Events relating to Islam and the World of Islam in Edinburgh’s 2012 Festivals

Alwaleed Centre-sponsored events:

At the International Book Festival, Charlotte Square (www.edbookfest.co.uk)

Thursday 23rd August, 7-8.30 pm Dr Mustafa Ceric (Chief Mufti of Bosnia-Herzegovina), 'Rethinking Islam', with novelist Jamal Mahjoub and journalist/academic Dilip Hiro (Chair: Ruth Wishart)

At the Festival of Spirituality and Peace, St John's Church, Lothian Road (www.festivalofspirituality.org.uk)

Friday 24th August, 12-1 pm, 'What is Uprising in Syria?', with Sadakat Kadri, Dr Mounir Atassi and Dr Thomas Pierret

Friday 24th August, 6-7 pm Dr Mustafa Ceric, 'Bosnia Twenty Years On', with Rev Donald Reeves (Soul of Europe) and Prof Hugh Goddard

Saturday 25th August, 10-11 am 'Challenging Islamophobia: the 12 Cities Project' with Rev Donald Reeves (Soul of Europe), Dr Harry Hagopian (EU political consultant) and Shaykh Amer Jamil (Solas Foundation)

Other Festival Events:

Events at the International Book Festival, Charlotte Square (www.edbookfest.co.uk)

Sunday 12th August, 12.30 pm, Maajid Nawaz, 'One Man's Journey from Extremist to Democrat'

Wednesday 15th August, 7 pm, Raja Shehadeh, 'Palestine, Politics and Playwriting'

Thursday 16th August, 8.30 pm, Tom Holland, 'How Religion Shaped the Middle East'

Friday 17th August, 10 am, Sandy Gall and Max Benitz with James Fergusson, 'Afghanistan: Is There a Solution?'

Friday 17th August, 3 pm, Ahdaf Soueif and Elif Shafak, 'Should Literature be Political?'

Saturday 18th August, 12 pm, Ahdaf Soueif, 'The Writer and the Egyptian Revolution' (Amnesty International Event)

Saturday 18th August, 6.45 pm, Maziar Bahari and François Bizot, 'Coming Face to Face with Your Captor' (Iran and Cambodia)

Sunday 19th August, 10.15 am, Elif Shafak discusses her novel 'Honour' (set in Kurdistan, Istanbul and London)

Tuesday 21st August, 5.30 pm, Amnesty International Imprisoned Writers Series, 'The Arab Spring' (readings from works about the uprisings in Egypt, Tunisia, Libya, Bahrain, Yemen and Syria)

Wednesday 22nd August, 6.45 pm, Parker Bilal and Zoë Ferraris, 'Crime Novels Set in Cairo and Jeddah'
Thursday 23rd August 2 pm, Youssef Ziedan and Andrés Neuman, 'Ancient Stories with Modern Twists' (discussion of their novels 'Azazeel' and 'Traveller of the Century', respectively set in ancient Egypt and 19th century Prussia)

Thursday 23rd August, 3.30 pm, Jonathan Steele, 'One War That Might Never Be Won' (Afghanistan)

Thursday 23rd August, 4 pm, Sadakat Kadri, 'Debunking the Myths about Shari'a Law'

Thursday 23rd August, 5.30 pm, Amnesty International Imprisoned Writers Series, 'Women in Iran' (readings from poetry and prose written by and about women in Iran)

Friday 24th August, 11 am, Christopher de Bellaigue, 'Iran, Oil and a Very British Coup' (the 1953 Revolution)

Friday 24th August, 2 pm, Dilip Hiro and Jonathan Fenby, 'What Future for Central Asia and China?'

Friday 24th August, 3.30 pm, Ilan Pappé, 'Understanding Israel'

Friday 24th August, 5 pm, Stefan Collini, 'What is the Point of Universities?' (The University of Edinburgh Event)

Friday 24th August, 7 pm, Christopher de Bellaigue and Ilan Pappé, 'Rethinking Iran: is Iran Willing to Go to War with Israel?'

Saturday 25th August, 5.30 pm, Amnesty International Imprisoned Writers Series, readings from the works of Mahmoud Darwish

Sunday 26th August, 12 pm, Barnaby Rogerson, 'Africa Revisited' (discussion of the author's 'History of North Africa')

Sunday 26th August, 8 pm, John McCarthy, 'How Can We Live Without a Place of Safety?'

Monday 27th August, 8 pm, John McCarthy, 'Captivity, Fame and Surviving Freedom' (The Frederick Hood Memorial Lecture)

**Events at the Festival of Spirituality and Peace, at St John's Church, Lothian Road**

(www.festivalofspirituality.org.uk):

Sunday 5th August, 7.30 pm, 'Meet Your Muslim Neighbour', an open evening at the Blackhall Mosque, 1 House O'Hill Road, Edinburgh EH4 2AJ, an opportunity to observe the late afternoon prayer and enjoy a tour of the mosque

Friday 10th August, 4-5 pm, 'The Quest for Ethical Banking', with panel including Saftar Sarwar (Islamic Finance Council)

Friday 10th August, 6-8 pm, 'The Message of Karabel: Democracy, Theocracy and Hypocrisy' (in the Persian Tent at St John's) (also on Friday 17th August, 6-8 pm)

Saturday 11th August, 6-8 pm, 'The Story of a 94 Year Old Mother (in Iran)' (in the Persian Tent at St John's) (also on Saturday 18th August, 6-8 pm)

Thursday 16th August, 8-10 pm, 'Dirty Paki Lingerie', (a one woman play by Aizzah Fatima about six American Muslim Pakistani females discussing Sex, Religion and Politics, followed by a discussion with Farkhanda Chaudhry OBE, Equalities Officer for East Renfrewshire Council, and Shabnum Mustapha, Director of Amnesty International Scotland)

Saturday 18th August, 12-1 pm, 'Afghanistan – A Women's Battle', with Dr Claire Duncanson, Horia Mosadiq and Firuz Rahimi

Sunday 19th August, 4-5 pm, Duncan Mackintosh, 'Voice of the Heart: an Introduction to the Life, Poetry and Stories of Rumi'

Saturday 25th August, 4-6 pm, 'The Breeze at Dawn – a Rumi Workshop with Duncan Mackintosh'
Music from the World of Islam in the Edinburgh International Festival (www.eif.co.uk):

Friday 17 August, 5.45 pm at Greyfriars Kirk, Greyfriars Place, the Homayun Sakhi Trio (Afghan music)

Thursday 23 August, 5.45 pm at Greyfriars Kirk, Greyfriars Place, the Alim Qasimov Ensemble (Azeri music).

Saturday 26 August, 7.30 pm at Greyfriars Kirk, Greyfriars Place, the National Youth Orchestra of Iraq

Comedy from the World of Islam at the Fringe Festival (See www.edfringe.com for dates of performances):

Big in Dubai! (including Ali al-Sayed) (7.35 pm, GHQ, 4 Picardy Place)

A Little Perspective with Imaan Hadchiti (11.59 pm, Gilded Balloon, Teviot Row House, 13 Bristo Square)

Naz Osmanoglu: Ottoman without an Empire (8 pm, Underbelly, Bristo Square)

Shappi Khorsandi: Dirty Looks and Hopscotch (8.30 pm, Pleasance Courtyard, 60 Pleasance)

The Nature of Iraq, Royal Botanic Gardens, Inverleith Row, Edinburgh EH3 5LR
Sunday 4th August – Sunday 2nd September