



THE SALAAM NETWORK

Striving to make our Beloved Community of Louisville Whole

“NORMATIVE ISLAMIC EDUCATION FOR MUSLIM WOMEN”

INSTRUCTOR: DR. RIFFAT HASSAN. CONSULTANT: DR. JOE BRENNAN

PARTICIPANTS: MUSLIM WOMEN AND FIVE MEMEBERS OF *THE SALAAM NETWORK* (GUESTS ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND)

VENUE: THOMAS JEFFERSON UNITARIAN CHURCH

DATE/TIME: September 8, 2019 (4.00 - 7.00 p. m.)

SESSION FIVE

THEOLOGICAL AND FRAMEWORK OF THE QUR‘AN

PART TWO: THE QUR‘AN ON THE DIVINE PURPOSE

CHAPTER FOUR: “*ADAM: ALLAH’S FAVORED CREATION*”:

The Qur‘an attaches special importance to human beings in the context of the larger divine purpose. Of particular importance is Allah’s proclamation to the *malaikah* (celestial creatures) about breathing “*My Spirit*” into *bashar* or *al-insan* (human being). Allah has endowed human beings with potentialities far beyond those open to other living beings.

CHAPTER FIVE: “*ADAM: ALLAH’S KHALIFAH ON EARTH*”:

That human beings been created to be Allah’s *khalifah* (vicegerent) on earth is one of the pivotal themes of the Qur‘an. There are a number of Qur‘anic references to Allah’s command to the *mala’ikah* to prostrate themselves before Adam who has the ability to conceptualize and transcend the level of instinctive or innate knowledge possessed by other creatures.

CHAPTER SIX: “*IBLIS AND ALLAH: THE START OF THE COSMIC DRAMA*”:

The refusal of Iblis to obey Allah’s command to prostrate himself before Adam, sets the stage for the cosmic drama involving the eternal opposition between good and evil. A conversation between Allah and Iblis which is of foundational significance in the theological and ethical framework of Islam is narrated in these Qur‘anic texts: Surah 7: *Al-‘A‘raf*: 12-18; Surah 15: *Al-Hijr*: 32-43; Surah 17: *Al ‘Israa’*: 61-64; Surah 38: *Sad*: 75-85; and Surah 38: *Sad*: 75-85.

REQUIRED READING FROM THE RESOURCE BOOK BY DR. RIFFAT HASSAN WILL BE EMAILED TO EVERYONE ATTENDING THE SEMINAR.