditional Islamic and Arabic studies from undergraduate to doctoral studies. In 2015, it had approximately 7,000 students. In 2016, the King Abdullah II bin Al-Hussein College for the



Training of Imams was established to offer bespoke imam training. Programs of study support traditional and academic qualifications. Traditional studies focus on the student earning an *ijaza* (license to teach) while academic programs start from a Bachelor of Arts in Shari'ah to a PhD program.

Download the Brochure:



(Continued from p. 4)



Dr. Ingrid Mattson,
Canada



Sheikh Nuh
Keller, Jordan



Sheikh Dr. Abdal
Hakim Murad
Winter, United
Kingdom



Sayyid Al-Sadiq
Al-Mahdi, Sudan



Prof. Dr. Taha Jabir
Alalwani, Iraq



Dr. Murad Hofmann,
Germany



Prof. Dr. Muhammad
Hashem Kamali,
Malaysia



Sheikh Dr. Salman
bin Fahd ibn
Abdullah Al Awda,
Saudi Arabia



Dr. Mohammad
Tariq Al-Saleh
Al-Sweidan, Kuwait



Prof. Dr. Mustafa
Abu Sway, Palestine

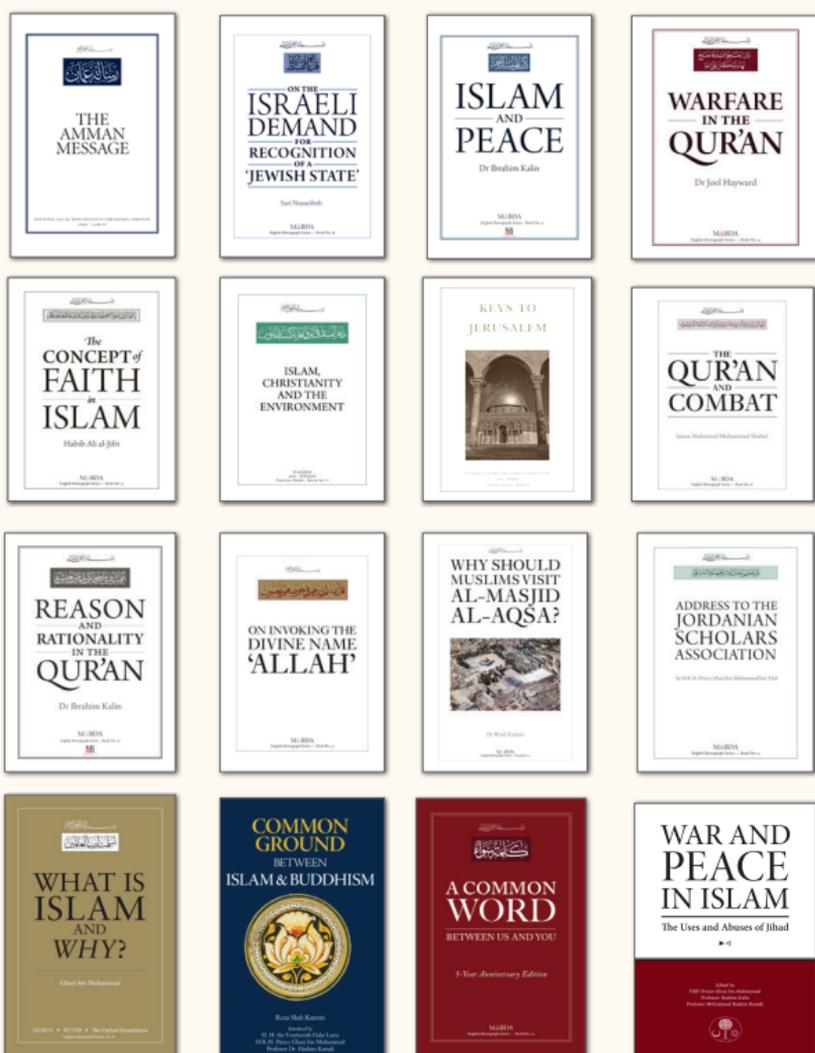
CONFERENCES

The Royal Aal al-Bayt Institute's Academy has held 18 international conferences since its inception, including: *Love in Islam* (2007) and *The Road to Jerusalem* (2014). Each conference addresses a pertinent contemporary area of research affecting Muslims or Islamic thought. The Academy's members present papers on various aspects of the issue at hand, and a formal report is produced after each conference.



PUBLICATIONS

The Royal Aal al-Bayt Institute for Islamic Thought has published 111 titles in Arabic and English. Its subsidiary, the Royal Islamic Strategic Studies Centre, has published 36 titles in Arabic and 31 in English, with more publications being produced every year. The publications include a vast span of topics, including: classical Islamic theology and its related disciplines, modern Islamic political theory, interfaith initiatives, and expositions of cultural and historical importance.



SENIOR FELLOWS:

| | |
|---|-------------------|
| 1. H.R.H. Prince Ghazi bin Muhammad bin Talal | Jordan |
| 2. Prof. Dr. Abd Al-Karim Khalifa | Jordan |
| 3. Prof. Dr. Ahmad Talib Ibrahimi | Algeria |
| 4. Prof. Dr. Ammar Al-Talibi | Algeria |
| 5. Prof. Dr. Ahmad Kamal Abu Al-Majd | Egypt |
| 6. Prof. Ibrahim Chabbouh | Tunisia |
| 7. Prof. Dr. Sheikh Ekmeleddin Ihsanoghlu | Turkey |
| 8. Prof. Dr. Muddathir Abdel-Rahim Al-Tayyib | Sudan |
| 9. Dr. Sheikh Al-Islam Allah-Shakur bin Hemmat Bashazada | Azerbaijan |
| 10. Prof. Dr. Khurshid Ahmad | Pakistan |
| 11. Prof. Dr. Abbas Al-Jarari | Morocco |
| 12. Prof. Dr. Abdullah Yusuf Al-Ghoneim | Kuwait |
| 13. Prof. Dr. Ali Al-Shamlan | Kuwait |
| 14. Prof. Dr. Muhammad Ahmad Al-Sharif | Libya |
| 15. Prof. Dr. Muhammad Al-Mukhtar Wild Abah | Mauritania |
| 16. Prof. Dr. Mahdi Mohghegh | Iran |
| 17. Prof. Dr. Sheikh Yusuf Al-Qaradawi | Egypt |
| 18. Prof. Dr. Abu Al-Hasan Sadeq | Bangladesh |
| 19. Prof. Dr. Omar Jah | Gambia |
| 20. Prof. Dr. Abdul-Salam Al-Abbadi | Jordan |
| 21. Prof. Dr. Bashar Awwad Marouf | Jordan |
| 22. Prof. Dr. Taha Jabir Alalwani | Iraq |
| 23. Prof. Dr. Muhammad Farouk Al-Nabhan | Syria |
| 24. Prof. Dr. Hisham Nashabeh | Lebanon |
| 25. Pehin Dato Haji Abdul Aziz Juned | Brunei Darussalam |
| 26. Prof. Dr. Ahmad Matloub | Iraq |
| 27. Dr. Abdulaziz Othman Al-Twajjri | Saudi Arabia |

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| 28. Prof. Dr. Said Hibatullah Kamilev | Russian Federation |
| 29. Prof. Dr. Khalid Al-Karaki | Jordan |
| 30. Prof. Dr. Seyyed Hossein Nasr | USA |
| 31. Prof. Dr. Muhammad Adnan Al-Bakhit | Jordan |
| 32. Dr. Murad Hofmann | Germany |
| 33. Prof. Dr. Zafar Ishaq Ansari | Pakistan |
| 34. Prof. Dr. Ali Auzak | Turkey |
| 35. Prof. Dr. Syed Muhammad Naquib Al-Attas | Malaysia |
| 36. Prof. Dr. Muhammad bin Sharifa | Morocco |
| 37. Dr. Muhammad Amara | Egypt |
| 38. Sheikh Ahmad bin Hamad Al-Khalili | Oman |
| 39. Prof. Dr. Sheikh Ahmad Hlayyel | Jordan |
| 40. Prof. Enes Karic | Bosnia-Herzegovina |
| 41. Dr. Bu Abdullah Al Ghulam Allah | Algeria |
| 42. H.H. Prince Ja'far Al-Sadeq Mofaddal Saiful-Din | India |
| 43. Prof. Dr. Hasan Hanafi | Egypt |
| 44. Dr. Reza Shah-Kazemi | United Kingdom |
| 45. Prof. Dr. Ridwan Al-Sayyid | Lebanon |
| 46. Prof. Rusmir Mahmutcehajic | Bosnia-Herzegovina |
| 47. Sheikh Sa'id Hijjawi | Jordan |
| 48. Prof. Dr. S Abdallah Schleifer | USA |
| 49. Prof. Dr. Osman Bakar | Malaysia |
| 50. Prof. Dr. Izzedine Umar Musa | Sudan |
| 51. Sheikh Ali Al-Hashim | United Arab Emirates |
| 52. Ayatollah Sheikh Muhammad Ali Taskhiri | Iran |
| 53. Prof. Dr. Mostafa Mohaghegh Damad | Iran |
| 54. Prof. Dr. Yahya Mahmud ibn Junayd | Saudi Arabia |
| 55. Sheikh Hasan Al-Saqqaf | Jordan |
| 56. Prof. Dr. Ishaq Farhan | Jordan |
| 57. Qadi Bola Ajibola | Nigeria |

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| 58. Sheikh Dr. Abdal Hakim Murad Winter | UK |
| 59. Prof. Dr. Fadil Al-Samerrai | Iraq |
| 60. Prof. Dr. Muhammad Hashem Kamali | Malaysia |
| 61. Sheikh Nuh Keller | Jordan |
| 62. Prof. Dr. Sheikh Mustafa Ceric | Bosnia-Herzegovina |
| 63. Prof. Dr. Sheikh Ahmad Muhammad Al-Tayyeb | Egypt |
| 64. Dr. Sheikh Hussain Hassan Abakar | Chad |
| 65. H.E. Sayyid Al-Sadiq Al-Mahdi | Sudan |
| 66. Prof. Dr. Abdel-Kabeer Al-Alawi Al-Madghari | Morocco |
| 67. His Eminence Sheikh Abdullah bin Bayyah | Mauritania |
| 68. Prof. Dr. Abd Al-Wahhab Ibrahim Abu Sulayman | Saudi Arabia |
| 69. Prof. Dr. Ali Gomaa | Egypt |
| 70. Sheikh Habib Ali Zain Al Abideen Al Jifri | Yemen |
| 71. Dr. Sheikh Muhammad Taqi Usmani | Pakistan |
| 72. Prof. Dr. Muhammad Salim Al-Awwa | Egypt |
| 73. Sheikh Mahmoud Madani | India |
| 74. H.E. Prof. Dr. Mustafa Cagrici | Turkey |
| 75. Prof. Dr. Al-Hadi Al-Bakkoush | Tunisia |
| 76. Dr. Ingrid Mattson | Canada |
| 77. Dr. Aref Ali Ahmed Al-Nayed | Libya |
| 78. Dr. Muhammad Bechari | France |
| 79. Sheikh Dr. Ahmad Badr al-Din Hassoun | Syria |
| 80. Sheikh Hamza Yusuf Hanson | USA |
| 81. Sheikh Dr. Salman bin Fahd ibn Abdullah Al Awda | Saudi Arabia |
| 82. Dr. Mohammad Tariq Al-Saleh Al-Sweidan | Kuwait |
| 83. Dr. Amr Khalid | Egypt |
| 84. Professor Dr. Mohammad Sirajuddin Syamsuddin | Indonesia |

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|---|-----------|
| 85. Dr. Mohammad Tahir Qadiri | Pakistan |
| 86. Dr. Nasaruddin Umar | Indonesia |
| 87. Dr. Ibrahim Kalen | Turkey |
| 88. Prof. Dr. Bakr Zaki Awad | Egypt |
| 89. Sheikh Omar Bin Muhammad Bin Hafiz | Yemen |
| 90. Sheikh Muhammad Ahmad Hussein | Palestine |
| 91. His Royal Emminence Alhaji Muhammad Sa'ad Abubakar III | Nigeria |
| 92. Prof. Dr. Mustafa Abu Sway | Palestine |
| 93. Prof. Dr. Farouk Aref Hasan | Palestine |
| 94. Prof. Dr. Ahmad al-Kubaisi | Iraq |
| 95. Sheikh Dr. Usama al-Sayyid al-Azhari | Egypt |
| 96. Sheikh Ibrahim Saleh al-Hussaini | Nigeria |

CONTACT INFORMATION

The Royal Aal al-Bayt Institute for Islamic Thought
P.O. Box 950361

Amman

11195 Jordan

Tel: +962 6 5344570

Fax: +962 6 5344981

E mail: aalalbayt@aalalbayt.org

WEBSITES

The Royal Aal al-Bayt Institute for Islamic Thought

www.aalalbayt.org

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Common Ground Between Islam and Buddhism

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