

*Muslim-Christian Conference on Philosophy, Religion and Science
& Celebration of Cambridge Elements on Islam and the Sciences*

Istanbul, May 22-24, 2026

Ibn Haldun University's Suleymaniye Campus

Kelly James Clark and Enis Doko, Host-Organizers
Nidhal Guessoum and Stefano Bigliardi, Co-Organizers

Wednesday, May 20

7pm Early Arrivals
Dinner near Hotel (meet in Lobby)

Thursday, May 21

8am Hagia Sophia, Blue Mosque, Cistern Basilica, Topkapi Palace
7pm Dinner near Hotel

Friday, May 22

8am *Bus Departs from IHU Campus*

9:15am **Opening Session**

9:30am **Keynote** Steven Horst, Wesleyan University
"Exorcising Laplace's Demon"

10:45am **Concurrent Sessions**
Jonathan Emery, Kings College, London
"Does Neuroscience Rule Out an Immaterial Soul?"
Seyed Doostaninejad, University of Manchester
"Ibn Sīnā's Argument for the Existence of Time"

11:15am Sheridan Polinsky, Concordia University
"Creation and the Created Being"
Naseef Naseef
"Beauty Beyond Reason"

12:00pm **Lunch** at Suleymaniye

1:30pm **Keynote** Paul Rezkalla, US Air Force Academy
"Aristotle, Evolution, and Moral Realism"

- 2:30pm **Concurrent Sessions**
 Sarah Valdman, University of Michigan
 “AI Alignment and the Fall of Man”

 Shariq Haidery, University College, London
 “Scientism, Iqbal, Moore and Varieties of Sense-Making”
- 3:30pm **Keynote** Stefano Bigliardi, Al Akhawayn University
 “Islam and Pseudoscience”
- 4:45pm *Bus to IHU Campus*

Saturday, May 23

- 8am *Bus Departs from IHU Campus*
- 9:30am **Keynote** Seniye Vatansever, Bogacizi University
 “Kant’s Triune Reason”
- 10:45am **Concurrent Sessions**
 Joshua Brecka, University of Toronto
 “Plantinga’s EAAN and Knowledge-First Naturalism”

 Selen Fettihtoglu, Ibn Haldun University
 “Mental Time Travel and Reformed Epistemology”
- 11:15am Ijaz Peramadathil, Indian Institute of Technology
 “Deep Intra-Religious Disagreements”

 Taymaz Azimi, Kent University
 “Degrees of Being in Islamic Tradition”
- 12:00pm **Lunch** at Suleymaniye
- 1:00pm **Keynote** Kelly James Clark, Ibn Haldun University
 “Advice to Muslim Philosophers”
- 2:15pm **Concurrent Sessions**
 Michael Baldwin, Bogacizi University
 “God Does Not Have Requiring Reasons to Prevent Suffering”

 Noor Imran, Emory University
 “Understanding Avicenna's Account of Creation”
- 3:45pm **Book Celebration:** Enis Doko, *Islam and Cosmology*
 Respondents: Jamal Mimouni and Stephen Horst

5:30pm **Dinner** @ World Famous Bean Restaurant for All
Dessert @ Ottoman Chocolate House for All

7pm *Bus Return to IHU Campus*

Sunday, May 24

8am *Bus Departs from IHU Campus*

9:30am **Keynote** Willem Drees, University of Utrecht
“Islam and the Sciences’ vs ‘Religion and Science’”

10:35am **Keynote** Denis Alexander, Cambridge University
“Purpose, Constraint and Directionality in Evolution”

11:40am **Joint Sessions**
Javad Darvish Aghajani,
“Miracles as Āyāt without Law-Violation”

Badr Eddine Messikh, Emir Abdelkader University
“A New Model for the Science-Religion Relationship”

12:30pm **Lunch**

1:30pm **Keynote** Parandis Tajbakhsh, York University
“Islam and Extraterrestrial Life”

2:35pm **Keynote** Nidhal Guessoum, American University, Sharjah
“Islamic Astronomy: past, present, and future”

3:40pm **Keynote** Ozgur Koca, University of California. Irvine (via Zoom)
“Kalam, Causality, Miracles, and Science”

4:40pm **Discussion**

5:00pm *Bus Returns to IHU Campus*

7pm **Concluding Dinner** TBD

Monday, May 25 Breakfast in Hotel
Departures