

Building Bridges

*Lessons on Civility and Religious Harmony
in Times of Intolerance and Conflict*

Saturday, October 6, 2018, 10:00 am to 2:00 pm
No charge / Lunch provided

Marriott Columbus University Area, 3100 Olentangy River Rd.

RSVP by September 22, 2018 to Fazeel S. Khan at fazskhan@aol.com

Presented by: *Lahore Ahmadiyya Islamic Society*

THE LAHORE AHMADIYYA ISLAMIC SOCIETY

hosts an educational symposium each year devoted to a topic about Islam that is relevant to contemporary issues. With the increasing rise of partisan politics and an expanding culture of divisiveness throughout the country, this year we will be highlighting lessons on civility and religious harmony from an Islamic perspective.

Like the values inherent in all religious traditions, Islam provides guidance on how to live peacefully with one's neighbor. It lays a foundation for respecting and accepting others, regardless of race, nationality or religion. It also presents specific lessons on how to engage in civil discourse with those with whom one disagrees. It's teachings further demonstrate how to respond to hate speech and how to best deal with misinformation or "fake news".

In addition to discussing these lessons, we will have presentations from persons who are bridging the informational divide in these times of intolerance and conflict. **Prof. Michael Birkel** (Religious Studies, Earlham College) will speak about his highly acclaimed book *Quran in Conversation* and **Prof. Shlomo Alon** (Head of Arabic Studies – Israel Ministry of Education, from 1986-2011) will speak about his recently completed Hebrew translation of Maulana Muhammad Ali's translation and commentary of the Quran. Local clergy – **Colleen Ogle** and **John Wallace** – will share their personal experiences on organizing opportunities to help others better understand who Muslims are and what they believe. And, we will have a representative from Revive Civility Ohio speak about the National Institute for Civil Discourse's Revive Civility initiative, which works to overcome the degradation of public dialogue.

We look forward to you honoring us with your presence!