

Spiritual and Religious

Connecting Spirituality with Religion, from an Islamic Perspective

Saturday, August 17, 2019 / 10:00 am to 2:30 pm
No charge / Lunch provided

Marriott Columbus University Area, 3100 Olentangy River Rd.
RSVP by August 10, 2019 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 recent studies showing a sharp decline in traditional religious membership and a corresponding rise in people identifying as “spiritual but not religious”, this year we will address the connection between spirituality and religion from an Islamic perspective.

Although many tend to associate religion with simple acceptance of divisive dogma, routine practice of rituals and blind following of clergy, all of which it is argued impede contemplative and personal spiritual experiences, every religion has a spiritual basis at its core. In the Islamic tradition, lessons are provided on how religion is to be understood and practiced so that life becomes a spiritual journey, based on a universal purpose to achieve closeness to the Divine. It also affords guidance on how to interpret scripture so that sacred teachings add value and have applicability to one’s daily interactions. And, it explains how its religious observances are to be performed to cultivate inner peace and establish purpose to one’s existence.

In addition to talks on these topics, we will have a presentation titled “**Jesus, the Spirit of God**”, which will discuss the unique status afforded to Jesus (and Mary) as symbols of spiritual life in the mystical tradition of Islam. We are also honored to have join us, **Syed Ambar Chisti** (President of the Moinuddin Foundation and 17th generation descendant of the famous Sufi Saint Hazrat Moinuddin Chisti of Ajmer, India), to speak about the spiritual philosophy of Sufism. And, we will have an **Exhibit** on the spiritual significance of the five pillars of Islam, which will showcase an authentic 2 foot by 3 foot piece of the silk curtain (with calligraphy in gold and silver wrapped thread) that drapes the **Holy Ka’bah** in Mecca (the most sacred site in the Muslim world).

We look forward to you honoring us with your presence!