

## FOREWORD

Islam believes in peace, justice and harmony between the peoples of the world as the Holy Quran says in Allah's word:

﴿ يَا أَيُّهَا النَّاسُ إِنَّا خَلَقْنَاكُمْ مِنْ ذَكَرٍ وَأُنْثَىٰ وَجَعَلْنَاكُمْ شُعُوبًا وَقَبَائِلَ  
لِتَعَارَفُوا إِنَّ أَكْرَمَكُمْ عِنْدَ اللَّهِ أَتْقَاكُمْ إِنَّ اللَّهَ عَلِيمٌ خَبِيرٌ ﴾

"O mankind! We created you from a single (pair) of a male and a female, and made you into nations and tribes, that ye may know each other". The Muslim culture abounds with infinite human values; Harmony and Tolerance is the mainstay amongst them and both characteristics are the binding force and social practices that serves as the foundation of the Islamic Civilization. Unfortunately today, the Muslim culture/civilization is suffering from the consequences of religious conflicts that are perforating the whole fabric of Islam and portraying it as an impractical and uncivilized religion before the world.

H.E. Dr. Ezzeddin Ibrahim, Advisor to the Ruler of UAE and Patron of this Centre and a true Muslim took a serious notice of it and showed his deep concern over increasing intolerance, hatred and violence and non-existence dialogue among the people of different faith. He was of the view that it is right time to emphasize that they all come from a source that "PRESCRIBES GOOD AND ENCOURAGES FORGIVENESS AND LOVE". THE REAL MESSAGE OF ALL HAS ALWAYS BEEN RAPPROCHEMENT & HARMONY. The religious scholars are very much capable to set the tone for rejection of misunderstanding and misconceptions, for the betterment of humanity. He thus floated the idea in the last meeting of Joint Advisory Committee (JAC) held in Peshawar, to hold an International conference. The task was assigned to SZIC, University of Karachi, to take initiative in this regard.

These were the circumstances, when it was decided to hold a two day conference on "Religious Tolerance and Inter-faith Dialogue

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