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on

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MESSAGE FROM THE VICE CHANCELLOR

I am very much pleased to write this message on the occasion of the 7th International Symposium 2021 of the Faculty of Islamic Studies & Arabic Language of South Eastern University of Sri Lanka. The International Symposium is one of the major annual events of the Faculty and has been organized successively for the seventh year in 2021. The theme of the 7th International Symposium 2021 is “The Moderate Approach to Human Development Through Islamic Sciences and Arabic Studies”.

South Eastern University of Sri Lanka continues to develop and uphold a strong and a well-established research culture through the annual research conferences held with different but timely themes. The South Eastern University of Sri Lanka promotes new research, creates new knowledge, and disseminates the knowledge through different platforms out of which this annual research symposium also plays an important role. South Eastern University of Sri Lanka also promotes and encourages national and international researchers to benefit from these research symposia in sharing their valuable research findings among well attended researchers from different regions and countries.

This conference focuses mainly on research themes related to Islamic sciences and Arabic Studies and brings together the researchers, academicians, professionals and students who are involved directly or indirectly with the discipline from all over the world to interact among themselves while presenting their research findings. A substantial number of researchers, both from overseas and local, are participating in the 7th International Symposium 2020 of the Faculty which is held online as a Webinar. This International Conference is not only allowing exchange and sharing of information and new knowledge, but also is paving the way forward to collaborative research.

I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate the chair, co-chair and the organizing committee of the 7th International symposium 2020 for their tireless effort and commitment in organizing the event successfully. I also wish to thank all others who have contributed to make the symposium a reality. Finally, I wish the 7th International Symposium of the Faculty of Islamic Studies & Arabic Language of the South Eastern University of Sri Lanka a great success.

Professor Dr. MMM. Najim
Vice Chancellor
South Eastern University of Sri Lanka

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Bismillahir Rahmanir Raheem

As the Dean of the Faculty of Islamic Studies and Arabic Language and the Chairman of the symposium, I feel honored to write this felicitation message to the 8th International Symposium – 2021, organized by the Faculty of Islamic Studies and Arabic Language of South Eastern University of Sri Lanka. The theme of the conference is “Promoting Faith-based Social Cohesion through Islamic and Arabic Studies”.

The theme of the 8th International Symposium of Faculty of Islamic Studies and Arabic Language is significant and timely. I am happy to state that more than 110 papers have been received from local and international researchers from different disciplines. This shows the commitment of the Faculty of Islamic Studies and Arabic Language in maintaining, encouraging and improving its standard in academic activities and research.

Sri Lanka is a multi-ethnic, multi-lingual, multi-cultural and multi-religious country as the contemporary world at large. The age we live in is full of destructive forces such as conflicts, chaos and violence due to intolerance and injustice in the name of religion. Conflicts based on religious variances arise in a form of social dysfunction when the followers of a certain creed are unable to comprehend the spirit of the other religion and its essence. This leads to clash on a personal and social level. History shows that the leaders use religion to achieve their own agendas and the blind imitation of the followers towards dogmas without any in-depth knowledge in religious teaching shows that it is not religion itself that becomes the problem but it is the misuse of power, influence and authority associated with religion that creates a negative image of the community.

Religion gives people the opportunity to share common values, create a sense of unity and foster a sense of community. Also, the religious rituals, traditions and customs of any religion contribute to social cohesion. Celebrating a religious festival creates unity, which is a clear indication that religious diversity is not always a source of societal dysfunction but it is one that discovers unity within diverse religious communities.

All religions encourage altruistic values such as compassion, kindness, and mercy for the greater good of humanity. Common goals and adherence to altruistic values help people to collaborate with one another. Religious institutions play a vital role in the inter-community peace building process, upholding social justice and equality, promoting interfaith dialogue and creating a common platform to eradicate socially harmful activities such as drugs and alcohol addiction, bribery, child abuse, domestic violence, poverty, pollution, human trafficking, and afford humanitarian aids in times of need. The active involvement of the religious institutions creates a social environment contributing to a well-balanced, peaceful, and fair country.

The religion of Islam is very clear in bringing unity among all people across the globe. Social cohesion is a state of cohering or uniting people together. Al Qur’an calls for a universal human brotherhood: Addressing the entire human race, the holy Qur’an states,

“O humankind! We (Allah) have created you from a single (pair) of a male and a female and have made you into nations and tribes, so that you may come to know one another. Verily, the most honored of you in the sight of Allah is the most righteous (or Allah-conscious) of you. Surely, Allah is All-Knowing, All-Aware.” (Al-Hujurat 49:13)

By virtue of one's birth, language, color or creed alone one cannot attain acclamation, but by upholding one's conduct, it becomes the means by which one can elevate his/her honor. The following words of the Prophet (PBUH) in his final sermon explain the same. "***All mankind is from Adam and Eve, an Arab has no superiority over a non-Arab nor a non-Arab has any superiority over an Arab; also a white has no superiority over black nor a black has any superiority over white except by piety (Taqwa) and good actions.***" (Bukhari and Muslim)

I would like to congratulate all the scholars, researchers and presenters for their participation in the symposium, which will be held virtually by the distance mode due to the prevailing COVID-19 pandemic situation in the country.

Finally, I wish to express my gratitude to the Chief Guest, Prof. M.M.M. Najim, Vice Chancellor of SEUSL, Key-note Speaker, Associate Prof. Dr. Ahmad Sunawari Long, Dean, Faculty of Islamic Studies, Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia, moderators, distinguished guests, scholars, presenters, the organizing committee, University administrative staff, the Faculty staff and the students for their fullest assistance and enormous co-operation to make this historic event a success. I also wish to extend my thanks to all who supported directly and indirectly during the different stages to make this symposium a successful event.

Thank you

Prof. Dr. S.M.M. Mazahir
Dean/Faculty of Islamic Studies and Arabic Language
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MESSAGE FROM THE COORDINATOR

It is with great pleasure that I write this message to the proceedings of the 8th international symposium of the faculty of Islamic Studies and Arabic language-2021, South Eastern University of Sri Lanka. The symposium focuses on “promoting faith-based social cohesion through Islamic and Arabic Studies”. This is a great opportunity for the international community, academics, researchers and policy makers to present their findings and exchange ideas. Also, this is a good opening point to interchange knowledge and skills related to different research areas among universities and institutions. Owing to the success of the previous international symposia held since 2014, this year too we received an overwhelming response to our call-for- papers, which confirms the popularity of this forum for research in Islamic and Arabic Studies.

I am grateful to the Vice Chancellor Prof. (Dr.) MMM. Najim for the immense support and guidance rendered in organizing the symposium. I would like to extend my sincere thanks to the keynote speaker Assoc. Prof. Ahmad Sunawari Long, Dean, Faculty of Islamic Studies, Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia (UKM) and the authors for their outstanding contributions, which has enabled the publication of the “proceedings” in time. I also appreciate the timely contribution of the reviewers.

I express my gratitude to Prof. (Dr.) SMM. Mazahir, the Chairman of the symposium for his valuable support in organizing this event and to Dr. S. Rifa Mahroof, the Secretary of the symposium and all the members of the organizing committee for their untiring efforts to make this event a success.

Thank You

Dr. R. Ahamed Sarjoon
Coordinator
8th International Symposium of FIA
South Eastern University of Sri Lanka