

ZEKI SARITOPRAK, PH.D.
Department of Theology and Religious Studies
John Carroll University
University Heights, OH 44118
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zsaritoprak@jcu.edu

EDUCATION

THE UNIVERSITY OF MARMARA, Istanbul, Turkey

Ph.D. in Islamic Theology, Institute of Social Sciences, 1991

Dissertation: *The Antichrist (al-Dajjal) in Islamic Theology*

Examines the concept of *al-Dajjal* in the main sources of Islam, in particular the Qur'an, the Hadith, and their exegeses. Includes specific analysis of Judeo-Christian influences.

Advisor: Dr. Bekir Topaloglu (Professor of Islamic Theology at The University of Marmara's Divinity School and the editor of *The Encyclopedia of Islam*, Turkish)

M. A. in Islamic Theology and Philosophy, 1985

Thesis: *Creating (al-Takwin), as an Attribute of God According to Abu al-Mu'īn al-Nasafī* (d. 1114 CE).

Examines the debate on the attributes of God between the two major schools of Islamic thought—the Maturidite and the Ḥasharite.

B. A. in Islamic Theology and Islamic Law, 1983

Exit Thesis: *The Aesthetic Argument of Kalam on the Existence of God*.

LANGUAGES

Turkish (modern and Ottoman): Native fluency, both written and oral

Kurdish: Native fluency, both written and oral

Arabic (modern and classical): Fluency, both written and oral

English: Advanced proficiency, both written and oral

Persian: Proficiency, both written and oral

Syriac: Research competency, written, basic knowledge.

TEACHING AND PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

JOHN CARROLL UNIVERSITY, Cleveland, OH

Associate Professor of Islamic Studies, September 2007-present

Bediüzzaman Said Nursi Chair in Islamic Studies, September 2003-present

Assistant Professor of Islamic Studies, August 2003-present

Visiting Assistant Professor of Islamic Studies, August 2002-August 2003

BERRY COLLEGE, Mount Berry, GA

Visiting Assistant Professor of World Religions and Islamic Studies,

August 2001-August 2002

THE RUMI FORUM FOR INTERFAITH DIALOGUE, Washington, DC**Founder and President**, August 1999- August 2001**Facilitator** of monthly interfaith discussions on scholarly religious topics**Organizer** of quarterly conferences dealing with interfaith dialogue**Sponsor** of interfaith projects, in cooperation with Georgetown University and The Catholic University of America**Lecturer** in Islam (introductory course)**GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY, Washington, DC****Research Associate/Fellow**, the Center for Muslim-Christian Understanding, August 1998-August 2001**Researcher** on Islam in Turkey**Author/Translator** of several publications covering various topics on comparative monotheistic religions (see publications section)**THE CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY OF AMERICA, Washington, DC****Faculty Associate**, Department of Semitic and Egyptian Languages, June 1997-June 2000**Researcher** on Fethullah Gülen (a contemporary Scholar of Islam) and his interfaith activism.**THE UNIVERSITY OF HARRAN, Sanliurfa, Turkey****Assistant Professor** of Islam, School of Divinity, January 1992-January 1996**Chair** of the Department of Islamic Philosophy and Theology**Editor** of the *Journal of the School of Divinity (Ilahiyat Fakültesi Dergisi)***AWARDS AND HONORS**

McGregor Award to develop a course on Islam and Environment, 2013

2012 CrossCurrents Research Colloquium Fellowship; awarded for my proposal for a “The Spiritual Dimension of Islam in the Workings of the Gülen Movement.” 2012

Grael Fellowship, awarded for fall 2007.

One of 25 Muslim scholars invited to participate in Pope Benedict XVI’s “Interreligious Gathering” in Washington, D.C., April 17, 2008.

Invited as one of the scholars to meet with President Bush during his press conference on marriage and family.

Distinguished Scholarship Award from Australian Catholic University, Melbourne, Summer 2007

Niagara Foundation Grant for Faculty Development in Turkey, Summer 2005

Templeton Foundation Grant for Consulting in Islamic Medical Ethics, Rockville, MD, 1997

Honors Fellow of the University of Fatih, Istanbul, Turkey, 1994-1995

Graduate Student Fund Travel Grant (to Mainz, Germany), 1987

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

American Academy of Religion, 1997-present

Middle East Studies Association, 1997-present

Association of Islamic Social Scientists, 2001-present

Niagara Foundation, member of advisory board 2007-present

INTERVIEWS

MICHAEL BIRKEL, EARLHAM COLLEGE IN RICHMOND, IN

- Interviewed by Professor Birkel for a book project about how the Qur'an is understood by Muslim leaders in North America. The interview was conducted via email in August and September 2012

CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE, WASHINGTON, DC

- Interviewed by Dennis Sadowski for article, "Catholics, Muslims Begin to Value How Much They Share Across Faiths," 5 February 2009.

DAVID C BARNET, WVIZ, CLEVELAND, OH

- Interviewed for a story "Northeast Ohio Muslims Seek to Overturn Stereotypes," 4 September 2009. <http://www.ideastream.org/news/feature/27695>

THOMAS MICHEL, GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY

- Interviewed for his *America* article entitled "An Unusual Partnership: Islamic Scholars at Jesuit Universities," 15 September 2008.

EBRU TV, SOMERSET, NJ

- Interviewed regarding the Nursi Conference, October 2011
- Interview on the concept of God in Islam
<http://www.media.ebru.tv/download.php?f=%2Fclips%2FPerspectives+on+Faith%2FPerspectives+on+Faith%2C0%2C01%2CDr+Zeki+Saritoprak.wmv&u=&t=1250061042&h=9473321277c870b1e196703621c552c2>
- Interviewed along with Professor Khalid Blankinship for television feature on Ramadan's importance for Muslims, 27 August 2008
- Interviewed for a television feature on the concept of prophethood in Islam, 7 July 2007.

THE PLAIN DEALER, CLEVELAND, OH

- Interviewed by Robert Smith, "Public Scrutiny is Underway for New Imam," 29 September 2007.
- Interviewed by Frank Bentayou, "Give and Take: What others owe those in need is crucial question after Katrina," 3 September 2005.
- Interviewed by David Briggs, "Pope affected other faiths," 5 April 2005
- Interviewed by David Briggs, "The Healing Balm of a Poet's Words," 15 October 2004.
- Interviewed about the Whirling Dervishes, "Spiritual Spinners," 21 September 2004.

ABC RADIO, MELBOURNE, AUSTRALIA

- Interviewed by Rachel Cohen during the "Spirit Things" program about 13th century Muslim mystic Mawlana Jalal al-din Rum. 26 July 2007.
- Interviewed by Margaret Coffey during the "Encounter" program about Fethullah Gülen. 7 October 2007. <http://www.abc.net.au/radionational/programs/encounter/fethullah-gulen/3224814#transcript>

THE CARROLL NEWS, UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS, OH

- Interviewed by Maria Roberts for article, "Doctor Jailed for Revealing Ultrasound," 6 April 2006.

- Interviewed on women's rights in Saudi Arabia, September 2011

THE WASHINGTON POST, WASHINGTON, DC

- Interviewed by Caryle Murphy about Ramadan and the Turkish understanding of Sufism, 4 October 2005.

THE MUSLIM WORLD, HARTFORD, CT

- Interviewed His Honor Fethullah Gulen, "An Interview with Fethullah Gulen," Vol. 95, July 2005, pp. 447-67.

RADIO AUSTRALIA, MELBOURNE, AUSTRALIA

- Interviewed about dialogue and Islam, 30 May 2005.

JOHN CARROLL UNIVERSITY JOURNAL, UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS, OH

- Interview on establishment of Nursi Chair in Islamic Studies by Jerry Pockar, April 2004, pp. 8-9.

THE SAN FRANCISCO CHRONICLE, SAN FRANCISCO, CA

- Interviewed by Jonathan Curiel on Sufism in Islam, 2 November 2004.

AL-SAHAFI: AN ARAB-AMERICAN NEWSPAPER, CLEVELAND, OH

- Interview by Mark Hopkins, "In Rumi's Words," November 2004.

WCLV TV, CLEVELAND, OH

- Interviewed about Rumi and the Whirling Dervishes, 13 September 2004.

STV, ISTANBUL, TURKEY

- Interviewed about the Constitution of Medina and multiculturalism in Islam, 2 July 2004.

THE VOICE OF AMERICA, WASHINGTON, DC

- Interviewee on Rumi and Sufism and contemporary followers of Rumi's legacy, 14 April 2004.
- Interviewee on "Modern Islamic Movements and the Kurdish Problem in Turkey," February 1999.

UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN, DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY, AUSTIN, TX

- Interviewee, Documentary film: "The Faces of Islam," 8 September 2002.

ROME NEWS TRIBUNE, ROME, GA

- Interviewee, "Turkish Professor: Standing united will confound terrorists," 16 September, 2001.

PUBLICATIONS

BOOKS

Islam's Jesus (University of Florida, forthcoming)

Islam and Christian-Muslim Relations, Special Issue on Bediüzzaman Said Nursi, vol. 19, no. 1, January 2008. (guest editor)

Islam in Contemporary Turkey: The Contributions of Fethullah Gülen, Special Issue of *The Muslim World Journal*, vol. 95, no. 3, July 2005. (guest editor)

Fundamentals of Rumi's Thought: A Mevlevi Sufi Perspective (Sefik Can), New Jersey, The Light, 2004; second edition, 2005. (editor and translator)

Critical Edition of al-Sarakhsi's (d.1100 CE) Sifat Ashrat al-Sa'a (Islamic Eschatology). (Cairo: Dar al-Kalima al-Tayyiba, 1993) (Arabic).

Al-Dajjal in Islamic Creed (Istanbul: Yeni Asya, 1992) (Turkish).

Encyclopedia of the Companions of the Prophet (vols. I-II), (Istanbul: Yeni Asya, 1989) (Turkish). Co-authored with Mehmet Paksu, et. al.

The People of Suffa (Ashab al-Suffa), (Istanbul: Yeni Asya, 1988) (Turkish).

Co-authored eight pocket-sized books for the *Divinity Series*, Yeni Asya (New Asia), 1983-1987.

BOOK CHAPTERS:

"Nursi on Theodicy and the Problem of Evil," in *God, Man and Morality*, (forthcoming).

"Islam: An Insider's Perspective," in *World Religions in Dialogue*. ed. Pim Valkenberg, (Winona, MN: Anselm Academic, 2013): 93-125.

"Muslims' Perception of Fethullah Gulen and the Hizmet Movement: Accommodating or Hindering Modern Turkey," in *Alternative Islamic Discourses and Religious Authority*, eds. Carool Kersten and Susanne Olsson, (Surrey, Eng. and Burlington, VT: Ashgate, 2013): 55-74.

"Dialogue between Muslims and Christians: Qur'anic Guidance, Historical Precedence, and Contemporary Prospects in the United States," in *Can Muslims and Christian Resolve Their Religious and Social Conflicts?: Cases from Africa and the United States*. eds. Brian E. Stiltner and Marinus C. Iwuchukwu, (Lewiston, Queenston, and Lampeter: Edwin Mellen, 2013): 243-263.

"Muslim Reflection," in *Interfaith Just Peacemaking: Jewish, Christian, and Muslim Perspectives on the New Paradigm of Peace and War*, ed. Susan Brooks Thistlethwaite, (New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2012): 43-49.

- “Fethullah Gülen and His Theology of Social Responsibility,” in *Mastering Knowledge in Modern Times: Fethullah Gülen As an Islamic Scholar*, ed. Ismail Albayrak, (New York: Blue Dome, 2011): 85-96.
- “Reconciliation: An Islamic Theological Approach,” in *Reconciliation in Interfaith Perspective: Jewish, Christian and Muslim Voices*, eds. Reimund Bieringer and David J. Bolton, (Leuven: Peeters, 2011): 75-92.
- “Fethullah Gülen’s Theology of Peace Building,” in *Islam and Peace Building: Gülen Movement Initiatives*, eds. John Esposito and Ihsan Yilmaz, (New York: Blue Dome, 2010): 169-87.
- “Said Nursi’s Paradigm of Islamic Non-violence,” in *Crescent and Dove: Peace and Conflict Resolution in Islam*, ed. Quamar-UI Huda. (United States Institute of Peace: Washington D.C., 2010): 95-106.
- “How Commentators of the Qur’an Define ‘Common Word,’” in *A Common Word and the Future of Christian-Muslim Relations*, ed. John Borelli with a foreword by John L. Esposito, (ACMCU Occasional Papers, June 2009): 34-45.
- “Bediüzzaman Said Nursi,” in *The Islamic World*, ed. Andrew Rippin, (London and New York: Routledge, 2008): 396-402.
- “Fethullah Gülen: A Sufi in his Own Way,” in *Turkish Islam and the Secular State: the Gülen Movement*, eds. M. Hakan Yavuz and John L. Esposito, (University of Syracuse Press, 2003): 156-169.
- “The Mahdi Question According to Bediüzzaman Said Nursi,” in *Third International Symposium on Bediüzzaman Said Nursi 2* (1995): 483-497.

ARTICLES

- “The Qur’anic Perspective on Immigrants: Prophet Muhammad’s Migration and Its Implications in Our Modern Society” *Journal of Scriptural Reasoning* 10.1 (2011).
<http://etext.virginia.edu/journals/ssr/issues/volume10/number1/index.html>.
- “Revisiting Islamic Eschatology: The Knowledge of ‘The Hour’ and Its Imminence in the Qur’an” *Arc: The Journal of the Faculty of Religious Studies* McGill University, 39 (2011): 67-78.
- “The Nature and Dignity of the Human Person From an Islamic Theological Perspective” *Chicago Studies*, 50.1 (Spring 2011): 27-38.
- “Impressions from the Gülen Conference in Los Angeles.” *Today’s Zaman*, (December 12, 2009).
- “Local Muslim Professor Among Faith Leaders to Meet Pope,” *Cleveland.com* (July 27, 2008).
- “Impressions Upon Meeting the Pope,” *Today’s Zaman* (May 30, 2008) (also published in Turkish as “Papa’nın ABD Ziyaretinden İzlenimler”).
- Editorial, *Islam and Christian-Muslim Relations* 19.1 (2008): 3-4.

- “Said Nursi on Muslim-Christian Relations Leading to World Peace” *Islam and Muslim-Christian Relations*, 9 (January 2008): 25-38.
- “Islam and Politics in the Light of Said Nursi’s Writings” *Islam and Muslim-Christian Relations*, 9 (January 2008): 113-127.
- “Gülen and his Global Contribution to Peace Building” (op-ed) *Today’s Zaman* (October 31, 2007).
- “Bediüzzaman’ı Düşünürken (Thinking of Bediüzzaman Said Nursi)” in *Üstad Bediüzzaman Asrin Ruh ve Beyin Mimari (Bediüzzaman: The Spirit of the Century)*. Istanbul, Nil: 2007: 24-27.
- “Hz. Peygamber’in Merhamiti (The Mercy of the Prophet)” in *Gönüllerin Güllü Efendimiz, Sallallâhu Aleyhi Ve Sellem (The Prophet Muhammad, Blessings and Peace Be upon him)*. Istanbul, Nil: 2007: 55-58.
- “An Islamic Approach to Peace and Nonviolence,” reprinted in *The Houston Catholic Worker*, July-August, 2006.
- “Muslims, Cartoons and the Freedom of Expression,” *Zaman* (March 2006).
- “Love: The Reason for the Creation of the Universe,” *Fountain* 49 (2005): 27-29.
- “The Creation of Evil is not Evil: Nursi’s Theological Approach to the Existence of Evil,” *Fountain* 50 (2005) 26-28.
- “Fethullah Gulen and the ‘People of the Book’: A Voice from Turkey for Interfaith Dialogue,” *The Muslim World* 95 (July 2005). (Co-authored with Sidney Griffith)
- “An Islamic Approach to Peace and Nonviolence: A Turkish Experience,” *The Muslim World* 95 (July 2005).
- “Pope worked to improve Catholic-Muslim relations,” *The Plain Dealer* (April 9, 2005).
- “The Legend of *al-Dajjal* (Antichrist): The Personification of Evil in the Islamic Tradition,” *The Muslim World* 93 (April 2003): 291-307.
- “An Islamic Approach to Nature: A Book to be Contemplated,” *The Fountain* (October-December, 2002): 32-35.
- “The Mahdi Tradition in Islam: A Social-Cognitive Approach” *Islamic Studies* 41 (2002): 651-674.
- “Said Nursi’s Teachings on the People of the Book: a Case Study of Islamic Social Policy in the Early Twentieth Century,” *Islam and Christian-Muslim Relations* 11 (2000): 321-332.
- “The Eschatological Descent of Jesus: Muslim Views,” *The Fountain* (January-March, 2000): 10-19.

“A Critical Approach to the Islamic *Kalam*,” *The University of Harran’s Quarterly* (July 1997): 60-71. (Turkish)

“God and His Most Beautiful Names As Presented by the Sufi Orders,” *Kopru* (1995): 80-92. (Turkish)

“Abraham’s Method of Understanding *Tawhid*,” *Yeni Harran Cevresi* (New Harran Environment) (1995): 3-10. (Turkish)

“The Mahdism According to the Sunnite Doctrine,” *Yeni Dergi* (1995): 62-74. (Turkish)

“Islam in Germany,” *al-Azhar Journal* (1992): 712-718. (Arabic)

ENCYCLOPEDIA and BIBLIOGRAPHY ENTRIES

“Abu Bakr al-Siddiq.” *Bibliographies* in “Islamic Studies.” Ed. Andrew Rippin. New York: Oxford University Press, expected 2014.

“Mary in Islam.” *Bibliographies* in “Islamic Studies.” Ed. Andrew Rippin. New York: Oxford University Press, expected 2014.

“Said Nursi.” *Oxford Bibliographies* in “Islamic Studies.” Ed. Andrew Rippin. New York: Oxford University Press, 2011.

<http://oxfordbibliographiesonline.com/view/document/obo-9780195390155/obo-9780195390155-0147.xml>

“Allah,” *The Qur’an: An Encyclopedia*, Taylor & Francis (2005): 33-41.

“Eschatology,” *The Qur’an: An Encyclopedia*, Taylor & Francis (2005): 194-199.

“Rod,” *Encyclopedia of the Qur’an* 5, Brill (2005): 508-509.

“Sand,” *Encyclopedia of the Qur’an* 5, Brill (2005): 530-531.

“Fethullah Gulen,” *The Encyclopedia of Religion and Nature* 1, Continuum Press (2005): 729-30.

“The Qur’an” *The Encyclopedia of Religion and Nature* 2, Continuum Press (2005): 1321-25.

“al-Dajjal,” (The Antichrist) *Islam Ansiklopedisi* 9 (1994): 67-72. (Turkish)

“Dabba al-Ardh,” (The Eschatological Beast) *Islam Ansiklopedisi* 8 (1993): 393-395. (Turkish)

BOOK REVIEWS

Adil Ozdemir and Kenneth Frank. *Visible Islam in Modern Turkey*. (New York: Macmillan Press, 2000.) *Islamic Studies* 41. Spring 2002. Pp. 137-140.

TALKS, LECTURES, AND OTHER PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

CHAUTAUQUA INSTITUTE, Chautauqua, NY

Lecture: as part of a series called Turkey: Crossroads of Many Faiths, 16 Aug 2013

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aRqP99Z4N8o>

NAZARETH COLLEGE, Rochester, NY

Paper Presentation: “Revisiting the Qur’an’s Chapter 49:13” on a panel titled “Thematic Readings: Nation, Person, and Nature” at the Sacred Texts and Human Contexts Symposium, 23-25 June 2013

JOHN CARROLL UNIVERSITY, University Heights, OH

Organizer and Speaker: Organized the Freedom of Expression and Respect for the Sacred conference and presented a paper at the conference entitled “Sacredness from an Islamic Theological Perspective,” 13 April 2013

SHAKER HEIGHTS HIGH SCHOOL

Lecture: On Turkey, 4 March 2013

MENORAH PARK CENTER FOR SENIOR LIVING, Beachwood, OH.

Participant: Four Chaplains Memorial Service, 1 March 2013

NIAGARA FOUNDATION, Chicago, IL

Lecture: “Religions in Turkiye and the Gulen Movement” for the 2013 study Turkiye Program, 22 February 2013

UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH, Pittsburgh, PA

Lecture: “Prophet Muhammad and the Universality of His Message, 11 February 2013

NIAGARA FOUNDATION-CLEVELAND, Lakewood, OH

Lecture: on altruism at the 5th annual dinner of Abrahamic Traditions, 6 February 2013

ANDOVER NEWTON THEOLOGICAL SCHOOL, Boston, MA

Keynote Address: “How Does Inner Peace Result in Outer Peace?” at the 2nd National Babtist-Muslim Dialogue, 30 November-2 December 2012

INSTITUTE FOR CHRISTIAN & JEWISH STUDIES, Baltimore, MD

Participant: Abraham’s Children Academic Consultation, 21-23 October 2012

JOHN CARROLL UNIVERSITY, University Heights, OH

Discussant: Faith and Food program, 17 October 2012

JOHN CARROLL UNIVERSITY, University Heights, OH

Invoker: Fall Faculty Meeting, 10 October 2012

CATHOLIC THEOLOGICAL UNION, Chicago, IL

Moderator: for a discussion session entitled: “*Living Our Faiths Together: The Experience of God in Modern Culture*” at the Muslim-Catholic National Plenary, 3-5 October 2012

2012 CROSSCURRENTS RESEARCH COLLOQUIUM, New York, NY

Lecture: “The Spiritual Dimension of Islam in the Workings of the Gülen Movement” and made an additional presentation, 2-26 July 2012

THE ISLAMIC CENTER OF AKRON, Stow, OH

Lecture: “The Qur’an and Violence,” organized by St. Peter Community Church, 25 April 2012

THE CLEVELAND COUNCIL ON WORLD AFFAIRS, Independence, OH

Lecture: on Islam and politics in Turkey, 23 April 2012

ST. PASCHAL BAYLON CATHOLIC CHURCH, Highland Heights, OH

Lecture: on Islam and friendship, 9 April 2012

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

Lecture: with Peter Kreeft of Boston College: “Between Muhammad and Jesus: a dialogue with Peter Kreeft and Zeki Saritoprak,” 8 March 2012

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EdTQNh5CQOM>

WESTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY, Macomb, IL

Lecture: “Rumi: A Paragon of Love,” 7 March 2012

SIEGAL COLLEGE, Beachwood, OH

Lecture: on the Islamic approach to the environment to a class named “Exploration of the Abrahamic Faiths in Relationship to the Environmental Crisis” 28 February 2012

FEDERATED CHURCH, Chagrin Falls, OH

Lecture: “Abraham in the Qur’an,” 22 January 2012

OHIO DOMINICAN UNIVERSITY, Columbus, OH

Lecture: the Islamic perspective on the importance of education, 19 January 2012

ST. ALBAN EPISCOPAL CHURCH, Cleveland Heights, OH

Lecture: “Common Themes of the Qur’an and the Bible,” 8 January 2012

JOHN CARROLL UNIVERSITY, University Heights, OH

Conference: “Challenges to Contemporary Islam: The Muslim World 100 Years After Nursi’s Damascus Sermon”

Organizer and Panelist: “Is the Human Person innately Good? Nursi’s Theology of Human Nature,” 23-25 October 2011.

CATHOLIC THEOLOGICAL UNION, Chicago, IL

Participant: The Midwest Muslim Catholic Dialogue, 9-10 October 2011

CASE WESTERN RESERVE UNIVERSITY, Cleveland, OH

Discussant: Together with scholars from CWRU and from Siegal College on the film “My So-Called Enemy,” 28 August 2011

MACQUARIE UNIVERSITY, Sydney, Australia

Panelist: “Root causes of Barriers for Change and Development in the Muslim World.” The panel was titled: “Towards greater freedom and democracy in the Muslim world,” 16 July 2011

MACQUARIE UNIVERSITY, Sidney, Australia

Lecture: To inaugurate a new program in Islamic studies to be jointly taught by Macquarie and the Islamic Sciences and Research Academy Australia, 15 July 2011

UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN SIDNEY, Sidney, Australia

Conference: “Enrichment of a Socially Inclusive Society: Challenges and Solutions”

Keynote Speaker: “An Islamic Ethical approach to Hospitality in a Pluralistic Society,” 12 July 2011

ISABEL MENTON THEATRE, Sidney, Australia

Conference: “Abraham for the Twenty-First Century”

Respondent and Lecturer: Served as a Muslim respondent to the keynote speech given by Dr. Daniel A. Madigan S.J., 10 July 2011

IN-TOWN CLUB, Cleveland OH

Lecture: “Religion and Politics” 23 May 2011

SUBURBAN TEMPLE-KOL AMI, Beachwood, OH

Lecture: On the current situation in the middle-east and the Arab Spring, 16 May 2011

HAWKEN HIGH SCHOOL, Gates Mills, OH

Lecture: On contemporary issues in the Islamic world including the Arab spring. 9 May 2011

STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK IN BUFFALO, Buffalo, NY

Lecture: On Islam and Sufism, 19 April 2011

NIAGARA UNIVERSITY, Niagara University, NY

Lecture: On Islam and Jesus, 19 April 2011.

JOHN CARROLL UNIVERSITY, University Heights, OH

Lecture: “Egypt: Why now?” to the campus ministry lunch lecture series, 23 March 2011

CLEVELAND STATE UNIVERSITY, Cleveland, OH

Lecture: part of the Abrahamic Religious Traditions meetings 17 March 2011

DUQUESNE UNIVERSITY, Pittsburgh, PA

Workshop: “Critical and Constructive Dialogue: Jews, Christians, and Muslims overcoming inhibitions to Effective Dialogue in Pluralistic Societies”

Participant: February 2011

MAYFIELD UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, Chesterland, OH.

Lecture: Gave a lecture series on the Qur’an entitled: “The Qur’an: Fact vs. Fiction.” The event was featured by a local newspaper called “Chesterland News,” 13, 27 February and 6 March 2011

Participant: in a Muslim-Christian dialogue about peace, friendship and justice in holy books organized by Agape Campus Community and Saint Bartholomew Lutheran Episcopal church and Turkish American Society in Cleveland, 5 December 2010

UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS PUBLIC LIBRARY, University Heights, OH

Lecture: Spoke about and responded to the book *The Tenth Parallel: Dispatches from the Fault Line between Christianity and Islam*, 2 December 2010

A PUB IN WOOSTER, OH

Lecture: on Islamic theology as part of a lecture series called “Theology on Tap,” 17 November 2010

UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO, Chicago, IL

Conference: “The Gulen Movement: Paradigms Projects and Aspirations”

Panelist “Love of the Prophet in Gulen’s Sufism,” 11-14 November 2010

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7F4qf5Q7oZE>

ASHLAND UNIVERSITY, Ashland, OH

Lecture: “Islam, faith and practice” part of the Newman Club lecture series, 8 November 2010

JOHN CARROLL UNIVERSITY, University Heights, OH

Invited Lecture: “Islamic Movements and New Media.” 4 November 2010

ST. BARTHOLOMEW’S EPISCOPAL CHURCH, Mayfield Village, OH

Lecture: my talk on Islam was featured in the Plain Dealer, 4 November 2010

CHICAGO THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY, Chicago, IL

Conference: “Catholics and Muslims in the Public Square” organized by the Mid-west Muslim-Catholic Dialogue

Respondent: Responded to a paper entitled: “Islam, Muslims and current Global Contexts: What US Catholics need to know” by Dr. Scott Alexander, 25-26 October 2010

DUQUESNE UNIVERSITY, Pittsburg, PA

Symposium: “The state of Muslim-Christian dialogue in Africa: What Africa interlocutors can learn from ongoing Muslim-Christian dialogue in the USA”

Keynote Speaker: “The state of Muslim-Christian dialogue in the US: Promises and Obstacles,” 22 October 2010

ST. NOEL CHURCH, Willoughby Hills, OH

Lecture: “Islam and Violence: What the Qur’an teaches,” 22 September 2010

INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF THE HISTORY OF RELIGION’S Annual Conference, Toronto, Canada

Panelist: “Muslims’ Perception of the Gülen Movement: Accommodating or Hindering to Modern Turkey.” Panel title: “Alternative Islamic Discourses and Religious Authority 17-21 Aug. 2010

ST. PAUL’S EPISCOPAL CHURCH, Cleveland Heights, OH

Participant: in an event called “Divine Taste” and gave a brief talk on Islam and dietary rules, 27 July 2010

EAST SHORE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH, Kirtland, OH

Lecture: “Rumi and Love,” 18 Jul 2010

CONFERENCE IN UGANDA

Panelist: “Gulen and Global Peace-Building.” 10 April 2010

OLD SOUTH CHURCH, Kirtland, OH

Lecture: “Islam, Faith and Practice.” The event was featured in the News-Herald Newspaper under the title “Faith Features,” 10 February 2010

NIAGARA FOUNDATION, Chicago, OH

Participant: in an interfaith workshop, 29-31 January 2010

MIDWEST MUSLIM-CATHOLIC DIALOGUE CONFERENCE, Milwaukee, WI

Panelist: “On the Nature and Dignity of the Human Person,” 25-27 October 2009

THE COLLEGE OF WOOSTER, Wooster, OH

Lecture: “Nonviolence in Islam: Theory and Practice.” Given on the occasion of the 41st Annual Fall Academy of Religion, within a project called “Religion in a Perilous World: A Resource for Change,” 7 Oct. 2009

CREIGHTON UNIVERSITY, Omaha, NE

Panelist: “The Foundation of Dialogue in the Qur’an,” 28 August 2009

2ND ANNUAL DIALOGUE AND FRIENDSHIP DINNER

Keynote Speaker: “An Islamic Ethical Approach to Hospitality in a Pluralistic Society.” The event was organized by the University of Nebraska and the Niagara Foundation of Nebraska, 27 August 2009

THE LAKESIDE CHAUTAUQUA FOUNDATION—THE CHAUTAUQUA ON LAKE ERIE, Lakeside, OH

Lecture: represented Islamic perspective during the 2009 Interfaith Week, 9-14 August 2009

CATHOLIC THEOLOGICAL STUDIES ASSOCIATION ANNUAL MEETING, Halifax, Nova Scotia

Convener and Panelist: “The Muslim Understanding of *Tawhid*: Why Muslims Reject the Doctrine of Trinity,” 6 June 2009

SCIOTO EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION, Dublin OH

Lecture: at a conference titled “Compassion in the Abrahamic Religions,” 22 April 2009

TURKISH CULTURAL CENTER, Buffalo, NY

Lecture: “Islamic Tradition and the Necessity of Intercultural Dialogue,” 25 March 2009

CLEVELAND STATE UNIVERSITY AND SIEGAL COLLEGE, Cleveland, OH

Panelist: “The Islamic approach to Loans, Interest, and Mortgages at a conference on “Traditional Jewish and Moslem Legal Attitudes Towards Mortgage Lending, and its Application to the Current Mortgage Crisis,” 19 March 2009

JOHN CARROLL UNIVERSITY, University Heights, OH

Lecture: “Islamic Eschatological Imagination: Jesus, Mahdi, Dajjal” part of the Office of the Academic Vice President’s 2008-2009 scholarly lunch series, 10 February 2009.

THE RUMI FOUNDATION OF CLEVELAND, Cleveland, OH

Lecture: at “Abrahamic Dinner,” 10 December 2008

THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN, Madison, WI

Lecture: on Abrahamic religions and historical events promoting dialogue between faith traditions at Dialogue International, 6 December 2008

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON, Madison, WI

Lecture: “Jesus in the Qur’an,” 5 December 2008

GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY, Washington, DC

Conference: “Islam in the Age of Global Challenges: Alternative Perspectives, Gulen Movement”

Participant: also served as member of a selection committee, 14-15 November 2008.

LUTHERAN SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY AT CHICAGO, Chicago, IL

Panelist: presented “The Treatise of the Miracles of the Qur’an: An Unconventional Partial Tafsir?” at the annual AAR meeting, 1-3 Nov 2008.

LUTHERAN SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY AT CHICAGO, Chicago, IL

Lecture: “Fethullah Gülen and Interfaith Dialogue,” Pre-AAR-Meeting on (Interreligious) Dialogue, 31 October 2008

IOWA DIALOGUE CENTER, Des Moines, IA

Lecture: 24 October 2008

CONVOCATION OF THE PRIESTS OF THE DIOCESE OF CLEVELAND, Cleveland, OH

Lecture: “Political, social and spiritual levels of Islam today,” 23 October 2008

DUQUESNE UNIVERSITY, Pittsburgh, PA

Lecture: “Islamic Mysticism: a quest for the unseen,” 22 September 2008

THE PITTSBURGH DIALOGUE FOUNDATION & THE CONSORTIUM FOR EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES ON ISLAMIC STUDIES, Pittsburgh, PA

Lecture: “Debating Conflict and Peace in Islamic Theology,” 21 September 2008

UNIVERSITY OF CINCINNATI, Cincinnati, OH

Invited lecture: “Peace and Understanding: A Dialogue Dinner,” 13 May 2008.

THE UNIVERSITY OF CINCINNATI, Cincinnati, OH

Lecture: Organized by the Student Association for Dialogue, 13 May 2008

CLEVELAND COUNCIL ON WORLD AFFAIRS, Cleveland, OH

Invited lecture: “Islam in Turkey,” 11 May 2008.

RUMI FORUM FOR INTERFAITH DIALOGUE, Washington, D.C.

Organizer: Meeting of Muslim and Catholic scholars to develop Muslim-Christian relations within the academic and public communities; 4 February and 7 May 2008.

AMERICAN UNIVERSITY, Washington, D.C.

Panelist: Presented “Bringing Theology to Life: Fethullah Gülen and the Practice of Peace.” at “Islamic Traditions of Peace and Nonviolence: Responding to Contemporary Challenges,” 5 May 2008.

CUYAHOGA COUNTY EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT CENTER, Cleveland, OH

Invited lecture: “Islam in Turkey: A Legacy of Tolerance” presented as a part of the Teacher Professional Development Workshop “Exploring Turkey, Its Peoples, and Their Cultures,” 29 April 2008.

UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS, Austin, TX

Panelist: Presented “Revisiting Rumi: Analyzing his Archetype of Love” at “Essentials of Rumi’s Thought,” 26 April 2008

OKLAHOMA CITY UNIVERSITY, Oklahoma City, OK

Panelist: Presented “Polluting Pristine Religion: A Theological Discussion on Islam and Terrorism.” at “Denouncing Violence in the Name of God: The Case of Islam,” 5 April 2008. I also chaired a session at this conference entitled “Monotheistic Perspectives and Solutions on Terrorism.”

THE SCIOTO EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION, Columbus, OH

Invited lecture: “The Prophet and his Hadith,” 30 March 2008.

GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY, Washington D.C.

Participant: “Meeting of Muslim Scholars Teaching Theology and Religion on Campuses of Jesuit colleges and Universities in the USA,” 14-15 March 2008

GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY, Washington, D.C.

Panelist: Presented “A Common Word: How Commentators of the Qur’an Define It.” at The Prince Alwaleed Bin Talal Center for Muslim-Christian Understanding’s conference “The Future of Christian-Muslim Relations: Where do we go from here?,” 14 March 2008.

EASTSHORE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH, Eastlake, OH

Invited lecture (sermon): “Islam: Faith and Practice,” 17 February 2008.

THE COLLEGE OF WOOSTER, Wooster, OH

Invited lecture: Presented “Islam and the Environment: A Book to be Contemplated” at the 42nd Wooster Spring Academy of Religion titled “The Spirituality of Environmental Activism,” 14 February 2008.

DICLE SOCIETY, Jordan, Ontario

Invited lecture: “Islam and the West,” 19-20 January 2008.

CLEVELAND STATE UNIVERSITY, Cleveland, OH

Invited lecture: “Islam and Culture in Turkey” presented in The Modern Languages Colloquium Series, 6 November 2007.

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, BERKELEY

Invited lecture: “Rumi and the Concept of Love” presented as part of a panel “Rumi: A Voice for our Times,” 2 November 2007.

HOUSE OF LORDS, SOAS, AND LONDON SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS, London, England

Panelist: Presented “Fethullah Gülen and Global Peace Building” at “Muslim World in Transition: Contributions of the Gülen Movement,” an international conference organized by many British Universities, 25-27 October 2007. I also served on the editorial board for this conference.

TURKISH INTELLECTUALS OF THE MIDWEST IN THE UNITED STATES, Chicago

Invited lecture: “Islam and Science,” 20 October 2007.

MORAVIAN THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY, Bethlehem, PA

Panelist: Presented “Moses in the Qur’an and Muslim Tradition.” at “Moses in the Bible and Qur’an: An Interfaith Conversation,” 11 October 2007.

MONASH UNIVERSITY, Melbourne, Australia

Lecture: “Rumi on Love,” 29 July 2007

Panelist: “Celebrating Rumi and Mystics of the East and West,” 29 July 2007

INTERCULTURAL FORUM FOR STUDIES IN FAITH AND CULTURE, Washington, D.C.

Lecture: “Islamic concept of forgiveness and repentance,” presented in a conference on repentance and forgiveness in the Catholic and Muslim traditions, 16 May 2007

THE TUESDAY STUDY CLUB, Cleveland, OH

Lecture: “The Five Principles of Islam” 15 May 2007

UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO GLEACHER CENTER, Chicago, IL

Lecture: Presented “Rumi as a Muslim Mystic” at “Rumi: A Voice for Our Times,” 3 May 2007

RUMI FOUNDATION OF RELIGIONS, Cleveland, OH

Lecture: “Islamic Dietary Rules” at the conference “Faith and Foods” held by the Cleveland Conference of Religions, 29 April 2007.

CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY OF AMERICA, Washington, D.C.

Lecture: “Muslims and Christians: Interfaith Relations in Confronting Cultural Conflict,” 28 April 2007.

BOSTON DIALOGUE CENTER, Boston, MA

Lecture: “The Ethics of the Prophet,” 1 April 2007.

THE KATHOLIEKE UNIVERSITEIT LEUVEN, Leuven, Belgium

Panelist: Presented “Reconciliation: An Islamic Theological Approach.” at “Reconciliation in Interfaith Perspective” 26-27 March 2007

OBERLIN COLLEGE, Oberlin, OH

Lecture: “Islamic Spirituality and its Relevance,” 8 March 2007.

SIEGAL COLLEGE, Beechwood, OH

Lecture: “Islam—Faith and Practice” 23 February 2007.

COMMUNITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, Lyndhurst, OH

Lecture: “Islam, Faith, and Practice,” 11 February 2007.

ISLAMIC CENTER OF AKRON, Akron, OH

Lecture: on Spirituality in Islam organized by the Church of the Resurrection, 8 February 2007.

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, Willoughby, OH

Lecture: “Jihad in Islam,” 4 February 2007.

RUMI FOUNDATION CENTER, Mayfield Village, OH

Lectures on “Rumi Readings” weekly from 23 January until 8 May 2007.

POPE JOHN PAUL II CULTURAL CENTER, Washington, D.C.

Panelist: Presented “Fitrah: an Islamic Approach to Human Nature.” at “The Primordial Relationship between God and the Human Person in Catholicism and Islam” 16 January 2007

LYONS CHAPEL/NASON CENTER, Willoughby, OH

Lecture Series: “The Five Pillars of Islam,” “Six Articles of Faith,” “The Role of Women in Islam,” “What is Jihad,” and “Understanding an Islamic Worldview” 10, 17, 24, 31 January and 7 February 2007.

AMERICAN ACADEMY OF RELIGION, Claremont, CA

Panelist: Presented “The Concept of Hijrah and the Practice of the Prophet.” 23 November 2006

JOHN CARROLL UNIVERSITY, University Heights, OH

Panelist: Presented “Bediuzzaman Said Nursi on Muslim-Christian Relations” at “Islam in Contemporary Turkey: Perspectives of Bediuzzaman Said Nursi,” 6 November 2006.

MOUNT AUBURN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, Cincinnati, OH

Lecture: “Ramadan and Spirituality,” 17 October 2006.

THE COLLEGE OF WOOSTER, Wooster, OH

Panelist: Presented “The Story of Abraham: Perspectives from Islam.” at the 38th Annual Lay Academy of Religion, “Genesis: Beginning again at the Beginning,” 11 October 2006

PONTIFICAL COUNCIL FOR INTER-RELIGIOUS DIALOGUE, Vatican City.

Panelist for “Conversion: Assessing the Reality” and “Thinking of Conversion from an Islamic Perspective,” 12-16 May 2006.

PHILADELPHIA DIALOG FORUM, Philadelphia, PA

Lecture at conference entitled, “Three Faiths, One God: Practicing Dialogue,” 4 May 2006.

THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY, Columbus, OH

Lecture: “Jesus in Islam,” 2 May 2006.

ST. PETER UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST, Seven Hills, OH

Lecture on Islam and its five pillars, 28 April 2006.

CLEVELAND CONFERENCE OF RELIGIONS, Cleveland, OH

Lecture: "Images in Islam," 23 April 2006.

CLEVELAND STATE UNIVERSITY, Cleveland, OH

Lecture: "The Prophet as Presented in the Qur'an," 18 April 2006.

JOHN CARROLL UNIVERSITY, University Heights, OH

Discussant on Faculty Curriculum Development trip to Turkey, 22 March 2006.

LUTHERAN SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY, Chicago, IL

Respondent for panel: "What Our Sacred Texts Say about Others: Reading with Sensitivity," 19 March 2006.

CLEVELAND CLINIC, Cleveland, OH

Lecture on the particular needs of Muslim patients for health care professionals, 14 March 2006.

CORNELL UNIVERSITY, Ithaca, NY

Lecture on Rumi and his place in Islamic tradition, 8 March 2006.

MARQUETTE UNIVERSITY, Milwaukee, WI

Lecture at Department of Theology about Islamic Mysticism, 6 March 2006.

INDIANA UNIVERSITY, Bloomington, IN

Lecture for conference entitled "Islam and Politics: The Global Fethullah Gülen Movement": "Fethullah Gülen vs. Political Islam," 2 March 2006.

FAIRMOUNT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH,

in cooperation with **THE RUMI FOUNDATION OF OHIO**, Cleveland Heights, OH

Lecture Series: "Islam: Faith and Practice," bi-weekly from 16 January-15 May 2006.

AMERICAN ACADEMY OF RELIGION ANNUAL MEETING, Philadelphia, PA

Respondent: "Sectarian Identities and Diverting Interpretations of Islam," 19-22 November 2005.

TURKISH AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF NORTHEAST OHIO, CASE WESTERN RESERVE UNIVERSITY, Cleveland, OH

Lecture on Islam in the contemporary world, 6 November 2005.

WITHERSPOON INSTITUTE AT PRINCETON UNIVERSITY, Princeton, NJ

Presented Islamic Approach at conference: "Marriage: the Political Landscape and the Situation in the Faith Communities," 3-5 November 2005.

SHAKER HEIGHTS HIGH SCHOOL, Shaker Heights, OH

Lecture on the medieval cultural significance of Islam, 21 October 2005.

LOYOLA UNIVERSITY CHICAGO, Chicago, IL

Lecture: "Religion and Cultural Pluralism: An Islamic Ethical Approach to Pluralism and Hospitality," organized by Niagara Foundation. 9 October 2005.

BALDWIN-WALLACE COLLEGE, Berea, OH

Lecture on women in Islam, 30 August 2005.

UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA-ASHEVILLE, Asheville, NC

Chair and Respondent at conference entitled: "Teaching Islam for Undergraduate Curriculum," 2-4 June 2005.

MONASH UNIVERSITY, Melbourne, Australia

Keynote Address at International Inter-Religion Abraham Conference: "The Legacy of Abraham in Islam: Beyond Dialogue to Co-operation and Social Action," 28-29 May 2005.

MONASH UNIVERSITY, Melbourne, Australia

Presenter at panel on Religion and Healing the Mind through Prayer and Meditation---Mental Disorder, Grief and Depression at International Inter-Religion Abraham Conference: "Smiling at the Face of Calamities: The Power of Faith," 28-29 May 2005.

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON, Madison, WI

Keynote Address at International Conference on Islam: "Islamic Theological Foundations of Dialogue," 29-30 April 2005.

WAYNE STATE UNIVERSITY, Detroit, MI

Lecture at the invitation of the Student Council and the Islamic Dialogue Club, 30 April 2005.

ASIAN NETWORK, Whittier, California

Panel Chair and Respondent: "Teaching about Islam in Asia," 21-24 April 2005.

CLEVELAND CONFERENCE OF RELIGION, Cleveland, OH

Panelist on natural disasters at Spring Convocation, 17 April 2005.

CHURCH OF THE COVENANT, Cleveland, OH

Lecture on Islamic perspective of the crucifixion and ascension of Jesus, 20 March 2005.

FAIRMOUNT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, Cleveland Heights, OH

Lecture: "The 5 Pillars of Islam," 23 January 2005

Lecture: "The 6 Articles of Faith," 6 February 2005.

WEST SHORE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH, Rocky River, OH

Lecture on the role of women in Islam, 9 January 2005.

URSULINE COLLEGE, Pepper Pike, OH

Lecture: "Islam: Faith or Practice," 30 November 2004.

INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY COUNCIL, Cleveland, OH

Lecture at conference "Understanding World Faith Traditions," 6 November 2004.

CLEVELAND STATE UNIVERSITY, Cleveland, OH

Lecture on the role of religion in building peace, 27 October 2004.

AMERICAN TURKISH FRIENDSHIP ASSOCIATION, New York, NY

Lecture on the importance of dialogue, 22 October 2004.

OHIO ASSOCIATION OF CHIEFS OF POLICE, Columbus, OH

Lecture on peace and violence in Islam, 20 October 2004.

CLEVELAND CONFERENCE OF RELIGIONS, Cleveland, OH

Lecture: “The Islamic Understanding of Peace,” 17 October 2004.

PURDUE UNIVERSITY, West Lafayette, IN

Lecture: “Islamic Understanding of Fasting,” 15 October 2004.

ISTANBUL CULTURAL AND SCIENCE FOUNDATION, Istanbul, Turkey

Presenter: “An Islamic Approach to Nonviolence: The Case of Bediuzzaman Said Nursi,” at international conference “Bringing Faith, Meaning and Peace to Life in a Multicultural World: The *Risale-I Nur*’s Approach”: 3-4 October 2004.

SEVERANCE HALL, Cleveland, OH

Introductory Address at performance of the “Whirling Dervishes of Rumi,” 24 September 2004.

LAUREL SCHOOL, Shaker Heights, OH

Keynote Speaker for “Islam in the Modern World”: “Islamic Theology in Historical Context,” 3 April 2004.

CORNELL UNIVERSITY, Ithaca, NY

Public Lecture: “Jesus and Muslim-Christian Relations,” 11 March 2004.

THE CLEVELAND ECUMENICAL INSTITUTE FOR RELIGIOUS STUDIES, Cleveland, OH

Lecture Series: “Jesus and Mary in Islam;” six lectures February-March, 2004.

SUBURBAN TEMPLE, Beachwood, OH

Lecture: “Islam and Fundamentalism,” February, 2004.

NIXON CENTER, Washington D.C.

Panel Discussant: “Re-Thinking Sufism: A Quest in Exploring the World of Unseen: Understanding Sufism and its Potential Role in US Policy,” 22 January 2004.

UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN, Ann Arbor, MI

Public Lecture: “Islamic Mysticism,” 19 January 2004.

SAINT MARTIN’S EPISCOPAL CHURCH, Chagrin Falls, OH

Two Lectures: “Pillars and Articles of Faith in Islam,” January, 2004.

INDIANA UNIVERSITY, Bloomington, IN

Lecture: “Muslims and Jesus,” December, 2003.

CLEVELAND STATE UNIVERSITY, Cleveland, OH

Public Lecture: “Ramadan and Spirituality,” November 2003.

MESA ANNUAL CONFERENCE, Washington, DC

Presenter: “Comparing and Contrasting the *Mathnawis* on Love: The *Mathnawi* of Nursi and the *Mathnawi* of Rumi,” 25 November 2002.

ASSOCIATION OF MUSLIM SOCIAL SCIENTISTS (AMSS), Washington D.C.

Conference “The Muslim World after September 11: Agenda for Change”

Presiding: “Islamic Vision for the Next Millennium” 26 October 2002.

UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN, DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY AT AL., Austin, TX

Conference: “Preventing another September 11th”

Panelist: “The Era of Colonization and its Effects on Muslims’ Mind”, 8 September 2002.

ANTI-DEFAMATION LEAGUE-FEDERATION OF TURKISH ASSOCIATION-New York, NY

Conference: “Anniversary of September 11th”

Panelist: “Violence in Islam: Past and Present” 3 September 2002 (Broadcast on CBS television)

OGLETHORPE UNIVERSITY, Atlanta, GA

Conference: “September 11 and the Future of American Liberty”

Discussant to Hillel Fradkin’s presentation “Radical Islam and the Terrorist Threat: What is it and What are its Causes?” 6 March 2002.

AMERICAN ACADEMY OF RELIGION, Denver, CO

Study of Islam Section

Presiding, “Modes of Knowledge in Sufi Literature” 20 November 2001.

BERRY COLLEGE, Rome, GA

Roundtable Discussion on September 11th Attacks

Panelist: “Islam, Peace and Middle East issues” Department of Religion and Philosophy; Department of History and Government; 20 September 2001.

GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY, Washington, D.C.

Co-organizer and presenter, “Islamic Modernities: Fethullah Gülen and Contemporary Islam,” 26-27 April 2001. (The conference paper: “Fethullah Gülen: A Sufi in his Own Way”).

Presenter, “Towards a New Paradigm in Islamic Theology,” the Center for Muslim-Christian Understanding and the Association of Muslim Social Scientists, October 2000

Presenter, “God, Law, and Ethics in Islam” in A Jewish-Muslim Dialogue, Georgetown University Campus Ministry, Diversity Working Group, April 2000

Lecturer, “The Nur Movement of Turkey and Political Islam: A Comparative Discussion,” Center for Muslim-Christian Understanding, March 1999

Presenter, “The First Eastern Orthodox-Islam Dialogue Workshop,” November 1998

UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON, Houston, TX.

Presenter, “The People of the Book in the Qur’an: Islamic Social Policy in the Early Twentieth Century,” Millennium Islamic Foundation, December, 2000.

DREW UNIVERSITY, Madison, NJ

Presenter, “Jesus in Islam,” Muslim Students Association, November 2000.

BOSTON UNIVERSITY, Boston, MA

Panelist, “The People of the Book: A Case Study of Islamic Social Policy in Turkey,” Society for Middle Eastern Studies and the Boston Dialog Foundation, November 2000.

THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE, Washington, DC

Presenter: “Islam in Turkey,” Foreign Service Institute, November 2000.

UNITY INTERFAITH CONFERENCE CENTER, Fort Washington, MD.

Panelist, “The Practice of Religious Freedom in America: An Interfaith Community Dialogue,” October, 2000.

RUMI FORUM FOR INTERFAITH DIALOGUE, Washington, DC

Organizer, “Bridging Islamic and Christian Mysticism: Human Perfection,” September 2000.

Organizer/Presenter, “Religious Inspiration in the Feminist Movement,” July 2000.

Organizer, “Book Ten of Saint Augustine of Hippo’s *The Confessions*,” March 2000.

DAVIES MEMORIAL UNIVERSALIST CHURCH, Prince George’s County, MD

Lecturer, “An Islamic Approach towards Knowledge and Sciences: The Stories of the Prophets in the Qur’an and their Applications” (see *Washington Post* June 29th 2000, p.M12), June 2000.

EMANUEL SYNAGOGUE, Andover, MA

Lecturer, “Muslim-Jewish Dialogue” October 1999.

THE CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY OF AMERICA, Washington, DC

Lecturer, “Sa’id Nursi’s Teachings on the People of the Book” The Department of Semitic and Egyptian Languages and literature, April 1999.

STRAYER UNIVERSITY, Woodbridge, VA

Lecturer, “Islamic Spiritualism,” Department of Humanities and Sociology, November 1998.

HUNTER COLLEGE, New York, NY

Presenter, “Fethullah Gülen: A Contemporary Sufi Leader in Turkey and his Sufi Teachings,” the Second Annual Conference on the History of Philosophy and Religion, May 1998.

SUNY-BINGHAMTON, Binghamton, NY

Presenter, “The Second Coming of Jesus and Muslim-Christian Dialogue,” 16th Annual Conference of the Institute of Global Cultural Studies, October 1997.

THE ISTANBUL FOUNDATION FOR SCIENCE AND CULTURE, Istanbul, Turkey

Presenter, “The *Mahdi* Question from the Point of View of Contemporary Muslim Scholars,” September 1995.

THE UNIVERSITY OF HARRAN, Urfa, Turkey

Presenter, “The Legacy of Abraham on Interfaith Dialogue” The Second Annual Conference of the City of Urfa (Turkey) on Abrahamic Religions, January 1992.

Other Scholarly Activity

Participated in teaching an online course entitled: “International Coverage of Religion in the Digital Age” to a group of international journalists in under the auspices of The International Center for Journalists (ICFJ). This was a 6 week course conducted in English and Arabic.

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Interfaith Dialogue, Islamic Theology and Thought, Islamic Eschatology, Islamic Movements, Islamic Spirituality and Islamic Christology.