



RESEARCH CENTER FOR ISLAMIC LEGISLATION AND ETHICS CONCLUDES SEMINAR ON ETHICS AND PSYCHOLOGY

Qatar Faculty Of Islamic Studies Member Attracts Participation From Religious Scholars And Psychiatrists At Three-Day Event

Doha, Qatar 2 December 2014: The Research Center for Islamic Legislation and Ethics (CILE), a member of the Qatar Faculty of Islamic Studies (QFIS) in Hamad Bin Khalifa University (HBKU), has concluded a specialised seminar on 'Ethics & Psychology.'

The three-day event at QFIS last week was aligned with CILE's mission to apply, recommend and disseminate Islamic thought and behaviour by engaging scholars.

Through its membership of QFIS in HBKU, which is a member of Qatar Foundation for Education, Science and Community Development (QF), CILE supports QF's mission to enhance cultural life by renewing contemporary Islamic legal and ethical thought and behaviour to address contemporary challenges.

The seminar addressed psychology, an applied research field of special significance to CILE. A group of prominent scholars of the text, along with experts of psychology and psychiatry participated in the event to ensure reconciliation between spirituality and science, legislation and ethics, and laws and objectives, to emphasise their complementary relationship. This in turn can revive the role of ethics in contemporary knowledge and contribute to developing an ethical approach that stands the test of current world challenges.

The seminar attempted to answer two questions; the first question aimed at evaluating the main approaches to understanding the nature of human beings in contemporary psychology and in Islamic heritage.

The participating scholars discussed the ethical responsibility for people's actions from a psychological and Islamic point of view. They tackled the role of metaphysics, unseen in psycho-analysis and therapy, also examining the significance of the objectives of psychology and Shariah to develop a new approach.

The second question dealt with the status of ethics in contemporary psychology through highlighting some ethical issues and challenges for both the therapist and the patient. The

seminar tackled some ethical regulations and guidelines for using individual and collective psychological techniques and mechanisms, and highlighted areas of agreement and disagreement between Shariah and psychiatry on the suitable methods of treating psychological and mental disorders from an ethical perspective.

The seminar was moderated by Sheikh Yassir Fazaga the religious Manager of Islamic Society of Orange County, Southern California, USA.

Numerous people took part in the seminar, including: Dr Rasjid Skinner, Professor of Clinical Psychology at Karachi University and Consultant of Clinical Psychology at Bradford Teaching Hospitals; Dr Mamoun Mobayed, Consultant Psychiatrist and Director of the Program Department at Qatar Foundation for the Protection and Social Rehabilitation; Professor Malik Badri, Chartered Psychologist, CPsychol of the British Psychological Society and holder of the prestigious Chair of Ibn Khaldun in the Faculty of Revealed Knowledge and Human Science of the International Islamic University in Malaysia; Saâd Dine El Otmani, Psychiatrist and former Minister of Foreign Affairs of Morocco; Dr Rabia Malik, a Consultant Systemic Psychotherapist at the Tavistock Centre in London, and Researcher of the cultural construction of mental illness.

In addition, Professor Tariq Ramadan, CILE Executive Director, and Chauki Lazhar, CILE Deputy Director were also present.

Papers were submitted by participants for the seminar. Dr Rasjid Skinner's paper answered the question: 'How do you evaluate the main approaches to understanding the nature of human beings, in contemporary psychology and in the Islamic heritage?'

Dr Mamoun Mobayed produced a paper on 'Ethics & Psychology,' while Dr Malik Badri, in his paper, addressed 'the nature of man in secular humanism and Islam, a psycho-spiritual conflict of worldview'. Dr Rabia Malik wrote a paper on 'Islam, Ethics and Psychology.' Other participants also provided comments about the submitted papers to enrich discussions and exchange different views and approaches.

Upon concluding the specialised seminar, CILE organised a public event on 'Mental and Psychological Disorders between Shariah and Psychology.' Dr Malik Badri, Dr Rabia Malik, Dr Saâd Dine El Otmani and Sheikh Yassir Fazaga participated in this seminar, which witnessed great interest and attendance.

ENDS

About CILE

The Research Center for Islamic Legislation and Ethics (CILE) aims to contribute to reform and renewal of Islamic thought by developing a contemporary vision guided by the fundamental principles of the Holy Qur'an, Sunnah and the higher objectives of Islamic Shariah.

For more information about the centre events, you may contact Ms. Fatima Azzahrae CHAABANI at the following email: fchaabani@qf.org.qa