



Unity

Newsletter of the Cambridge Muslim College
A partner institution of The Open University

ISSUE SEVEN — SAFAR 1440 / NOVEMBER 2018

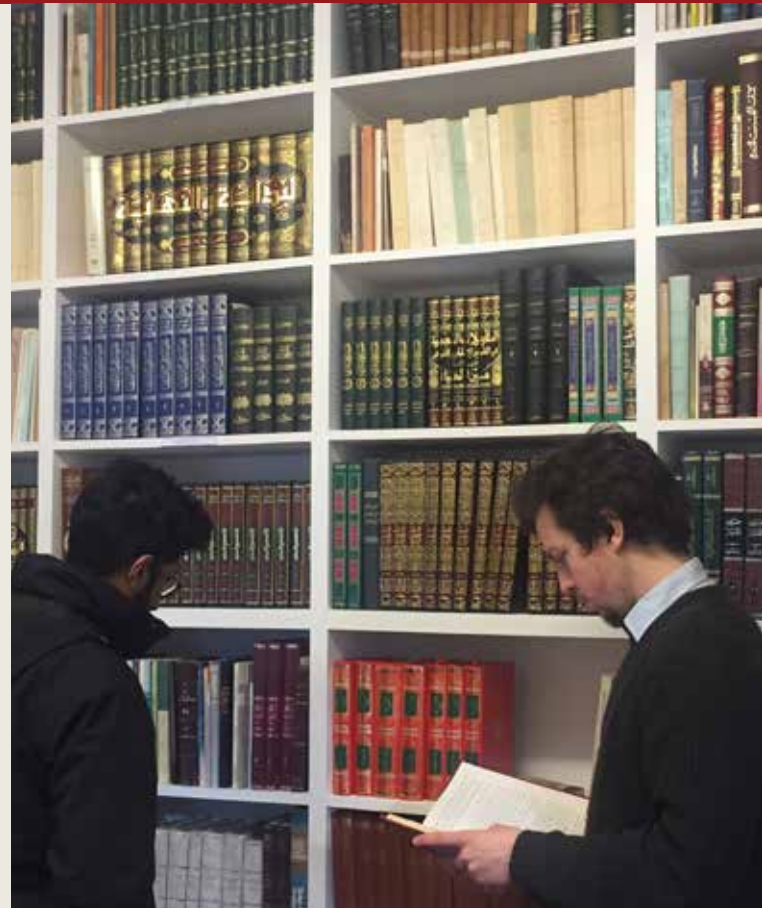
BA: First year report

by Dr Sohail Hanif

THE BA HAS got off to an impressive start. The cohort is diverse, comprising mature students with backgrounds in medicine, linguistics, social services and history, and those studying for their first degree. They have successfully completed a very intense first year, in which Islamic Studies modules in Arabic, Qur'anic and hadith studies, Islamic theology, *fiqh*, logic and dialectics, and Islamic history were complemented by a schooling in world history, world religions, social sciences, and western philosophy. Students have gained a strong foundation in each of these subject areas and have seen how these fields offer them tools to think through the many challenges which face those who intelligently live their faith in the modern world. We are pleased to announce that all our BA students passed their first year with firsts and upper seconds. External examiners remarked that the quality of their work is comparable – and in some cases superior – to that produced by their own undergraduates at the universities of Oxford, Cambridge and Kings College, London. Even more fulfilling has been the sight of students starting to synthesise this broad curriculum as they think through the questions raised by each subject, a feature noted by The Open University's External Examiner in his review of their essays and exam scripts.

So: a very encouraging start! We have realised our scholars' intentions and dreams to design a programme that does not mimic the already existing Islamic Studies programmes, but rather fills a gap in the educational landscape. Not only is the incorporation of contextual subjects with traditional Islamic subjects in the manner undertaken on our programme unusual and innovative, but so is the way in which traditional Islamic subjects are presented. Students do not just study classical texts that have been taught for centuries in Muslim centres of learning, but also examine the intellectual and social environments that underlie these texts, and how these texts can be situated in the larger history of the development of ideas, scholarship and institutions in the Muslim world.

Our ambitious approach to the study of these time-hon-



oured traditions is guided by our Dean and Aziz Foundation Professor, Shaykh Abdal Hakim Murad, and facilitated by our lecturers, who combine extensive traditional tutelage under leading scholars in Egypt, Syria, Turkey and Jordan with advanced research training from the universities of Oxford and Cambridge. External lecturers who contribute to the programme are picked from leading English universities and introduce students to the latest currents and discussions in their respective fields.

We look forward to a further two years with these students. Our welfare team will be working with them this year to explore possible next steps after the programme, allowing students to explore opportunities in academia, community leadership and the other vital fields in which we hope these young men and women will excel.

For more information on our BA (Hons) Programme visit <http://cambridgemuslimcollege.ac.uk/programmes/ba-islamicstudies/>



Diploma Graduation

ON JULY 28 our ninth cohort of students successfully graduated and received their diplomas in Contextual Islamic Studies and Leadership. The students, recruited from a range of major Islamic institutions, will now go out to serve their communities or pursue further studies. Our thoughts and prayers go with them all!

This year's graduates were **Belal Ghafoor** (Jamia al-Karam [Retford], Suffa Tul Islam [Bradford], University of Leeds); **Huzaifah Ismail** (Mazahirul Uloom [Saharanpur]); **Huzaifah Nadwi** (Nadwatul Ulama [Lucknow]); **Safwaan Hussein** (Darul Uloom Al Arabiya Al Islamiya [Bury]); **Talha Shah** (Suffa Tul Islam [Bradford]); **Wasif Mahfooz** (Jamia al Karam [Retford]); **Zain ul Abideen Hashemi** (Suffa Tul Islam [Bradford]); **Aisha Zarif** (Jamia al Karam [Retford]); **Mariam Badat** (Noor Ul Islam [London]); **Meherunisa Hussain** (Jamia Al Karam [Retford]); **Zahra Rajput** (Madrassa Al Zahra [Walthamstow], London City University); **Zainab Ahmed** (Ebrahim College [London]).

Sixth Form Open Day

Thanks go to our Luton-based supporter and advocate **Kay Kokabi** and local school teacher **Elif Uçar**, who brought a group of Luton sixth-formers for a day at CMC to learn about the BA programme and its approach to traditional scholarship and issues of integration, social cohesion, and religious authenticity in a fast-moving secular world. Many pupils expressed interest in applying to join our next cohort.

ACADEMIC STAFF



The Dean

ABDAL HAKIM MURAD is our Aziz Foundation Professor of Islamic Studies. As well as lecturing at CMC and at Ebrahim College in London, he presented papers at conferences at the University of Tübingen, Kings College London, and the University of Tartu, and lectured at the Faculty of Music at Tübingen. He delivered the annual University of Suffolk Faith Lecture and spoke at a seminar at St Ethelburga's, and at the Cambridge Jewish Chaplaincy, and gave the annual Ebor Lecture at York St John University. He has also published his new order for inter-cultural marriages on the College website. His Muslim-Celtic litany the *Hamdiyya* has just been published in book form.

Sohail Hanif

We congratulate **Dr Sohail Hanif**, our Lecturer in Islamic Studies, on graduating with a DPhil in Oriental Studies from the University of Oxford. Dr Hanif also published his article 'A Tale of Two Kufans: Abū Yūsuf's *Ikhtilāf Abī Yūsuf wa-Ibn Abī Laylā* and Schacht's Ancient Schools', in *Islamic Law and Society* 25 (2018).





Yasser Qureshy

Yasser is our Lecturer in Islamic Studies and Research Partnerships Manager. He has taught CMC modules on theology, Western philosophy, and history of science, and published an article on Imam al-Juwaynī for the *Routledge Encyclopedia of Medieval Philosophy*, while working to complete his Cambridge PhD. He also originated and convened the BA students study trip to Istanbul, (see p.4).



Najah Nadi

The College offers its warm congratulations to our Aziz Foundation Lecturer in Islamic Studies, **Najah Nadi**, who successfully completed a DPhil in Oriental Studies from the University of Oxford with a dissertation entitled ‘Theorising the Relationship between *Kalām* and *Uṣūl al-Fiqh*: the Legal–Theological Hermeneutics of Sa‘d al-Dīn al-Taftāzānī (d. 792/1390)’. Her work has also grown with the University of Cambridge, as she has joined their Multi-Faith Forum and recently presented at the University’s Divinity School Islamic Studies seminars. She continues to maintain ties with her field in the United States, remaining an active member of the Holberg Seminar in Islamic History at Princeton University and recently being appointed Research Fellow at the Virginia Theological Seminary, and contributing to an upcoming volume on Public Theology.



Badreldeen al-Husayni

Our new visiting lecturer in Islamic Studies is **Badreldeen al-Husayni**. He will be co-teaching one module on our BA (Hons) programme for the 2018-19 academic year. Shaykh Badreldeen holds undergraduate and graduate degrees from Cairo University in Arabic Language, Arabic Literature and Islamic Philosophical Theology and an MA in Islamic Studies from SOAS. The core of his teaching covers Qur’anic exegetical methods, Hadith studies, *kalām* and legal theory.



Chair’s News

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR Chair, **Professor Lejla Demiri**, on the publication of *The Future of Interfaith Dialogue: Muslim-Christian Encounters through A Common Word*, which she jointly edited with Dr Yazid Said, and which has just been published by Cambridge University Press.

Professor Demiri has also published an important article, ‘An Angelic Jesus? A Medieval Muslim Quest for an Alternative Christology,’ published in *Neue Zeitschrift für Systematische Theologie und Religionsphilosophie* 60/1 (2018).

Professor Demiri has also been awarded an honorary doctorate by the University of Uppsala.

Her book *A Common Word: Text and Reflections, a Resource for Parishes and Mosques*, has been issued this year in Russian translation. She writes: ‘Given that forty percent of Europe’s Muslims live in Russia, it’s important that CMC continue its ties with universities and the Mufti’s office in Moscow, and this translation, supported by our friends at the St Andrew’s Biblical Theological Institute in Moscow, is a step towards promoting better inter-faith understanding in the very important Russian sphere.’



IN THE CITY OF SCHOLARS

By Yasser Qureshy

SUMMER 2018 SAW the inaugural BA cohort travel to Istanbul for a season of intensive training in Hadith, Theology, and Logic, to augment their learning at the College over the past year. Building on the solid grounding in classical Arabic received during their preparatory year at Qasid, and sustained engagement with primary texts during the first year of the BA at the College, the students found a comfortable transition to a teaching environment where the medium of instruction was Arabic.

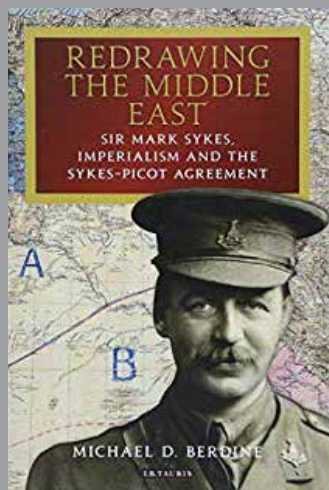
The faculty for the summer programme consisted of senior scholars currently living and teaching in Turkey: **Shaykh Mujir al-Khaṭīb** (previously senior lecturer at Dār al-Hadīth al-Ashrafiyya in Damascus); **Shaykh Nādir Abū ʿUmar** (formerly senior lecturer at al-Fath Academy in Damascus); and **Shaykh ʿAlī al-ʿUmārī** (lecturer at Fatih Sultan Mehmet University, Istanbul).

In addition the students had the opportunity to meet with **Professor İhsan Fazıloğlu** at Istanbul Medeniyet University, **Professor İbrahim Halil Üçer** at ILEM Vakıf – who gave a presentation on his recently published Atlas of Islamic Thought, and **Professor Necmettin Kızılkaya** at our partner institute iSAR.

The group was generously hosted by iSVA Vakfı, with classes held at the historic Sultan Ahmet madrasa complex.

Lines in the Sand

Our former Principal, **Dr Michael Berdine**, released his long-awaited book *Redrawing the Middle East: Sir Mark Sykes, Imperialism and the Sykes-Picot Agreement* (I.B. Tauris, 2018). His book has been listed as No.1 on Book Authority's list of '12 Best New Middle East Books to Read in 2018'.



Visiting Scholars at CMC

Ingrid Mattson



We were honoured to host **Dr Ingrid Mattson** of Huron University as a CMC visiting scholar during Ramadan. She delivered a series of lectures to our students on ethics and gender, plus sessions exploring readings from the Qur'an. Dr Mattson also led a half-day workshop with our alumnae on the challenges of Islamic scholarship for women. In addition, she conducted two weekend workshops on 'Islamic Ethics: Risk Assessment & Social Ethics' and 'The Story of the Qur'an', based on her popular book of the same name.

Yahya Rhodus



A familiar face in recent months has been **Shaykh Yahya Rhodus**, who spent the 2017-8 academic year as a CMC Visiting Scholar. Among his many activities during this period he offered a series of public lectures which will shortly be available online via our website.



NEW DORM

Our warm thanks to **Mr Nazir Malik** for facilitating the sale of a large house on Perne Road to CMC. This can accommodate up to ten residents and will significantly reduce the College's student rental costs. We are grateful to **Mr Mohamed Mansour** for financing this sale through a very generous interest-free loan.

Convert Care continues

In April 2018, we welcomed back the Convert Care and Mentorship Programme. Led by **Mohammed Salih Whelbourne**, the programme supports the development of resources for the welfare, education, and leadership development of Muslim converts across Britain. This year the programme recruited a steering group of 25 delegates from around the UK. Sessions included; 'Prisoner Re-Entry: Hard Work & Protocol' (Raymond Douglas); 'Supervision Matters' (Myira Khan); 'Para-liturgical Space and Convert Support' (Shaykh Abdal Hakim Murad); 'Imam Ghazali's Rights and Responsibilities of Fellowship' (Shaykh Amin Buxton); 'Spiritual Bypassing' and 'Continuum of Convert Care' (Micah Anderson); and workshops led by Anna Nayyar. The programme is supported by funding from the National Zakat Foundation and Penny Appeal.

In addition, we continued our regular hosting of Saturday morning meetings for the Cambridge Crescent, an informal group of local people new to Islam.

External Programmes

In October 2017, CMC began delivering its first series of public education programmes. Each of our lecturers delivered fortnightly classes on Qur'an, hadith, and Islamic spirituality. Additionally, Dr Murad delivered a 12-part recorded series on the Sira entitled 'A Journey of Transformation,' which encourages listeners to experience the life of the Holy Prophet through the Qur'an, a critical reading of early sources, and literature. He also recorded seven short talks for broadcast on YouTube during Ramadan. **Dr Samir Mahmoud** of the American University in Beirut recorded nine classes on the theology and symbolism of the Muslim prayer.

Wellness Intensive

This two-day programme (7-8 April) explored faith-based understandings of issues relating to mental health and trauma. Through a combination of workshops and retreat-style learning the instructors, **Micah Anderson** (Ta'leef Collective), **Abdallah Rothman** (Shifaa Counselling) and **Dr Najah Nadi** (CMC) guided participants in developing skills for self-care, stress reduction, trauma management and emotional resilience. The programme was oversubscribed, and included more than 35 participants. The continued close interest in these subjects will be the basis for developing further short courses and a week-long retreat slated for 2019.

Islamic Psychology and Psychotherapy programme

In April we repeated our popular week-long intensive programme for mental health professionals, psychologists, psychotherapists, researchers and counsellors interested in the philosophy and methodology of psychology from an Islamic perspective. The programme was convened by **Dr Rasjid Skinner**, a consultant at Bradford NHS Trust.

CMC has partnered with the International Association of Islamic Psychology, founded by **Dr Malik Badri**, to deliver a second instalment on clinical practice. This experiential training programme will go beyond introduction to theory and concepts and will contextualize frameworks of Islamic Psychology within the therapeutic encounter. This programme is scheduled for April 2019.



Sohaira Siddiqui

In April 2018, **Dr Sohaira Siddiqui** was appointed as CMC's newest trustee. Dr Siddiqui, who audited our Diploma in 2010, is Assistant Professor of Theology at Georgetown University's School of Foreign Service in Qatar. Her research interests include classical Islamic legal

theory (*uṣūl al-fiqh*), classical Islamic political thought, the development and the intersection of legal thought and political thought from the 9th to 11th centuries, and secularism and modernity in relation to Islamic law and Muslims in the West. Her first monograph, which analyses the thought of al-Juwaynī through a close reading of his legal, political and theological treatises, is scheduled for publication with Cambridge University Press in Spring 2019.



CMC in Bosnia

OUR SUMMER ENDED with our first Muslim heritage tour to Bosnia-Herzegovina, held from 4–12 August 2018. Shaykh Abdal Hakim Murad and Dr Ingrid Mattson delivered a set of lectures on ‘Universalism and Particularism: how Islam relates to context’ to 85 participants who joined our programme from around the world. Highlights of the trip included lectures at Sarajevo’s Faculty of Islamic Studies and the Gazi Husrev Begova Library, and in historic mosques including the Hünkar Mosque in Stolac and the Gradska Mosque in Konjic. The group also visited historic Islamic sites at Blagaj, Kacuni, the Vizier’s Castle at Travnik, the craft workshops of Konjic, and the Sarajevo and Mostar bazaars.

A visit to the old royal capital of Jajce, scene of ancient mills and the great waterfall on the river Vrbas, offered a chance to discuss the contribution of Esme Sultan and other Ottoman women to mosque building and the creation of *awqaf*. We also toured the Jajce Mithraeum and learned about Bosnia’s pre-Muslim history. A stop at the still very active madrasa of Elçi-Ibrahim Pasha in Travnik began a discussion of modern Islamic education in Bosnia.

Our group also learned about the terrible aggression suffered by Bosnia in 1992, and the destruction of mosques and whole Muslim communities by anti-Muslim ‘ethnic cleansers’. We visited the Tunnel of Hope, which connected Sarajevo to the outside world during the three-year siege of the Bosnian capital, and listened spellbound to the imam of Mount Igman mosque as he described his experiences during the war. On an upbeat note, we finished the tour with visits to mosques in Herzegovina which have been beautifully rebuilt since the conflict ended.







New Staff Member

In August 2018 we welcomed the newest member of the CMC team, **Dr Moharem El Gihani**, who has been appointed to the position of the College's Director of Development. Moharem is a business development professional with experience in Pharmaceuticals, Biotech and Genomics. With a PhD in chemistry and an MBA he has a diverse consultancy background (Big Data, Technology, Biotech and the charity sector), with particular expertise in strategy and fundraising.

Return to Al-Andalus

A record number of students attended our annual Al-Ghazali Retreat at Alqueria de Rosales, Spain, during the week of 11-17 July. The topic was 'The Secrets of Prayer', and lectures were given by **Shaykh Abdal Hakim** and **Dr Samer Dajani**, with supplementary *fiqh* classes by our BA student Khadija Jelan. The trip included visits to the well-known Moorish sights of Granada. All the lectures were recorded by a professional videographer and will be available online.

Hijāma seminar

Our Research Fellow, **Professor John Mayberry**, convened a successful seminar under the title '*Hijāma*: What of the Future?' Leading *hijāma* practitioners joined mainstream health professionals to discuss the clinical benefits of *hijāma* and methods of protecting patients and ensuring best practice in this growing area of complementary medicine.

LIBRARY BURGEONS

Our collection of Arabic books has moved to a suite of rooms in our East Building (the 'Almshouses'). Students enjoy 24-hour access to this remarkable facility. We are grateful to many scholars and supporters who have donated books, in particular the Ismaili Institute Library and the Al-Furqan Foundation.





Weekend Retreat

OUR THIRD ANNUAL retreat, attended by ninety-one participants, was held at Cambridge's historic Selwyn College from 30 March – 1 April on the theme of 'Contemplating the Divine through Nature.' The programme began with a Friday khutba by **Shaykh Abdal Hakim Murad** on 'The Sacred Nature of the Islamic Calendar' and **Dr Sohail Hanif's** reflections on 'Inhabiting the Earth: Qur'anic Reflections' which set the tone for the weekend.

Over the next two days we explored this theme through a variety of media, from academic lectures, physical activities, and creative workshops to spiritual and more reflective sessions. Highlights included visits to the Institute of Astronomy and the Botanical Gardens in Cambridge, Muslim Tai Chi and Silat classes, plus lectures from our Templeton research fellows on quantum theory and artificial intelligence, as well as talks from our BA lecturers on self-knowledge and prophetic speech, and sessions on naturopathy and prophetic medicine.

The weekend ended with a visit to CMC's Unity House for a final tea party and farewell. Despite the weather not offering the usual opportunity to relax in the gardens, the warmth of the companionship enjoyed during the retreat continues to foster lasting connections between those who attend every year.

CMC IMAMS ON AIR

We have hosted BBC Radio Four presenter **Mishal Husain** on several occasions, when she has kindly spoken to our students about her work in the media and issues of minority and women's representation. On December 5 2017 she interviewed our Dean and several CMC trainee imams on the Today Programme, bringing an awareness of our work to a wide audience.

CMC IN SOUTH AFRICA

From January 3-9 Professor Murad lectured at a range of mosques in Cape Town, Durban, Johannesburg and Pretoria, and also at Awqaf South Africa and other important hubs for the country's highly-successful Muslim community. Discussions were held on the possibility of South African imams and chaplains traveling to Cambridge for bespoke programmes inspired by our Diploma course.



First Interreligious Conference

March 7-9 witnessed a major new development in CMC's commitment to theological engagement with other religions, with a conference entitled 'Theological Anthropology in Interreligious Perspective' held at the Senate House of the University of Tübingen. The conference, generously supported by the Franz Thysen Stiftung, was jointly convened by **Professor Abdal Hakim Murad** (CMC), **Professor Lejla Demiri** (Centre for Islamic Studies at the University of Tübingen), **Professor Christoph Schwöbel** (Faculty of Protestant Theology, University of Tübingen), and **Dr Alexei Bodrov** (Director, St Andrew's Biblical Theological Institute in Moscow).

Papers were given by **Recep Şentürk** (Ibn Haldun University), **Dan Madigan** (Georgetown University), **Ralf Wüstenberg** (Europa-Universität Flensburg), **Conor Cunningham** (University of Nottingham), **Paul Hardy** (New York), **Samer Rashwani** (University of Tübingen), **Simone Dario Nardella** (University of Calabria), **Michael Kirwan** (Heythrop College), **Sa'diyya Shaikh** (University of Cape Town), **Charlo**

Camilleri (Malta University), **Amina Nawaz** (University of Tübingen), **Donna Orsuto** (Pontifical Gregorian University), **Lejla Demiri** (University of Tübingen), **Svetlana Konacheva** (Russian State University for the Humanities), **Abdal Hakim Murad** (CMC), **Mujaddad Zaman** (University of Tübingen), **Friedrich Schweitzer** (University of Tübingen), **Ruggero Vimercati Sanseverino** (University of Tübingen), **Ilshat Nasyrov** (Russian Academy of Sciences, Moscow), and **Ivana Noble** (Charles University of Prague).

The organisers are grateful also to **Stefan Schreiner** (University of Tübingen), **David Marshall** (Georgetown University), **Katrin König** (University of Tübingen), **Erdal Toprakyan** (University of Tübingen), **Volker Leppin** (University of Tübingen), **Aaron Loone**, and **Alexei Bodrov** (St Andrews Biblical Theological Institute, Moscow), for chairing sessions, and also to **Jennah Sari** and her team for their able organisational skills!

Following the remarkable success of this first collaborative event it has been agreed that CMC will host the second conference in the series in March 2019.

MUIS back at CMC

On March 23 we were honoured to receive a delegation from the Islamic Religious Council of Singapore (MUIS). The six-strong delegation was accompanied by **Ms Yeoh Chee Yan**, Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Culture, Community and Youth. Singapore's madrasas currently graduate around 120 ulema annually, and plans are afoot to create a centre of higher Islamic education known as the Singapore Islamic College, to train Singaporean scholars in the teachings of traditional Islam in the context of a multi-confessional nation state. The delegation was welcomed by the Dean and senior staff, and was briefed extensively on CMC's educational philosophy and the design of its curriculum. We look forward to further engagement with our Singaporean colleagues during an upcoming CMC visit to Singapore and Malaysia.



Symposium with Tabah

On 19-20 December 2017 we co-convened an international symposium in Cambridge with the Tabah Foundation. The event was entitled ‘Universal Science (*al-‘ilm al-kullī*) and the Order of Knowledge.’

HIGHLIGHTS INCLUDED:

Dr Yahya Michot (Hartford Seminary), ‘Semiotics, Epistemology and Aestheticism in the Late Ottoman Era’.

Dr Mahmoud Masri (ISAM, Istanbul), ‘From the Foundations of Ash‘arī Kalām to a Renewal of an Intelligible Discourse’.

Dr Walead Mosaad (Lehigh University), ‘Essence and Existence: Between the Intellectual and Spir-

itual Disciplines and their Metaphysical Implications’.

Jihad Brown (Tabah Research), ‘The Evolution of Truth and Gilson’s Critique of Heidegger’s “Truth as Un-concealment”’.

Dr Omar Qureshi (Zaytuna College), ‘Muslim Theologians and Universals’.

Dr Sümeyye Parıldar (Istanbul University), ‘Gelenbevi’s Theory of Knowledge’.

Dr Karim Lahham (Tabah Research), ‘The Principle of Non-Contradiction and Ontological Necessity’.

The final dinner was addressed by **Dr Rowan Williams**.

Second Science and Religion Conference

We held our second Religion & Science Conference at Trinity Hall, University of Cambridge, on the developing field of artificial intelligence and the physics and theology of consciousness. The conference ran over two consecutive days, 15–16 September 2018. Internationally renowned experts from both fields explored connections between new theories of intelligence, cognition and consciousness alongside philosophical, theological and religious perspectives.

The papers included:

Dr Mark Harris (University of Edinburgh), ‘Introduction to Religion and Science Discourse’.

Professor Margaret Boden (Centre for Cognitive Science, University of Sussex), ‘Not Gizmos, but Ghosts: AI and the Mind’.

Dr David Glass (Computer Science Research Institute, Ulster University), ‘AI, Emotions and the Image of God’.

Dr Paul Schweitzer (Informatics Forum, University of Edinburgh), ‘Artificial Brains and Hybrid Minds’.

Dr Abubakar Abid (Department of Electrical Engineering, Stanford University) and **Dr Mehmet Efe Akengin** (MIT), ‘Using AI for Fatwas: A Turing Test for Legal Reasoning’.

Dr Nazif Muhtaroglu (Beyşehir University), ‘An Analysis of Strong AI in terms of Two Ontologies’.

Dr Mujeeb Khan (Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, Tokyo University), ‘Knowledge and Fact: Artificial Intelligence and Human Cognition in the Islamic Tradition’.

Professor Luciano Floridi (Oxford Internet Institute, University of Oxford), ‘Technologies of Hope’.

Dr Brian Pitts (Faculty of Philosophy, University of Cambridge), ‘The Mind-Body Problem, Energy Conservation, and General Relativity’.

Dr Asim Islam (Cambridge Muslim College), ‘The Symphony of Soul and Body: Quantum Theory, Duality and Brain Dynamics’.

Dr Sarah Lane Richie (St Mary’s School of Divinity, University of St Andrews), ‘God and the “Hard Problem”: Does Religion Need Consciousness to Remain a Mystery?’

Dr Ron Chrisley (Centre for Cognitive Science, University of Sussex), ‘Artificial Intelligence and Theology’.

Dr Paul Kaplick (Institute for Interdisciplinary Research, University of Amsterdam), ‘Where is the locus of the intellect?’

Dr Yaqub Chaudhary (CMC), ‘Epistemology Artificialised’.

Professor Constantine Sandis (University of Hertfordshire), ‘Action Explanation for Robots’.

Dr Daniel D. De Haan (Faculty of Divinity, University of Cambridge), ‘Confronting Conflicting Concepts of Consciousness.’

The conference, for which all tickets sold out weeks in advance, was convened by Dr Yaqub Chaudhary. We are grateful to the Templeton Foundation for its generous support for this event, which aimed to promote a better dialogue between theology and science in this critical area of enquiry.

DISTINGUISHED GUESTS

In the last few months the College has welcomed the Conservative peer **Baroness Sayeeda Warsi**, well-known for her critique of the government’s Prevent policy; **Mufti Ateeq Bastawi**, senior member of the All-India Personal Law Board; **Habib Ali al-Jifri** (Director-General of Tabah Research); **Professor Yahya Michot** (Hartford Seminary); **Professor Necmettin Kızılkaya** (Istanbul University); **HE Alisher Kurmanov** (Ambassador of Uzbekistan); **Shaykh Nizam Yaqoobi** (Bahrain Islamic

Bank); **Sedick Isaacs** (Awqaf South Africa); **Dr Mahmut Ay** (Istanbul); **Rabbi Dr Maoz Kahana** (Tel Aviv University); the **Rt Revd Stephen Conway** (Bishop of Ely); the late **Professor Leonard Lewisohn** (University of Exeter); **Professor John Hoover** (University of Nottingham); **Dr Mehmet Görmez** (Hacettepe University); and **Dr Damir Mukhetdinov** (Deputy Mufti of the Russian Federation), together with representatives from the muftiats of Siberia, Kazan, and North-West Russia.



THE COMMON ROOM



ZAKAT

Investing in your Future Leaders

In our troubled times there is a very urgent need to preserve scholarship and the prophetic tradition, as stated in the hadith, 'Scholars are the inheritors of the Prophets'. You can make a difference by helping our scholars and students of knowledge, thereby ensuring that we have strong leaders who can shape and guide our community in future generations.

Aside from general donations (*sadaqa*), Cambridge Muslim College now accepts zakat donations which are used for students experiencing financial hardship. Only students who are zakat-eligible receive the zakat funds that you entrust us with. For more information, please visit www.cambridgemuslimcollege.org/support-us/zakat. You can also donate your zakat by filling out and returning the form below.



CAMBRIDGE MUSLIM COLLEGE

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REGULAR GIVING

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The Cambridge Muslim College is a registered charity in the United Kingdom, no. 1137219.



Please get in touch if you would like more information, or if you would like to subscribe to our news list. We would be delighted to hear from you. Find us on Facebook and Twitter (@cmc_cambridge).

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