The International Institute of Islamic Thought (IIIT) is a private non-profit, academic, and cultural organization concerned with issues of Islamic thought. The Institute was founded in 1981 and is headquartered in Herndon, Virginia, USA with branch offices in several major capitals throughout the world.

The Institute is dedicated to promoting research, producing publications and organizing conferences related to Islamic thought and contemporary social sciences.

The IIIT seeks to integrate contemporary scientific methods and knowledge within an Islamic framework through ijtihad in order to overcome the intellectual and cultural crisis in which the Muslim world is mired and thereby to reform and revitalize Islamic thought. The Institute maintains that the tools, categories, concepts and modes of analysis of secular thought has caused a discontinuity between the cultural and social reality of Muslims, and inevitably, a total inability to acknowledge the overriding principles and virtues of Islam itself.

The Institute has become a forum through which Muslim scholars have rekindled an ongoing debate on Islamic intellectualism and thought through research, publications, conferencing and networking. IIIT has published over 400 titles primarily in Arabic and English, as well as in major languages such as French, Turkish, Chinese, Urdu, Farsi, Malay and others.

The Institute also publishes two quarterly refereed academic journals:
- American Journal of Islamic Social Sciences (AJISS) – English
- Islamiyyat al-Ma'rifah – Arabic
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Ibn Ashur’s famous and pioneering study of the Shari‘ah’s higher objectives and goals. To restore the intimate contact between Muslims and the Qur’an scholars developed the study of the objectives of Islam. The Shari‘ah is marked by a universal wisdom whereby every legal ruling has a function which it performs, an aim which it realises, an intention which it seeks to fulfil and all of this in order to realise benefit to human beings or to ward off harm or corruption.

**TOWARDS REALIZATION OF THE HIGHER INTENTS OF ISLAMIC LAW**
by Gamal Eldine Attia

This book takes an important step to realize the higher intents of Islamic law (maqāsid al-shari‘ah) by attempting to integrate contemporary values and worldviews into maqasid terminology. It also tackles complex theoretical questions on the role of maqasid in ijtihad, juristic theorization (usul), and the Islamization of the human, social, and physical sciences.
IMAM AL-SHATIBI’S THEORY OF THE HIGHER OBJECTIVES AND INTENTS OF ISLAMIC LAW
by Ahmad al-Raysuni

This book represents a pioneering contribution presenting a comprehensive theory of the objectives of Islamic Law in its various aspects, as well as a painstaking study of objectives-based thought as pioneered by the father of objectives-based jurisprudence, Imam Abu Ishaq al-Shatibi; in addition, the author presents us with an important study of al-Shatibi himself which offers a wealth of new, beneficial information about the life, thought and method of this venerable imam.

MAQASID AL-SHARIAH AS PHILOSOPHY OF ISLAMIC LAW: A SYSTEMS APPROACH
by Jasser Auda

Islamic law is about achieving the juridical purposes (maqāṣid al-shari‘ah) of justice, mercy, wisdom, and common good. However, many ‘Islamic rulings’ (fatwās) issued today effectively replace justice with injustice, mercy with cruelty, wisdom with nonsense, and common good with mischief. This book argues that such rulings do not belong to the Islamic law, even if they were claimed to be so according to some interpretation. In this pathbreaking study, Jasser Auda presents a systems approach to the philosophy and juridical theory of Islamic law based on its purposes (maqāṣid).
Maqāsid al-shari‘ah, or the higher goals and objectives of Islamic law, is an important and yet somewhat neglected theme of the Shari‘ah. Generally the Shari‘ah is predicated on the benefits of the individual and that of the community, and its laws are designed so as to protect these benefits and facilitate improvement and perfection of the conditions of human life on earth. This easy to read guide gives a birds eye view of the subject, simplifying its main principles to help readers understand the subject of maqāsid al-shari‘ah and how it explains the ‘wisdoms behind rulings.’

Current applications (or rather, misapplications) of Islamic law are reductionist rather than holistic, literal rather than moral, one-dimensional rather than multidimensional, binary rather than multi-valued, deconstructionist rather than reconstructionist, and causal rather than teleological. There is lack of consideration and functionality of the over-all purposes and underlying principles of the Islamic law as a whole. Further, exaggerated claims of ‘rational certainty’ (or else, ‘irrationality’) and ‘consensus of the infallible’ (or else, ‘historicity of the scripts’) add to lack of spirituality, intolerance, violent ideologies, suppressed freedoms, and authoritarianism.
The maqāṣid al-shari‘ah have been either directly stated in the Qur’an and the Sunnah or inferred from these by a number of scholars. All of these address the raison d’etre of the Shari‘ah which, as recognized by almost all the jurists, is to serve the interests of all human beings and to save them from harm. In this paper Dr. Chapra explores the Islamic vision of development in relation to the maqāṣid al-shari‘ah arguing that Islam has emphasized all the ingredients of human well-being, including the human self, faith, intellect, posterity as well as wealth, for society to flourish.
QUR’AN AND POLITICS: A STUDY ON THE ORIGINS OF POLITICAL THOUGHT IN THE MAKKAN VERSES

by Eltigani Abdul-Qadir Hamid

This work is about the origins of political thought and a study of the philosophy of politics. It examines the actions of the state as the main power concerned with public affairs in society, and enquires into which public action is considered good or bad in relation to other value systems endorsed by Islam.


A THEMATIC COMMENTARY ON THE QUR’AN

by Shaykh Muhammad al-Ghazali

A Thematic Commentary is a significant contribution to the reading of the Qur’an. Al-Ghazali’s contribution is somewhat unique (and modern) in the sense that it focuses on the organic unity of each surah (chapter) highlighting the logic or inherent reasoning that courses through the surah and unifies its various components and images.

**VARIANT READINGS OF THE QUR’AN**

*by Ahmad Ali al-Imam*

This fascinating and important book attempts to investigate the nature of the seven *ahruf* in which the Qur’an has been revealed and the reason for the variations in readings among the Qurā’ of the Qur’an.

**APPROACHING THE SUNNAH: COMPREHENSION & CONTROVERSY**

*by Yusuf al-Qaradawi*

The Sunnah provides the stable moral framework enabling Muslims by formal rules and an inward sense to know right from wrong. This book addresses the danger of simplistically viewed, misused and widely misinterpreted hadith. Hadith need to be approached with wisdom and understanding. The author examines what makes a hadith sound or weak, and how certain hadith are being sensationalised without understanding their evolution and development.
**SOURCE METHODOLOGY IN ISLAMIC JURISPRUDENCE**  
*by Taha Jabir al-Alwani*

Usūl al-fiqh is a science which is deeply embedded in the Islamic experience and one which, thanks to its methods and concerns, helped generate an empirical trend in Muslim culture, in turn benefiting Western thinking. Itself a creation of influences from within and without, al-usūl, often called “the philosophy of Islam,” invites both reason and revelation to work for the harmony and well-being of human society.


**AL-TAWHID**  
*by Isma‘il Raji al Faruqi*

The subject of tawhīd affords the reader not only a look at the axial doctrine of Islam, but also allows the reader to understand that doctrine from a number of different perspectives. The author touches upon a broad spectrum of subjects, drawing into his discussions elements from history, comparative religion, anthropology, philosophy, ethics, epistemology, archaeology, and other disciplines.

Hardback: (ISBN: 0-912463-79-1) – Price: $16*
CONTEMPORARY ISSUES AND ISLAMIC THOUGHT

ISLAMIC AWAKENING: BETWEEN REJECTION & EXTREMISM
by Yusuf al-Qaradawi

Under the extraordinary pressures of the economic and political challenges of the modern world, it comes as no surprise that many of our young Muslims have reacted by treading the path of intolerance and rigid interpretation. In this thoughtful and timely book the author examines the worldwide revival of interest in Islam and articulates the wisdom of understanding both the letter and the spirit of the Qur’an and the Sunnah.


RETHINKING MUSLIM WOMEN AND THE VEIL
by Katherine Bullock

A powerful critique of the popular western notion that the veil is a symbol of Muslim women’s oppression. Until now the bulk of the literature about the veil has been written by outsiders who do not themselves veil. This literature often assumes a condescending tone about veiled women, assuming that they are making uninformed choices about veiling that makes them subservient to a patriarchal culture and religion. Rethinking Muslim Women and the Veil offers an alternative viewpoint, based on the thoughts and experiences of Muslim women themselves.

This collection of papers aims to discover some of the biases latent in our terminology, methodologies, research tools and conceptual principles and to propose alternative ones marked by a greater degree of independence and neutrality. The book emphasises the danger of making the West the ultimate point of reference and then trying to continuously play “catch up” with it.

**EPISTEMOLOGICAL BIAS: IN THE PHYSICAL & SOCIAL SCIENCES**
edited by Abdelwahab M. Elmessiri

This collection of papers presents a reformist project calling upon Muslim intellectuals and scholars everywhere to comprehend the vast breadth and depth of the crisis engulfing Muslim thought today and the necessity of solving this crisis to enable the Ummah to experience a revival and fulfill its role among the nations of the world.

**ISSUES IN CONTEMPORARY ISLAMIC THOUGHT**
by Taha Jabir al-Alwani

A passionate call to re-employ knowledge in relation to divine revelation to challenge the worldwide positivism that has gripped all curricula in universities, schools, and all areas of education, and which has severed the relationship between the Creator, and His universe, driving a wedge between knowledge and God.

This is the first book in Forensic Psychiatry that focuses on the application of psychiatry to legal issues connected with Islamic jurisprudence. Holding a unique position amongst the world’s religions in its containment of every aspect of human existence, it is openly natural for Islam to govern both the spiritual and legislative aspects of life. It is not surprising that one of the most important conclusions drawn by the study is the ability of Islamic jurisprudence to cover almost every issue raised in the field of forensic psychiatry.
PEACE AND THE LIMITS OF WAR
by Louay M. Safi

Dr. Safi provides a systematic analysis of the Qur’anic reference and the prophetic traditions on peace and war. He critically examines the views of classical and modern Islamic scholars in light of the original intent of the Shari‘ah. While his views on this subject were articulated as early as 1988, his analysis continues to provide a balanced understanding of the most misunderstood concepts of Islam.


INTERFAITH DIALOGUE: A GUIDE FOR MUSLIMS
by Muhammad Shafiq & Mohammed Abu-Nimer

Islam recognizes a plurality of faiths and asks Muslims to respect others, and Muslims are responding to this call enthusiastically. Like their predecessors, many contemporary Muslims are eager to promote interfaith dialogue. But in order to do so effectively, they need to understand the challenges that face them in relating to other faith groups. This guide is an educational initiative to clarify misconceptions by introducing inter-faith dialogue as it is defined in its contemporary usage.

CRISIS IN THE MUSLIM MIND
by AbdulHamid A. AbuSulayman

Crisis in the Muslim Mind examines the intellectual and historical roots of the malaise that has overspread the Ummah and threatens to efface its identity. First published in Arabic in 1991 this important work (in an abridged English translation) is designed to familiarize educated and concerned Muslims with the nature of the crisis confronting them, and to suggest the steps necessary to overcome it.

SOCIAL JUSTICE IN ISLAM
by Deina Abdelkader

Western theoretical approaches of modernization, development, social progress and interaction, have failed to understand the dynamics of the Islamic revival. Deina Abdelkader, in this seminal work argues that questions of social justice are indelibly tied to the phenomenon of contemporary Islamic resurgence as the quest for social justice is in fact motivated by the Shari‘ah – hence an integral part of Islamic life and weltanschauung.
The ongoing revival of Islam in almost all Muslim countries has created the need for a clear, integrated picture of the programme that Islam has to offer to realise the kind of well-being that it envisages, and to counter the different problems now facing mankind, particularly in the economic field.

*ISLAM AND THE ECONOMIC CHALLENGE*

*by M. Umer Chapra*

MUSLIM CONTRIBUTIONS TO WORLD CIVILIZATION

edited by M. Basheer Ahmed, Syed A. Ahsani, Dilnawaz A. Siddiqui

Islam’s brilliant contributions to science, art, and culture, are a timeless and precious heritage. This collection of papers aims to give readers a brief introduction to the intellectual history of Muslims and the contributions that eminent Muslim scholars have made in certain specific fields of knowledge.

CONTEMPLATION: AN ISLAMIC PSYCHOSPIRITUAL STUDY

by Malik Badri

Delving into the true meaning and experience of Islamic spirituality, based on a person’s awareness and recognition of his existence and place in Creation, Malik Badri reveals the limitations and contradictions of the current prevailing schools of psychology that deny the existence of the soul and perceive humans as mere machines acting on external stimuli.
The Ethics of Disagreement may be perceived as an explanation of the etiquette envisioned by Islam for all those engaged in discourse and intellectual dialogue. To a great extent, the book is an exposition of the higher principles and purposes of the Shari‘ah which provide Muslims with perspectives far vaster than those afforded by pedantic debate over points of law and procedure, or fine distinctions between conflicting theological arguments.

Wholeness and Holiness in Education

Critically examining the Western, secular approach to formal education the author contests the value of an education system focusing solely on the intellectual and physical aspects of human development. The methodo-logical aim and structure of this approach are compared to those of Islam which Dr. Al Zeera notes gives credence to the importance of spiritual and religious factors, as well as scholarly ones, with the overall objective of forming a whole and holy human being who, instead of resisting the paradoxes of life, uses their interrelatedness as a means of personal and societal development.
A GUIDE FOR AUTHORS, TRANSLATORS AND COPY-EDITORS: IIIT STYLE-SHEET
prepared by IIIT London Office

This is a concise guide for authors, translators, editors, copy-editors and proof-readers involved in the production of manuscripts for publication. A brief overview of successive stages in the production process is given along with guidelines on how to prepare and submit work.


STRATEGIC PLANNING AND IMPLEMENTATION FOR ISLAMIC ORGANIZATIONS
by Rafik Issa Beekun

In this book the author shares over two decades of teaching, research, and strategic thinking with Islamic organizations globally. He describes the step-by-step processes of strategic planning and implementation, and asserts that these must be complemented synergistically by leadership, structure, culture, ethics and tawakkul (trusting in Allah) to produce tangible, sustainable results.

Now more than ever before, young Muslim men and women need to improve not only their personal skills but also their group performances. This guide presents easy-to-follow instructions which can be used by those who desire to acquire these skills. It also concentrates on the training needs of young Muslims by condensing the experience acquired over the last several decades by Muslim leaders. Thus the new generation of leaders will be able to start from where their leaders left off, rather than having to duplicate their predecessors’ successes and/or failures.
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TOWARD GLOBAL CULTURAL RENEWAL: MODERNITY AND THE EPISTEME OF TRANSCENDENCE
by Mona M. Abul-Fadl


OCCASIONAL PAPER No. 8:
THE ISLAMIZATION OF KNOWLEDGE: YESTERDAY AND TODAY
by Taha Jabir al-Alwani, translated by Yusuf Talal DeLorenzo


OCCASIONAL PAPER No. 9:
MISSING DIMENSIONS IN CONTEMPORARY ISLAMIC MOVEMENTS
by Taha Jabir al-Alwani, translated by the IIIT Translation Department, IIIT (UK)


This paper is a timely and important subject and a long awaited contribution to an area of fiqh that has become essential for the well being and development of Muslim communities living in the West. The author stresses that the problems of Muslim minorities can only be tackled with a fresh juristic vision based on the principles, objectives and higher values of the Qur’an in conjunction with the ultimate aims and intents of the Shari’ah.

OCCASIONAL PAPER No. 11:
MARITAL DISCORD (New Revised Edition)
by AbdulHamid A. AbuSulayman

This paper examines the issue of marital discord with a deep sensitivity to the perspective of women. Criticising an approach to the Qur'an that is misogynistic rather than emancipatory the paper moves the debate forward by introducing an alternative interpretation of the Qur'anic text. The explanation is fresh, firmly on the side of women’s human rights and recaptures the full Islamic spirit of human dignity.

Paperback: (ISBN: 1-56564-446-5) – Price: £4.00 - $5.95

OCCASIONAL PAPER No. 12:
REVITALIZING HIGHER EDUCATION IN THE MUSLIM WORLD
by AbdulHamid A. AbuSulayman

This paper calls for reforming our approach to education particularly through the Islamization of Knowledge so that both divine and human sources are integrated into a powerful whole with Revealed Knowledge providing a comprehensive, spiritual and moral guidance in the sphere of human action, universal laws, and scientific and technological knowledge as tools for that action.

The American Journal of Islamic Social Sciences (AJISS) is an interdisciplinary journal that publishes a wide variety of scholarly research on all facets of Islam and the Muslim world: anthropology, economics, history, philosophy and metaphysics, politics, psychology, religious law, and traditional Islam.

The Institute’s second refereed academic journal, *Islamiyat al Ma’rifah*, is in Arabic. This journal publishes articles that address methodologies used to analyze the Qur’an and Sunnah, Islamic heritage, and civilization in general, as well as epistemological worldviews and methodologies dealing with the thinking process and human behavior.
## OTHER PUBLICATIONS

### ISLAMIZATION OF KNOWLEDGE:

19. Islam: Source and Purpose of Knowledge, 1988, 368pp, $24.50 HB.


**ISSUES IN CONTEMPORARY ISLAMIC THOUGHT:**


**RESEARCH MONOGRAPHS:**

OCCASIONAL PAPERS (PAKISTAN OFFICE):


HUMAN DEVELOPMENT:

2. Islamic Business Ethics, Rafik Issa Beekun, 2006, 80pp, $12.00.

PERSPECTIVES ON ISLAMIC THOUGHT:

3. The Socio-Political Thought of Shah Waliallah, Muhammad Al-Ghazali, IIIT Pakistan, 2001, 335pp, $22.00.

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