



## FREE PUBLIC LECTURE

### “HIGHER OBJECTIVES OF ISLAMIC LAW AND SPIRITUALITY”

Hosted by

#### THE GRIFFITH ISLAMIC RESEARCH UNIT (GIRU)

Key Centre for Ethics, Law, Justice and Governance

(A joint initiative of the United Nations University and Griffith University)

**Sunday 13 May 2007, 10.00am - 1.00pm**

Griffith University, Nathan Campus  
Kessels Road, Nathan  
Central Theatre 1, Building N18

Speakers:

**Mohammad Hashim Kamali** is currently Professor of Islamic Law and Jurisprudence at the International Islamic University Malaysia, Kuala Lumpur.

**Sheikh Naeem Abdul Wali** is an American convert to Islam who has studied the Islamic sciences in Istanbul for over eight years full-time at the feet of some of the finest scholars. He is currently a visiting scholar in Sydney.

Chair: **Dr Mohamad Abdalla**, Director, Griffith Islamic Research Unit

In this lecture leading scholar Professor Mohammad Hashim Kamali will explain the higher objectives of Islamic Sharia or Law and its consistency with democratic values and principles.

In contrast, Shiekh Naeem Abdul Wali will explore the spiritual side of Islam and its relevance in the grand scheme of Islamic teachings.

Refreshment will be served

**RSVP 8 May: Hilary Martyn, 3735 5821**  
email: [h.martyn@griffith.edu.au](mailto:h.martyn@griffith.edu.au)



Bio-data of the two speakers:

**Mohammad Hashim Kamali** is currently Professor of Islamic law and jurisprudence at the International Islamic University Malaysia, Kuala Lumpur. He completed his L.L.M. in comparative law, and PhD in Islamic law at the University of London, 1972 and 1976 respectively. Dr. Kamali served as Assistant Professor at the Institute of Islamic Studies, McGill University in Montreal, and later as a Research Associate with the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada. He was a Visiting Professor at Capital University, Columbus, Ohio where he served as a member of the International Legal Education team in 1991. He was a Fellow of the Institute for Advanced Study Berlin, Germany, from 2000 to 2001. He served as a member of the Constitutional Review Commission of Afghanistan, from May to September 2003, during which period he was appointed as a member of its Executive Board and subsequently as its Interim Chairman. He is a Fellow of the International Institute of Islamic Thought, and is currently on the International Advisory Board of nine academic journals published in Malaysia, USA, Canada, Kuwait, India and Pakistan. In May and June 2004 he served as a consultant on constitutional reforms in the Maldives. He is currently a Shari'ah advisor with the Securities Commission of Malaysia. Professor Kamali has participated in over 100 national and international conferences, published 13 books and over 80 academic articles.

**Sheikh Naeem Abdul Wali** is an American convert to Islam who has studied the Islamic sciences in Istanbul for over eight years full-time at the feet of some of the finest scholars including Shaykh Mahmud Effendi and Shaykh Ihsan Khoja. He has focused his efforts exclusively in the traditional methodology, studying the classical texts in aqeedah, (Hanafi) jurisprudence, and other subjects to an advanced level. Born in Tennessee, USA 1964 but subsequently grew up in Indiana, Gary Edwards graduated from high school in 1982 and attended Purdue University. During his first year of university he embraced Islam and he later graduated from university in 1987 with a Bachelor of Entomology. In 1991 he left the USA to attend Arabic language program at the University of Medina, Saudi Arabia. During his stay in Medina he met a teacher, Mahmud Ustadh of Istanbul and moved there to continue his Islamic studies. Sheikh Naeem spent 10 years in Turkey studying various traditional Islamic disciplines in Arabic language, fiqh, usul-fiqh, aqeeda and Islamic spirituality. During his studies, he obtained numerous ijazas, certifications to teach, in various Islamic disciplines. He is currently a visiting scholar in Sydney.