



# **SOLIDARITY AND STEWARDSHIP: INTERFAITH APPROACHES TO GLOBAL CHALLENGES**

**4-5th June 2007**

**Al Akhawayn University  
Avenue Hassan II, 53000 Ifrane, Morocco**

## **PROGRAMME**

### **MONDAY 4 JUNE**

**07:30 – 08:45**                    **BREAKFAST (FACULTY RESTAURANT)**

**09:00**                                **WELCOME (BOARD ROOM)**

**10:00 – 11:00**                    **KEYNOTE SPEAKER**

**Venerable Mae-Chee Sansanee**  
*Sathira-Dhammasathan, Thailand*

**11:00 – 11:15**                    **TEA**

**11:15 – 13:15**                    **SESSION 1 (BOARD ROOM)**

**MIGRATION:  
RELIGION, IDENTITY AND ALLEGIANCE ACROSS BORDERS**

Intercontinental migration is a critical characteristic of globalization processes. How does that migration transform the constitution of personal and collective identities? How are migration and multiculturalism changing communities and states worldwide? What role can and should of interfaith dialogue play in those processes?

**Dr. Driss Maghraoui [Chairperson]**

*Al Akhawayn University, Morocco*

**Professor Aicha Belarbi**

*University Mohammed V, Morocco*

**Dr. Filali-Ansary**

*Institute for the Study of Muslim Civilisations, UK*

**Dr. Navtej Purewal**

*Manchester University, UK*

**Mr. Rachid Benzine** (to be confirmed)

*Université Lyon II, France*

**Dr. Ravinder Bhatia [Rapporteur]**

*The Scholar Ship Research Institute, UK*

**13:15 – 14:30**

**LUNCH**

**14:30 – 16:30**

**SESSION 2 (BOARD ROOM)**

**CONFLICT RESOLUTION:**

**INTERFAITH PROMOTION OF PEACE AND RECONCILIATION**

Can interfaith dialogue help to promote peaceful resolution of conflict through processes of reconciliation and de-othering? What lessons can be learned from religious leaders and other activists actively engaged in the practical mechanisms of interfaith dialogue? How can the academic discipline of international relations move beyond identifying religion as a source of conflict and better address the root causes of inter-religious conflict?

**Rev. Karen Smith [Chairperson]**

*Al Akhawayn University, Morocco*

**Prof. Seniha Kadayifci**

*American University, USA*

**Dr. Mohamed Tozy**

*Casablanca, Morocco*

**Rev. Jacques Levrat**

Groupe de Recherche Islamo Chretien  
Beni Mellal, Morocco (To be confirmed)

**Dr. Carlos Jacques [Rapporteur]**

*Al Akhawayn University, Morocco*

**16:30**

**END DAY 1**

**19:30**

**DINNER (VIP ROOM)**

## TUESDAY 5 JUNE

**07:30 – 09:00**                    **BREAKFAST (FACULTY RESTAURANT)**

**09:30 – 11:30**                    **SESSION 3 (BOARD ROOM)**

### **ENVIRONMENTAL AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT**

Climate change, sustainable development and growing economic and social disparities are foremost among humanity's common challenges. What role should diverse spiritual traditions play in identifying and implementing consensus-based solutions? How do individual faiths address the questions of human solidarity and environmental stewardship? Under what conditions can political officials, scientists and religious leaders establish viable synergies between policy, science and faith?

**Dr. Eric Ross [Chairperson]**

*Al Akhawayn University, Morocco*

**Cheikh Guèye**

*ENDA-Tiers Monde*

*(Environmental Development Action in the Third World), Senegal*

**Ms. Nadia El-Awady**

*Managing Science Editor, IslamOnline.net , Egypt*

**Bishop Geoff Davies and Ms. Kate Davies**

*South African Faith Communities' Environment Institute, South Africa*

**Dr. John Shoup [Rapporteur]**

*Al Akhawayn University, Morocco*

**12:00-14:00**                    **LUNCH (VIP ROOM)**

**14:00-16:00**                    **SESSION 4 (BOARD ROOM)**

### **EDUCATION FOR INTERFAITH AWARENESS**

Education across religious differences may serve to overcome misunderstanding and conflict between religious communities. What role can religious education play in overcoming conflicts that are religiously motivated or influenced? What epistemological and pedagogical instruments may best serve such a purpose? How should the formal and informal educational approaches differ in structure and content? In other words, how should religion be taught? And what role should the state or non-state actors have in its teaching?

**Dr. Ravinder S. Bhatia [Chairperson]**

*The Scholar Ship, UK*

**Dr. Ahmed Abaddi**

*Ministère des Habous et des Affaires Islamiques, Morocco*

**Dr. Mathew Chandrankunnel CMI**  
*Dharmaram College, India*

**Dr. Simon Levy**  
*Mohammed V University, Fondation du Patrimoine Judeo-marocain, Morocco*

**Dr. Navtej Purewal [Rapporteur]**  
*Manchester University, UK*

<b>16:00 – 16:10</b>	<b>CLOSING SESSION</b>
<b>16:10</b>	<b>CONFERENCE CLOSE</b>
<b>18:00 – 19:00</b>	<b>MUSIC</b>
<b>19:30</b>	<b>DINNER (VIP ROOM)</b>

**WEDNESDAY 6 JUNE**

<b>07:30 – 08:45</b>	<b>BREAKFAST (FACULTY RESTAURANT)</b>
	<b>DEPARTURE</b>