

Muzaffar Iqbal is founding president of the Centre for Islam and Science (www.cis-ca.org) Canada, and editor of Islam & Science, a semi-annual journal of Islamic perspectives on science and civilization. Born in Lahore, Pakistan, he has lived in Canada since 1979. He has held academic and research positions at University of Saskatchewan (1979-1984), University of Wisconsin-Madison (1984-85), and McGill University (1986). After earning his PhD. in chemistry (University of Saskatchewan, Canada, 1983), he left the field of experimental science to devote himself to studying the spiritual, intellectual and scientific traditions of Islam.

During 1990-1999, he continued research and study on various aspects of Islam in Pakistan, where he also worked as Director of the Organization of Islamic Conference (OIC) Committee on Scientific and Technological Cooperation (1991-96) and as Director of the Pakistan Academy of Sciences (1998-99).

After returning to the USA, Dr. Iqbal was Program Director (Muslim World) for the Science-Religion Course Program of the Center for Theology and the Natural Sciences (CTNS), Berkeley, CA (1999-2001).

He has published many books and papers on the relationship between Islam and science, Islam and the West, the contemporary situation of Muslims, and the history of Islamic science and civilization. Among his publications are: Islam and Science (Ashgate, 2002); God, Life and the Cosmos: Christian and Islamic Perspectives (co-editor - Ashgate, 2002); Science and Islam (Greenwood Press, 2007); Islam, Science, Muslims and Technology: Seyyed Hossein Nasr in Conversation with Muzaffar Iqbal (Al-Qalam-IBT, 2007); Dawn in Madinah: A Pilgrim's Passage (Islamic Book Trust, 2007); Dew on Sunburnt Roses and other Quantum Notes (Dost Publications, 2007); Definitive Encounters: Islam, Muslims, and the West (Islamic Book Trust, 2008); and The Making of Islamic Science (IBT, 2009). Dr. Iqbal is General Editor of Ashgate's forthcoming series, Islam and Science: Historic and Contemporary Perspectives. He is also General Editor of the forthcoming seven-volume Integrated Encyclopaedia of the Qur'an, the first English-language reference work on the Qur'an based on fourteen centuries of Muslim reflection and scholarship.

The lecture series will bring to a sharp relief of the Islamic concept of nature and the metaphysical, ethical, and social dimensions of human interaction with the natural world

Dr. Muzaffar Iqbal

Islam & the Environment

Islamic History Month Canada

Over 30 events throughout Canada!

2010 Toronto & GTA Events...

University of Toronto

Sidney Smith Hall Rm. 2117, 100 St. George St.

October 13, 7:00 pm

Islam & the Environment

By: Dr. Muzaffar Iqbal

co-sponsored by :

UofT Muslim Student Assn.

Free Admission

Queens Park -Toronto

October 6, 11:00 am to 1:30 pm

Celebrating Islamic History

By Invitation

Noor Centre

123 Wynford Dr.

October 2, 2pm

Islam & the Environment

By: Dr Hind Al-Abadleh

Free Admission

Children & Youth Movie Night

Mississauga Central Library

301 Burnhamthorpe Rd. W

October 22, 6:30 pm

For ages 3 & up

Free Admission

For a list of nation-wide events please visit:

www.islamichistorymonth.com

Islamic History Month Canada is a national annual educational and cultural project originated, organized and sponsored by The Canadian Islamic Congress.

www.canadianislamiccongress.com



Islam & The Environment

Islamic History Month Canada



October 2010

Islamic History Month Canada

This is a month when we, Canadian Muslims focus on celebrating and sharing our richly layered civilization – our contributions to the arts, sciences, medicine, architecture, humanities, music, spirituality, and every area of human knowledge.

From coffee to cheques and the three-course meal, the Muslim world has given us many innovations that we take for granted in daily life.



Calligraphy– Haq (Truth)

Windmills

The windmill was invented in 7th century for a Persian caliph and was used to grind corn and draw up water for irrigation. Mills had six or 12 sails covered in fabric or palm leaves. It was 500 years before the first windmill was seen in Europe.



Windmill in Seistan Described by al-Dimshiq

Gardens

Medieval Europe had kitchen and herb gardens, but it was the Arabs who developed the idea of the garden as a place of beauty and meditation. The first royal pleasure gardens in Europe were opened in 11th-century Muslim Spain. Flowers which originated in Muslim gardens include the carnation and the tulip.



The Alhambra in Granada, Spain

Islamic Green Revolution

Between the 8th to 13th century there was a fundamental transformation in agriculture in the Muslim world. The earliest known work from a Muslim about agriculture was Ibn Wahshiyya's Nabatean Agriculture which dealt with the field of botany and was used as an early cook book.

In the 9th century, botanist al-Dinawari wrote a botanical encyclopedia entitled Kitab al-Nabat (book of plants), which consisted of 6 volumes. Only the third and fifth volumes have survived until today,

During this period, due resource scarcity in the Middle East there was an emphasis on limited use of natural capital. There was also a social obligation amongst Muslims to stay within carrying capacity and to preserve the natural environment.



What does Islam say about the Environment?

The Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) is considered a pioneer of Environmentalism for his teachings on sustainability and preservation. His hadiths (sayings of the prophet) on agriculture and environmental philosophy were compiled in the "Book of Agriculture" of the Shahih Bukhari. It includes the following saying:

"There is none amongst the believers who plants a tree, or sows a seed, and then a bird, or a person, or an animal eats thereof, but is regard as giving a charitable gift (for which there is great recompense)"

Shahih Bukhari 3:513

The Qur'an considers all human beings to be stewards on earth and are commanded to maintain and preserve the planet. Also, the Qur'an has a number of statements on protecting the environment, including the following about the natural habitat of animals:

" And there is no animal in the earth nor bird that flies with its two wings, but that they are communities like yourselves"

Qur'an 6:38

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www.islamichistorymonth.com
www.1001inventions.com

Islamic History Month Canada was proclaimed by Parliament in 2007



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