

The School of International Studies & Ghazali Shafie Graduate School of Government
(UUM College of Law, Government and International Studies), Universiti Utara Malaysia

with

مجمع دراسات بيت المقدس (إسراء)

ACADEMY FOR ISLAMICJERUSALEM STUDIES (ISRA) in the UK

The 13th International Academic Conference on Islamicjerusalem Studies (2012)

PALESTINE AND ISLAMICJERUSALEM

Introducing Islamicjerusalem Studies to South East Asia

Tuesday & Wednesday, 10-11 April 2012

Followed by a Roundtable Discussion on 12 April 2011

Universiti Utara Malaysia, Kedah

Call for Papers

Theme

'Palestine and Islamicjerusalem' is at the heart of the world's monotheistic religions. Numerous books and articles have been written on the Muslim connections with this land by Arabs and Muslims. However many of these published works have an emotional bias and very few can be regarded as good academic writings. This absence from the academic arena has allowed Orientalists and Israeli academics to fill the gap by marketing their academic works on Islamicjerusalem.

Based on the approach of specialisation and integration, the establishment of the new field of inquiry of Islamicjerusalem was a process and a journey that took nearly a decade, 1994-2003, which adopted the principle of gradual establishment and development. The field went through a number of stages. It also went through a number of stages on the road to its establishment through an integrated programme which included a number of new academic initiatives and practical steps. Developing both an institutional framework and the modes of delivery of the new field in the UK. With clear vision, passion, determination and good team of young scholars in a variety of disciplines in Islamicjerusalem Studies, the new field of inquiry of Islamicjerusalem Studies was founded and developed, drawing on interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary approaches, and a new frame of reference on Islamicjerusalem was established in the UK. Through the establishment of the Academy for Islamicjerusalem Studies (ISRA), the founder planned that research and scholarship take place in building the foundation stones of his vision for the field. In addition, through taking practical steps, he institutionalised the development, integration and promotion of the new field within academia, especially within the British higher education establishments.

In 2007, the Academy for Islamicjerusalem Studies (ISRA) developed a new strategic plan to expand, "transfer", and promote the new field of inquiry of Islamicjerusalem Studies beyond the UK and into the Arab and Muslim countries. South East Asia, with Malaysia as its hub, is one of the key regions to take part in implementing this new strategic plan. ISRA has a long and fruitful relationship with a number of institutions in Malaysia since 2001. For example, ISRA has invested very heavily on Malaysian young academics. It granted full scholarships to four PhD students, and 12 Masters postgraduate students (nearly one third) of the total graduates in the field. These local Malaysian graduates are truly the core of the field's greatest assets who will take the new field out into south East Asia. The plan is to find a Malaysian university where we could focus all the efforts and take the lead in developing this field in South-East Asia in general and Malaysia in particular.



Aims

This year's conference, which is the 13th in a series of International conferences held on numerous topics in this field, comes as part of the effort to develop the new field of knowledge that deals with this region in an academic and scholarly manner. Accordingly, this conference is a serious and scholarly attempt to deal with current works on Palestine and introduce IslamicJerusalem and its intellectually exciting and stimulating new field of inquiry of IslamicJerusalem Studies to South East Asia. It aims to give a better understanding of this new term and set the scene for advanced research. In other words, the objective of this Conference is namely to introduce the new terminology of IslamicJerusalem and its field of inquiry to Malaysia and south East Asia and set the agenda for the twenty-first century.

It is also hoped that the Conference will enrich our understanding of this inimitable region in West Asia, addressing some of the sensitive, important and key issues on the subject. As well as opening up and promoting intellectual, academic debate and understanding of IslamicJerusalem and its role to shed light on new lines of explanation, interpretation, and understanding.



Participants/Audience

Scholars, academicians, researchers, postgraduate and undergraduate students, and the wider public who are interested in understanding better Palestine and IslamicJerusalem and the new field of inquiry.



Topics

Researchers are invited to submit paper contributions practically for the following themes on the region of the IslamicJerusalem and other related topics:

- The historical background of the new field of inquiry of IslamicJerusalem Studies from 1994 to 2007.
- The Definitions of IslamicJerusalem, and IslamicJerusalem Studies; and the interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary approaches of the field.
- Review of the Latest Research on IslamicJerusalem Studies.
- The Significant contributions to knowledge and Examples of the latest discoveries: the geographical boundaries of IslamicJerusalem, new theory for geopolitics, models for International Relations.
- Review of the Latest Development in IslamicJerusalem Studies: The New Strategic Plan from 2007 to 2024.
- Malaysian steps to institutionalize IslamicJerusalem Studies within Malaysian Higher education.
- Examples of the current and progressive research in the field, including research on the first and second Fath (by Umar and Salah al-Din), the relationship between the Ka'bah and Al-Aqsa Mosque.

The Conference also welcomes Palestine Studies topics related to IslamicJerusalem Studies, such as:

- The current Arab-Israeli conflict and its effects.
- Palestinian refugees.
- Changing the region identity and character in the 20th century.
- Land Transformation: Israeli settlements.
- Demographic Transformation and the Current Separation wall.
- Political, Economic and Social development.
- The role of the United Nations and the other international powers.
- The impact of the current Arab Spring/Awakening on the issue of Palestine and IslamicJerusalem.



Days and Dates of the Conference

Tuesday and Wednesday, 10-11 April 2012



Venue

Universiti Utara Malaysia ([UUM](http://www.uum.edu.my)), Sintok, Kedah Darul Aman, Malaysia.



Submission of Abstracts

Participants who wish to present papers at the conference should submit 200- 300 words abstract along with their full contact details: name, professional title, occupation, postal and electronic addresses, and telephone/fax numbers. They should be submitted to the Conference Committee at the Academy for Islamicjerusalem Studies (conference@isra.org.uk) by 17 February 2012. All papers accepted to be presented at the Conference must reach the Academy by 17 March 2012.

Abstracts due: 17 February 2012



Conference Programme

The conference programme will consist of panels of papers, organized under a common theme. Each panel may consist of 2-3 paper presenters and a chair.



Round Table Discussion

The Conference will be followed by a Round Table Discussion, the following day (Thursday 12 April 2012), to discuss the practical means to implement the new strategic plan for Islamicjerusalem Studies to the Arab and Muslim countries.



Enquiries

For any inquiries, please e-mail the Chair of the Conference: a.elawaisi@gmail.com

www.isra.org.uk

