

Weekend Schedule

Registration is required for the Saturday lectures only. All are welcome to attend the events on Friday evening and Sunday morning.

Friday, February 19

AT THE ISLAMIC CULTURAL CENTER, 2111 E. NEES AVENUE

7:00 pm Opening Lecture:

Muslims' Challenges Today

A social time with light refreshments will follow the lecture.

Saturday, February 20

AT TEMPLE BETH ISRAEL, 6622 N. MAROA

8:30 am *Continental Breakfast and Registration*

9:00 am Shabbat Observance (Torah Commentary)

9:15 am Session 1, Lecture and Discussion:

Islamic Theology, Past and Present

10:30 am Break with Snacks

10:45 am Session 2, Lecture and Discussion:

Monotheism and Prophethood: The Meaning of a Creed

12:00 Noon Break

12:15 pm *Buffet Lunch (Vegetarian)*

1:15 pm Session 3, Questions and Discussion with Dr. Michot

2:30 pm *Closing*

Sunday, February 21

AT THE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH OF FRESNO,
2672 E. ALLUVIAL AVENUE

10:30 am Worship Service, with a Sermon by Dr. Michot:

The Way (Sharī'a): Ethics, Love, and Mystical Praxis

Dr. Yahya M. Michot

Dr. Yahya M. Michot is Professor of Islamic Studies and Christian-Muslim Relations at Hartford Seminary. He is on the faculty of the Macdonald Center for the Study of Islam and Christian-Muslim Relations and is a Co-Editor of the journal *The Muslim World*.

Dr. Michot grew up in Belgium. He earned his degrees at the Catholic University of Louvain, including a Ph.D. in philosophy with the highest distinction in 1981. He is fluent in French, English, Classical and Modern Standard Arabic, and Italian. He has a good working knowledge of Turkish, Persian, Spanish, German, Dutch, Latin, and ancient Greek.

His academic appointments have included the following:

- Senior Research Fellow at the Belgian National Fund for Scientific Research, 1980-1983
- Lecturer at the Institut Supérieur de Philosophie, Catholic University of Louvain, 1989-1996
- Lecturer and Director of Research at the Institut Supérieur de Philosophie, Catholic University of Louvain, 1996-1997
- Islamic Centre Lecturer in the Faculty of Theology at Oxford University and KFAS Fellow of the Oxford Center for Islamic Studies, 1998-2008
- Professor of Islamic Studies and Christian-Muslim Relations, Hartford Seminary, from September 2008 to the present

Dr. Michot's publications include several books for which he is the sole author, the most recent of which is *Muslims under Non-Muslim Rule* (Oxford-London: Interface Publications, 2006).

He also is the author of many book chapters and articles in scholarly journals. Among his recent contributions are the following:

"Ibn Taymiyya's Commentary on Al-Hallaj's Creed," in A. Shihadeh (ed.), *Sufism and Theology* (Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press, 2007)

"Ibn Taymiyya on Ikhwan al-Safa," in Nader El-Bizri (ed.), *Introduction to the Epistles of the Brethren of Purity* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2008)

"Superstition between Entertainment and Religion: Ibn Taymiyya's Viewpoint," in S. A. Smith and A. Knight (eds.), *'Superstition' in Comparative and Historical Perspective* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2008).

Dr. Michot is one of the world's foremost authorities on two historically important thinkers, Ibn Taymiyya and Avicenna.

He has taken part in scholarly conferences in Berlin, Istanbul, London, Paris, Torino, Tehran, Oxford, Copenhagen, Amman, Essex, Glasgow, Birmingham (UK), Quebec, Ankara, Thessaloniki, Athens, Mainz, Cambridge, Isfahan, Brussels, and other cities. He has given lectures by invitation at many institutions, including the Defence Academy of the United Kingdom, the Royal College of Defence Studies (UK), the Faculty of Divinity of Cambridge University, Columbia University, the Centre d'Histoire des Sciences (Paris), the University of Birmingham, the Foreign and Commonwealth Office (UK), New Scotland Yard, the School of Oriental and African Studies (London), the



Centre for Middle Eastern Studies of Cambridge University, the Université du Québec à Montréal, and the University of Manchester.

Dr. Michot has taken part extensively in inter-religious dialogue. When he decided to come to Hartford Seminary, he said that he was favorably impressed by "the interdenominational character of that seminary and its long commitment to the improvement of Christian-Muslim relations, not just through interfaith academic dialogue, but with a readiness to get involved in specific issues of public life and the will to contribute to their effective solution."

Dr. Michot has said that outside his work, "My family and community are of paramount importance to me. I also love art—particularly Islamic, medieval, and impressionist; classical music—European, Arabic, Turkish, and Iranian; manuscripts and old books with engravings; photography; and traveling. For years I have done a lot of do-it-yourself plumbing and carpentry work."

For further information,
please call (559) 435-2690 or e-mail evansalca@comcast.net.

Interfaith Scholar Weekend

REGISTRATION form for SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 2010

“Islam: A Faith for the 21st Century”

DR. YAHYA MICHOT

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Add me to your mailing list

Registration includes breakfast and lunch. All meals will be kosher style. Scholarships are available.

I have enclosed my \$40 registration fee. (\$45 for walk-in registration.)

I have enclosed my \$_____ toward my registration fee and I am requesting a scholarship.

I have enclosed my \$40 registration fee plus \$_____ toward scholarship support for others.

I have enclosed my \$10 student registration fee.

Mail this form and your check, payable to “CCCC/ISW,” to CCCC, 5550 N. Fresno St., Fresno, CA 93710
or call (559) 435-2690 for further information.

Interfaith Scholar Weekend

c/o College Community Congregational Church

5550 N. Fresno St.

Fresno, CA 93710



Interfaith Scholar Weekend
presents



DR. YAHYA MICHOT
“Islam: A Faith for the 21st Century”

FEBRUARY 19-21, 2010

Sponsoring Groups

- College Community Congregational Church
- First Congregational Church of Fresno
- Holy Family Episcopal Church
- Hope Lutheran Church
- Islamic Cultural Center of Fresno
- Jesuit Community of Fresno
- Memorial Methodist Church, Clovis
- St. Anthony of Padua Catholic Church
- St. Patrick's Community Church
- St. Paul Newman Center
- Temple Beth Israel
- Unitarian Universalist Church
- Wesley United Methodist Church

Cosponsors

- Brahma Kumaris World Spiritual Organization
- Department of Philosophy, California State University, Fresno
- Division of Biblical and Religious Studies, Fresno Pacific University
- Muslim Public Affairs Council
- The Oneness Center
- United Christian Church of Fresno