



# THE SALAAM NETWORK

*Striving to make our Beloved Community of Louisville Whole*

## **ISLAMIC CONTRIBUTIONS TO WORLD CIVILIZATION**

**FALL 2019 OPEN CAMPUS 8-WEEK COURSE PRESENTED BY THE SALAAM NETWORK AND THOMAS JEFFERSON UNITARIAN CHURCH (4936 Brownsboro Road, Louisville, KY 40222)**

**Oct 16, 2019: *Islam's Contributions to World Civilization*. Presenter: Dr. Saleem Seyal, M. D., Scholar of Islamic Mysticism, Medieval Islamic History, and a noted Calligrapher.**

Dr. Saleem Seyal will examine the Contributions of Islam to Western Civilization, describing a hitherto-ignored and lost epoch in the medieval centuries when Muslim scientific, intellectual, artistic and spiritual achievements were the envy of the world. In general, lack of knowledge about many significant contributions made by the Islamic world to the progress of humanity continues to persist.

It is well-documented and widely acknowledged in academic circles that Islamic Civilization preserved the Greco-Roman heritage, and contributed significantly to the fields of mathematics, algebra, algorithms, geometry, physics, chemistry, medicine, astronomy, and many other disciplines. The Islamic world had many renowned centers of learning extending from Damascus to Baghdad, Bokhara, Cairo and Muslim Spain (Al-Andalus). The "Dark Age" of Europe was, in fact, the "Golden Age of Islam" when Islamic calligraphy, art of illumination, arabesque, poetry and literature flourished in many Muslim lands, and beautiful architectural structures and edifices were constructed throughout the Islamic world. It was this "Golden Age of Islam" which was the cornerstone of the European Renaissance, Enlightenment and Modern Society.

In his well-illustrated presentation, Dr. Seyal will highlight not commonly known important Islamic contributions to the world in a wide array of fields including mathematics, philosophy, all sciences, medicine, art, architecture, and culture.

**Dr. Saleem Seyal** graduated from Nishtar Medical College Multan, Pakistan, in 1974 and came to Chicago in 1975. After completing his residency in Internal Medicine at the University of Illinois, he moved to Louisville in 1983. He is a board-certified cardiologist with specialization in a number of allied fields. Dr. Seyal is an avid patron of the arts and has served on the Board of Directors of the Kentucky Center for the Performing Arts. He is a keen scholar of Islamic Art, Literature, Thought and Mysticism, and an accomplished Islamic calligrapher. He is passionate about interreligious harmony, and has made many presentations in the Kentuckiana area on Islamic Calligraphy and Islamic Mysticism.