International conference on
Judicial System in Islam
with focus on
the judicial system of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia
and the Islamic Republic of Pakistan

5 – 6 April 2016

Allama Muhammad Iqbal Auditorium
Faisal Masjid Campus, Islamabad.

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Scope of the conference

A well-functioning independent judiciary is an essential requisite of a consistent and impartial administration of justice that consequently upholds the rule of law and adheres to the due process as well as ensures the preservation of rights and democracy. Unfortunately, seeking justice from the courts of law has become an expensive affair and the aggrieved faces hardships in availing relief either due to delay in dispensation of justice or prolonged process and procedure.

Being an important pillar of the state, judiciary plays a pivotal role in protection of rights of citizens, interpretation of law, preventing corruption and adjudication of all types of crimes and cases. Therefore, the administration of justice is the foundation of Muslim society and the ultimate aim of Islamic legal system. That’s why all institutions, in an Islamic political system, strives and assist each other in their sphere for supremacy of Islamic law, independence of judiciary and delivery of justice.

Numerous verses of the Qur’an and number of traditions of the Prophet (SAW) stress on this supreme virtue. The Prophet (Peace be upon him) is reported to have said: “O My slaves, I have forbidden injustice for Myself and forbade it also for you. So avoid being injustice to one another.” (Sahih Muslim)

Objectives of the conference

The judicial system of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia is based on the Qur’an and the Sunnah of the Prophet peace be upon him whereas the Qur’an and the Sunnah are the two additional sources of law in Pakistan. The Saudi legal system is unique in the sense that Islamic criminal laws as well as family laws are not yet codified whereas in Pakistan all laws are codified. Precedent has no role in the Saudi legal system as such whereas in Pakistan it is important source of law in the day to day work of judges. In addition, Pakistani procedural law is adversarial in nature whereas the Saudi procedural law is inquisitorial. However, the Saudi legal system has made tremendous progress and has developed into one of the finest legal systems in the world. The Pakistani legal system is far behind when it comes to the delay in justice and the execution of courts’ decisions. It is in this background that the conference is proposed to bring in scholars from the two brotherly countries as well as experts from other countries to have a thorough discussion on the pros and cons of the judicial systems in Pakistan and Saudi Arabia and find out how closer or farther these two systems are from the legal systems that prevailed in the golden early period of Islam. Some of the proposed themes of the conference are:

1. To what extent are the judicial systems in both countries serving the cause of implementation of Shariah;
2. What is the role of judiciary in the preservation of the higher objectives of Shariah; What are the fundamental aspects of Saudi judicial system;
3. What are the special characteristics of judiciary in Pakistan;
4. How is the independence of judiciary guaranteed in both legal systems;
5. How would closer cooperation between the judiciaries of the two nations strengthen relations between them?

Proposed important dates of the conference

- Final date of abstract: 12th February 2016
- Intimation of approved abstract: 18th February 2016
- Submission full and final paper: 10th March 2016
- Intimation of accepted paper: 21st March 2016
- Presentation of papers: 5th & 6th April 2016.