



Arab-American Conference 2014
19th to 21st of September, 2014
Conference Program

Friday, 19th September, 2014		
Afternoon Session		
3:30 – 6:00	Conference Registration	
Evening Session Presenter: Mustafa Sabri (Scholar and researcher in the Arabic language)		
6:00 – 6:30	Opening Session and Welcoming Address	Presenter: Ken Bowers (Secretary of the National Spiritual Assembly of the Baha'is of the United States)
6:30 – 6:45	Introduction to the Conference Program, Guests, and Speakers	Presenter: Sana Rouhani (Director of the Baha'i Radio and Television in Washington, D.C.)
6:45 – 7:15	Excerpts from Suheil Bushrui's Interview with Al-Mayadeen Channel, Titled "Towards a Promising Future"	
7:15 – 7:45	General Discussion	
7:45 – 8:15	Break	
8:15 – 8:45	The Arabic Language in Today's America	Lecturer: Nesreen Akhtarkhavari (Director of Arabic Studies at DePaul University in Chicago) Moderator: Helen Torabi (MS. Nursing graduate from the University of California)
Saturday, 20th September, 2014		
Morning Session A Study and Analysis of the Book Abbas Effendi (Published by Al-Jamal – Beirut)		
9:00 – 9:30	Unity in Diversity; The Foundation of Universal Peace	Lecturer: Mahmoud Chreih (An academic and literary critic, Mr. Chreih has published several books on philosophy and literature.) Moderator: Suheil Bushrui (Professor Emeritus at the University of Maryland, where he holds The George and Lisa Zakhem Kahlil Gibran Chair for Values and Peace.)
9:30 – 10:00	Abbas Effendi and the Age of Enlightenment	Lecturer: Mustafa Sabri Moderator: Nesreen Akhtarkhavari
10:00 – 10:30	Abbas Effendi's Perspective on Coexistence among Cultures	Lecturer: Sawsan Elhadi (Education consultant in the United Kingdom, and has worked as head of department and professor of linguistics at the University of Canterbury, New Zealand, and a professor and an expert on language at the University of Beijing) Moderator: Abir Majid (Born in Baghdad, Iraq, Mr. Majid is a Chemistry graduate and currently lives in the United States where he works as a telecommunication consultant)
10:30 – 11:00	Break	
11:00 – 12:00	Discussions	Moderator: Abir Majid
12:00 – 2:00	Lunch Break	
Afternoon Session The Spiritual Foundation of Human Rights and Freedom of Worship in the Holy Qur'an		
2:00 – 2:30	Human Rights, Freedoms, and Minorities in the Middle East	Lecturer: Edmund Ghareeb (An expert on Middle Eastern and media issues, Mr. Gahreeb has taught

		at Georgetown, George Washington, McGill and the University of Virginia.) Moderator: Nabil Sobhi sElias (Professor at Master of Business Administration (MBA) programs at various institutions in the United States, Canada, Mexico, France, Hong Kong, and Taiwan.)
2:30 – 3:00	Human Rights Across Civilizations	Lecturer: Wassim Elsi (A renowned professor of urology. Dr. Elsi has great contribution to the Arabic literature and Culture, and is one of the pioneers of thought and influential in public opinion.) Moderator: Sawsan Elhadi
3:00 – 3:30	Freedom of Worship in The Holy Quran	Lecturer: Issam Eido (Visiting Lecturer of Islamic Studies and Arabic in the Divinity School in Chicago) Moderator: Omid Ghaemmaghani (Assistant Professor of Arabic in the Department of Classical and Near Eastern Studies at the SUNY (State University of New York), Binghamton)
3:30 – 4:00	Arab Women and Human Rights	Lecturer: Mariam Khoursheed (A Poet and an author, Mariam Qasem El-Saad works in the fields of language, linguistics, and consultancy) Moderator: Sana Rouhani
4:00 – 4:30		Break
4:30 – 5:00	Discussions	Moderator: Nabil Sobhi Elias
5:30 – 7:30		Dinner Break
Evening Session	An Evening of Culture and Arts	
7:30 – 9:30	Artistic Achievements: Fine arts, music, theater and cinema	Presenter: Nabil Ali (Professor at the University of Alabama School of Medicine, Birmingham, Alabama. Formerly Associate Dean for Continuing Medical Education, University of Connecticut School of Medicine.)
	Artistic Achievements: Music, theater and cinema	Presenter: Sarah Ahmadi-Akhavan (A management and technical consultants focused on organizations in the non-profit sector.)
Sunday, 21st September, 2014		
Morning Session		
8:00 – 10:30	Visit to the Chicago House of Worship (for interested participants)	
11:30 – 12:00	The Arab World in the Modern Civil Society	Lecturer: Abdul Aziz Elhadi (An expert and a professor of Arabic language and literature. Mr. Elhadi has taught in various universities around the world, including China for over a decade) Moderator: Sarah Ahmadi-Akhavan
12:00 – 1:00	Concluding Session and Open Discussion	Presenter: Sarah Ahmadi-Akhavan
*Lectures shall not exceed 25 minutes in duration		