Training of Imams and Teachers for Islamic Education in Southeast Europe
21-24 October, 2011

Programme 2011
Programmguide 2011

Hotel Victory
Nëna Terezë, pn. Prishtinë, 10000 Kosovë
The conference will delve into the significant question of how the training of Imams and teachers can contribute to the integration of Muslims in Europe. Prestigious scientists in the field of education and theology will be invited from various European countries. In addition, scholars from other continents will also be invited this year to enrich the conference. Conference participants will examine different theological models for the training of imams in Europe, the integration situation in various countries, and concepts for teachers' education.

Moreover, professional working groups will gather in workshops on specific topics and present their deliberations in a large plenary. In this context, the conference will also deal with the question of what form the contextualization of Islam in Europe should take, how Muslim children and youngsters can grow up without being attacked by the society because of their religiosity. The inter-Islamic dialogue is encouraged to be revived and to target common reforms. The conference will also offer a unique opportunity for the European reform initiatives, particularly for the Southeast European ones, to gather at a table and to focus on future visions and plans. The conference is going to provide an outstanding context to discuss in-depth principles of the European imams' and teachers' training and to plan new strategies and reforms in concrete terms. The conference is going to provide an important opportunity for young Muslim scholars to gather in one place and engage in constructive exchange. Both the presentations and discussions and the results of the conference will be published which will provide an indispensable contribution to discourse on Muslim integration in Europe. Unlike the previous Balkan conferences this year a special emphasis will placed on the promotion of women, thus female scholars will be invited in order to incorporate their research findings and approaches to the discourse and debate on Imam and teacher education. This will introduce new approaches and results from gender and feminist research thereby widening all of our horizons.
Friday, 21.October 2011

10.00-11.30

Opening Ceremony

Rame Buja  Minister for Education, Science and Technology, Republic of Kosovo

Johann Brieger  Austrian Ambassador to Kosovo

Naim Tërnava  President of Islamic Community, Republic of Kosovo

Qazim Qazimi  Dean of Faculty of Islamic Studies, Islamic Community in Kosovo

Ednan Aslan  Chair of Islamic Religious Education, Department of Education, University of Vienna

11.30-12.30

The Friday Prayer

12.30-13.45

1st Session

Moderator: Besa Ismaili, Islamic Community in Kosovo

12.30  Qazim Qazimi  Religious Identity and Globalism  Islamic Community in Kosovo

12.45  Herol Tabak  The Religious Education in Albania: The Case of Madrasah of Tirana in time intervals 1924-1964 and 1991- and on  University of Bedford

13.00  Muhamed Ali  Islamic Education in Macedonia

13.15  Xhabir Hamiti  The status of the imam and its position in the past and present- with the focus on the Albanian territories  Islamic Community in Kosovo

13.30-14.00  Discussions

14.00-14.30  Lunch break

15.00-16.45

2nd Session

Moderator: Zoltan Sulok, Organization of Muslims in Hungary

15.00  Mustafa Hasani  The status of Imams in Bosnia and Herzegovina  University of Sarajevo

15.15  Muamer Zukorlic  The role and importance of Mosque in Islamic Community  Islamic community in Serbia

15.30  Aziz Hasanović  Croatian training for Imams and professors for Islamic Education in Europe  Islamic Community of Croatia

15.45  Omer Kajoshaj  Dawah in the changing world-New challenges in the work of Imams  Islamic Community of Montenegro

16.00  Sefer Hasanov  Training of Imams and Religious Teachers in Bulgaria  Higher Islamic Studies Institute- Sofia

16.15-16.45  Discussions

16.45-17.00  Coffee break

17.00-18.45

3rd Session

Moderator: Eileen M. Daily

17.00  Vahidin Behluli  Practices for the professional advancement of Imam and Teachers of Islamic Education in Austria  Union for Albanian Muslims in Austria

17.15  Samim Akgönül  Training imams, and Higher education of Islam in France  University of Strasbourg

17.30  Mohammed Ghaly  Training Imams in Europe: The Challenges of Developing a Unified Program, Leiden University as a Study Case  Leiden University

17.45  Johan Meuleman  Educating for an old profession in a newcontext: the imam training programme of Inholland University, the Netherlands  Inholland University

18.00  Rehan Neziri  Training of Imams and Teachers for Islamic Education in Switzerland between Real Local Necessity and Imported Fear  Imam, Switzerland

18.15-18.45  Discussions

19.00  Dinner
### Saturday, 22 October 2011

#### 4th Session

**Moderator: Ednan Aslan**

- **9.00** Said Shagaviev  
  Russian Islamic University  
  Preparation and Retraining of Imams in Russia (on an example of Tatarstan)

- **9.15** George Mircea Botescu  
  University of Bucharest  
  The European model of Dobrogean Islam

- **9.30** Rustam Gafuri  
  Deputy Mufti of Ukraine  
  Islamic education in modern society is in minority conditions

- **9.45** Ibrahim Serif  
  Mufti of Komotini  
  The Legal Statue of the Muslim Turkish Minority of Western Thrace-Greece. The Current Situation on Religion and belief and the activities of the elected Mufti of Komotini.

- **10.00** Seyma Arslan  
  Istanbul University  
  Training of Imams and Teachers for Islamic Education in Turkey

#### 5th Session

**Moderator: Yasir Suleiman, University of Cambridge**

- **11.00** Abdullah Sahin  
  Centre for Muslim Educational Thought & Practice, the United Kingdom  
  The Training of Muslim Clergy (imams) and Teachers in the UK: challenges & ways forward

- **11.15** Yacob Mahi  
  University Strasbourg  
  Training of Imams and Teachers for Islamic Education in Belgium

- **11.30** Juan Ferreiro Galguera  
  University of A Coruña  
  Spain: training centres for imams

- **11.45** Jørgen S. Nielsen  
  University of Copenhagen  
  Reflections on the role and training of Islamic imams and teachers for Europe

#### 6th Session

**Moderator: Zsofia Windisch**

- **15.00** Kevser Muratovic  
  Relationship between Imams and Adolescents

- **15.15** Ilire Halimi Poniku  
  Implementation of the Quality Standards - a good opportunity for the advancement of Islamic Education in Kosovo

- **15.30** Jeton Mehmeti  
  Imams in western societies - why communication skills matter as much as the knowledge for future Kosovo imams?

- **15.45** Besa Ismaili Ahmeti  
  Kosovo women and Mosque

- **16.00** Muhammad Riaz & Muhammad Nadeem  
  Need assessment of Imams training in Pakistan

#### Discussions

**Cultural Program**

- **17.00** Dinner

### Sunday, 23 October 2011

#### 8th Session

**Moderator: Abdullah Sahin**

- **9.00** Martin Rothgangel  
  University of Vienna  
  „Spiritual competence“ – A new Key Term for Protestant Churches in German-speaking Countries

- **9.15** Eileen M. Daily  
  Loyola University Chicago  
  Formation of Catholic Religious Educators in the United States

- **9.30** Muhammad Naeem Mohsin  
  University of Education, Lahore  
  Status and analysis of Imams' professional development in Pakistan

- **9.45** Ali Yurtsever  
  Niagara Educational Services  
  The role of Imams (Muslim Chaplain) and Imam training in the US

#### Discussions

**Coffee break**

**Summary and Conclusions**

**Trip to Prizren**

**Lunch**

**Dinner**
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<th>Country</th>
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<td><strong>Albania</strong></td>
<td>Ferdinand Gjana</td>
<td>Rector, University of Bedër</td>
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