



PARIS : 9-11 december 2018

# The 14<sup>th</sup> International Muslim Forum

## "Islam and the problems of globalization"

ORGAINIZERS



Secretariat of the Muslim International Forum



Religious Board of Muslims  
of the Russian Federation and Russia Muftis Council



Faculté d'Islamologie de Paris



Faculté d'Islamologie de Paris

The 14<sup>th</sup> International  
Muslim Forum

**"Islam and the problems  
of globalization"**

9–11 December 2018

Photo album

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# GLOBALIZATION AND THE WAY TO OVERCOME IT'S NEGATIVE EFFECTS

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The XIV Muslim International Forum "Islam and the problems of globalization" held in Paris between 9–11 December 2018 assembled Muslim religious public figures, muftis, theologians as well as intellectuals in order to pursue the dialogue and intellectual sharing on the platform of MIF. Thus, French capital welcomed leaders and representatives of more than 40 organizations and communities from more than 20 countries, mainly from European and Asian states.

Due to it's huge, remarkably diverse Muslim community, that has improved in establishing many intellectual and humanitarian initiatives, Paris had been chosen as the city to host XIV Muslim International Forum one year earlier – during XIII MIF, held in December 2017 in Helsinki (Finland). Talking in advance, we may mention, that XV Muslim International Forum is to be held in Berlin thanks to the suggestion by speakers from Muslim community of Germany.

Muslim religious and public leaders convention was welcomed by French officials, in particular by The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of French Republic that was represented by Ambassador, Advisor for religious affairs Jean-Christophe Peaucelle. The words of warm greetings were pronounced by President of the French Council of the Muslim Faith Ahmet Ogras, President of European Muslim Forum Abdul-Vahed Niyazov, Director

of Studies at ALHAZALI Institute of the Grand Mosque of Paris Dr. Azzedine Aouir. The message, addressed to the participants of XIV Muslim International Forum was sent by Bishop Nestor of Korsun – high ranked Orthodox cleric in Paris.

In his keynote speech Mufti Sheikh Ravil Gaynutdin, Chairman of the Religious Board of Muslims of the Russian Federation, Chairman of the Russia Muftis Council outlined adverse consequences for local communities, caused by process of globalization. "Such distinctive features of modernity as transnational mechanisms of making political decisions, robotization, artificial intelligence, big data, development of genetic engineering etc. make an average person far from prosperous class feel estranged and got out of processes of shaping the future as well as the present. Ordinary people are realizing, that their role is no more than being the so called biomass, that is easily transformed into consumer society, taxpayers «cannon fodder», according to the interest of governing class" – said Russian mufti. As he noticed, this kind of dissatisfaction outgrows in frustration, public manifestations and revolutions. Sheikh Gaynutdin supposed "Yellow vests" demonstrations, that shook Europe in December, to be an evidence of social processes, caused by globalization.

As Russian mufti stressed, answers for complicated social and ethic challenges should be found in moral values and humanistic basis of faith. He called all the opinion makers, religious leaders, theologians to revive humanistic and moral roots of religious doctrine rather than focusing on it's normative side.

During plenary session the presentation of The Institute of Oriental Manuscripts of the Russian Academy of Sciences (St. Petersburg, Russia) by it's Director Irina Popova and the presentation of The Bulgarian Islamic Academy (Kazan, Russia) by it's President Kamil Iskha-kov took place.

Session 1:

**'The Ummah diversity is in its unity and solidarity'**

Globalization makes boundaries between states dissolved and contributes the process of tightening intercultural communication and integration. Surprisingly, at the same time it stimulates mutual mistrust, suspiciousness and tensions between civilizations and communities. Ahmad Al-Dubayan, Director General of the Islamic Cultural Centre in London mentioned this phenomenon and

focused on the problems of dialogue between non-Muslims and the Islamic world. According to him, weakness of Muslims in communicating within multicultural landscape is strongly connected with the lack of mutual understanding within Muslim world in addition to biased attitude towards Islam in the Western world.

Muslims nowadays are very poorly aware of Islamic traditions of good relations with Christians and Jews and demonstrate unwillingness to perceive other religions adherents, stressed the British speaker. He called people of various religions to extend values of generosity, mercy, justice. As for the intramuslim issues, Mr Al-Dubayan stressed the importance of Islamic solidarity.

Grand Mufti of Uzbekistan, Sheikh Usmankhon Alimov in his insightful speech paid attention to the problems of Muslim youth, which, of course, takes advantage of globalization, but at the same time is targeted in informational wars by some of political movements and forces. He named educating and upbringing of Muslim youth as a key priority for the Ummah and its leadership.

Uzbekistan is the place, where the great sheikh of Naqshbandi tariqat – Baha-ud-Din Naqshband was born, taught and died. Usmankhon Alimov mentioned traditions of Naqshbandi Order and their importance in terms of training youth.

One of the prominent followers of Naqshbandi tradition was Shihab-ad-Din al-Marjani – an outstanding Tatar theologian, historian, enlightener. In 2018 the Muslim International Forum was held in 700-year

anniversary of the first and 200-year anniversary of the second. Moreover, MIF 2018 marked 150-th anniversary since the birth of Russian (and later Turkish) political and public figure Sadri Maksudi and 400-years anniversary of Sultan Muhammad Aurangzeb Bakhadur, the padishah of the Empire of Great Moguls.

Sufi heritage and the great Muslim community of modern India was presented on MIF by Syed Salman Chishty, Chairman of Chishty Foundation from Delhi. Cohesion and solidarity among Muslims, unity of the Ummah were main issues of his soulful message. The head of Chishty Foundation mentioned, that India is the state with second biggest Muslim population after Indonesia.

## Session 2: **'Harmony and accordance in multicultural societies: in search of legal and moral decisions'**

The conversation continued by discussion about social integration and multifaith cooperation in modern societies. Thus, Fatih Sarikir, General Secretary of Federation «Milli Gorus» in France called for the developing cooperation between Muslims and other groups – religious ones or even atheists. At the same time he noticed the necessity of platforms and projects, aimed and cooperation and joint work within Muslim community.

Mufti, Chairman of the Religious Board of Muslims of Kazakhstan of Kazakhstan Serikbay Oraz. According to him, dialogue and coexistence could be only achieved in conditions of freedom of faith and freedom of thought. Dialogue, based on these terms, could significantly improve the international situation in the way of cleaning out of it inequality and disparity in politics and religion.

Following speakers of the first session, participants cited reasons, due to which the dialogue and cooperation could fail. In particular, Deputy President of The Union of Islamic Communities of Spain Mohamed Agana El Ouafi mentioned poor knowledge of the language of hosting society by Muslims living in Europe and, as a result, very few possibilities for career development and achieving professional success. The speaker regretfully mentioned specific social and cultural conditions of lifestyle of Muslims in Europe that lead to misunderstanding of the role and place of Muslims among other communities.

On the other hand, the situation in Europe improves the last years, insisted Malik Ruiz Callejas, the President of Islamic Community in Spain (Granada). He told, that the growth of Muslim population in Europe make Muslim opinion and Muslim behavior in the elections weighty for politicians.

The experience of pursuing interfaith dialogue by means of education was presented by founder and Vice-President of International Foundation for Inter-religious and Intercultural Education Adalberto Bernardino (Roma).

Persisting the issue of interreligious cooperation Atik Ali, President the Finnish Muslim Network from Helsinki elucidated the joint work of Muslim and Jewish organizations in protection of interest, shared by both religious groups, in particular issues of circumzation and slaughter according to the religious regulations.

Maqsatbek Toktomushev, Mufti, Chairman of the Religious Board of Muslims of Kyrgyzstan and Yusuf Murat, Mufti, Head of the Muslim Community in Romania both stressed on the issue of moral values, that should be put as a basis of interfaith dialogue and cooperation. Among them – the sincerity and fairness, mutual trust and strong willingness to achieve usefulness far all the participants of such a dialogue.

### Session 3:

#### **'The future of Islam: between the Quranic humanism and radicalism'**

The session focused on discussion of conceptual basis for Muslim societies development strategies. The religion of Islam teaches it's adherents to be moderate and ability to keep balance in all spheres of personal or public life. Such kind of ideas were articulated by articulated by Patron of Commission on Religion and Belief

in Britain and Board member of number of national and International organizations Sir Iqbal Sacranie.

Being Founding Secretary General of the Muslim Council of Britain and now Advisor of the Muslim Council of Britain, he draw attention of the audience to ideas of piety, goodness, honesty as key elements of religiosity and spiritual life.

Sir Iqbal Sacranie also clarified difference between humanism in its conventional, European interpretation and humanistic ideas of The Holy Qur'an. While the first philosophy developed as an opponent to the religion and it's leading role in society and proclaimed that "man is the measure of all things", humanism of Qur'an concerns generosity, fairness and being moderate.

Vision, very close to this, was represented by Dr. Karim Ifrak, Researcher at The National Center for Scientific Research (CNRS), based in Paris. As he stressed, the main aim of Qur'anic message is to improve peoples behavior and morals, encourage men to promote values of equality and goodness towards all the mankind.

Paris based researcher and writer Prof. Nouredine Aïussat's speech referred the audience to the so called Medina Constitution, created by Prophet Muhammad (Peace be upon him). As professor Aïussat told, this document could be solution in the search for harmony and mutual understanding in modern world. Speaker

emphasized, that Prophet Muhammad's mission was directed on providing human's honor and dignity without regard to one's religious believes. Besides, this document contains ideas of pluralism and tolerance.

The Holy Qur'an also claims values of equality and pluralism, as Director of the Faculty of Islamic Sciences in Paris Nouredine Belhout told. Humanism in Qur'an is the idea, that a man was born sinless and his goal for the lifetime should be keeping his soul pure and supporting brotherhood.

Responsibility of theologians and religious educational institutions were outlined in speeches of Vice of Dean in Islamic Faculty of Novi Pazar in Serbia Prof. Dr. Admir Muratovic and Imam of Lyon's Grand Mosque Munzir An-Najar.

Executive Secretary of Muslim International Forum Prof. Dr. Damir Mukhetdinov summarized the results of session and the XIV meeting of MIF. He stressed, that the globalization can provide many new opportunities for Muslim societies in the case, when Muslims are able to take advantages of it. Dr. Damir Mukhetdinov also emphasized, that the platform of MIF was established for maintaining dialogue and finding common interests and values for men of various believes and even non-believers.





Media scrum of Mufti Sheikh Rawil Gaynutdin and muftis of different countries



Mufti Shiekh Ravil Gaynutdin the Chairman of the Organizing Committee of the 14th Muslim International Forum

"Islam and the problems of globalization"



Welcome speeches of honorary guests of the forum: Ambassador





Jean-Christophe Peaucelle



Ahmet OGRAS



Abdul Vakhed NIYAZOV



Azzedine AOUIR



priest Father George



Nouredine AOUSSAT



Representatives of more than 20 countries are taking part in the 14<sup>th</sup> International Muslim Forum, namely Belgium, Estonia, Great Britain, Germany, India, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan, Lithuania, Poland, Spain, Romania, Serbia, Slovenia, Croatia, Finland and others





Mufti Sheikh Ravil Gaynutdin delivering welcome speech at the 14th Muslim International Forum in Paris

"Islam and the problems of globalization"



Mufti Sheikh Ravil Gainutdin presents distinguished guests the photo album Muslims of Russia, prepared by the Group of strategic vision «Russia – Islamic world»





Dr. Nouredine BELHOUT



Fatih SARIKIR



1<sup>st</sup> SESSION

'The Ummah diversity is in its unity and solidarity'



Mufti Sheikh Ravil GAYNUTDIN (Russia)



Mufti Usmonkhon ALIMOV (Uzbekistan)



Dr. Ahmad Al DUBAYAN (United Kingdom)



Syed Salman CHISHTY (India)



Mr. Jean STAUNE (France)



Dr. Abderrahmene BELMADI (France)





## 2<sup>nd</sup> SESSION

'Harmony and accordance in multicultural societies: in search of legal and moral decisions'





Mufti Serikbay ORAZ (Kazakhstan)



Mrs. Adalberta BERNARDINI (Italy)



Mufti Maqsatbek TOKTOMUSHEV (Kyrgyzstan)



Mufti Yusuf MURAT (Romania)



Mr. Atik ALI (Finland)



Mr. Mohamed AGANA EL OUAFI (Spain)



Mr. Malik RUIZ CALLEJAS (Spain)



### 3<sup>rd</sup> SESSION

'The future of Islam: between the Quranic humanism and radicalism'





Sir Iqbal SACRANIE (United Kingdom)



Nouredine BELHOUT (France)



Murad GÜL (Germany)



Dr. Karim IFRAK (France)



Dr. Admir MURATOVIC (Serbia)



Prof. Nouredine AIUSSAT (France)



Mr. Mongher AL NAJJAR (France)



Meeting of spiritual leaders of Russia and Uzbekistan on the margins of the 14th Muslim International Forum





Presentation of Resolution. Closing Summary of the Forum

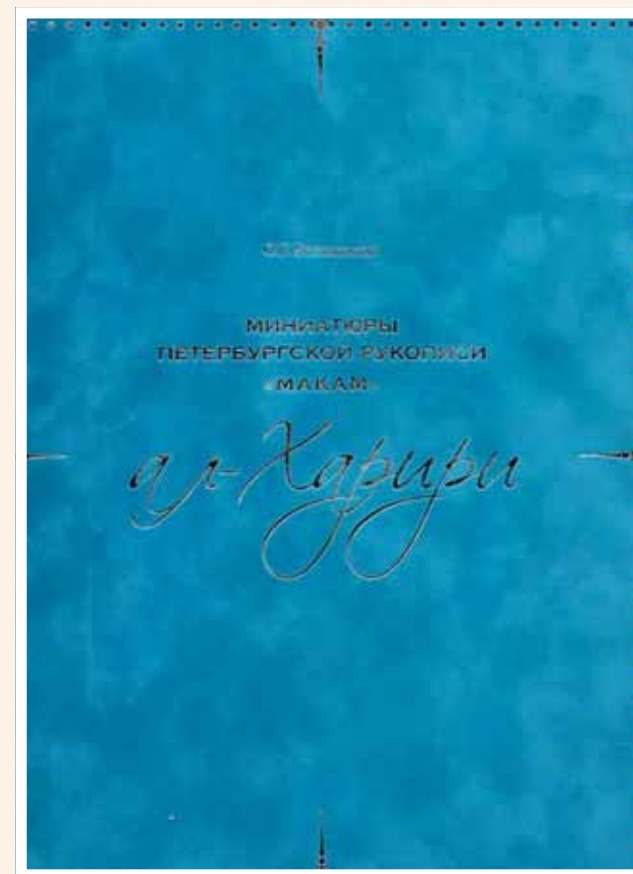
"Islam and the problems of globalization"

Kamil Iskhakov  
The President of The Bulgarian Islamic Academy (Russia)



Presentation of the Bulgarian Islamic Academy





Director of the Institute of Oriental Manuscripts of the Russian Academy of Sciences in St. Petersburg Irina Popova presented of The Petersburg Manuscript of Hariri's «Maqamat»





Mufti Sheikh Ravil Gainutdin was awarded a letter of thanks  
on behalf of the Director of the Islamic Faculty of Paris : Nourredine BELHOUT



Ambassador Jean-Christophe Peaucelle tells Mufti Sheikh Ravil Gainutdin about the relationship between the French authorities and religious organizations in France

"Islam and the problems of globalization"



Syed Salman CHISHTY and representatives of India





Executive Secretary of the Muslim International Forum Damir Mukhetdinov with the forum participants



Central Asian muftis take part in the 14<sup>th</sup> international Muslim forum





Photo for a Memory

"Islam and the problems of globalization"





Organizing Committee of the Muslim International Forum



Representatives of the Tatar community of France

"Islam and the problems of globalization"





Gala dinner on behalf of the European Muslim Forum



# XIV International Muslim forum

## “Islam and the problems of globalization”

9–11 December 2018, Paris

### R E S O L U T I O N

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The participants of the XIV International Muslim Forum on “Islam and the problems of globalization” have discussed in different sessions the current position of Muslim communities and their problems in the context of the broad social and political international agenda (“The diversity of the ummah in its unity and solidarity”, “Harmony and agreement in multicultural societies: in search of legal and moral decisions”, “The future of Islam: between Qur’anic humanism and radicalism”) and now appeal to a broad public, to political and state institutions, to religious organizations and to all people of good will with the following propositions:

1. The participants express their deep respect for the memory of the following outstanding figures: Bahaud-din Naqshband (1318-1389), Shihabutdin Marjani (1818-1889), Sadri Maksudi (1878-1957), and Sultan Muhammad Aurungzeb Bahadur (1618-1707), who made great personal contributions to the development of Muslim civilization and Muslim thought;
2. The participants reaffirm the acute relevance of the platform provided by the International

Muslim Forum, which has been initiated by Russian Muslims as a much-needed platform to discuss and analyze in depths the paths of development for Muslim communities and their moral and ideological principles in light of the problems of modernity;

3. They note the constructive potential for further development of working and fraternal relations between representatives of Muslim religious, social

and scientific-educational institutions on the European continent, especially in the sphere of experience-sharing and joint communication of the interests and desires of Muslim communities to the world community, as well as in the areas of defending the values of humanism, interreligious dialogue and inter-civilizational interaction and conveying the belief in the equality of all local cultures and traditions;

4. The participants of the Muslim forum see as strategically important tasks for the global Muslim community the strengthening of the ummah through creating and supporting scientific-educational centers, centers of expertise and analysis, and active integration in the world intellectual process, as well as the strengthening of horizontal ties between Muslim intellectual and scientific organizations in different countries of the world;
5. They reaffirm their dedication to the humane foundation and moral principles embodied in the holy Qur'an, the main source of the Islamic religion, and they emphasize the relevance of Qur'anic

humanism for the global Muslim ummah, as well as for the humanitarian and moral problems now facing humanity in all their complexity.

6. In a situation where the political stage is increasingly being taken over by proponents of radical ideas, intransigence and refusal of compromise and dialogue, and by supporters of the merciless and irrevocable destruction of the established structures of society and state, the participants of the International Muslim forum call upon all people of good will and religious leaders in particular to support voices of reason, wisdom and restraint, to facilitate harmony and conciliation, to solve current problems

though constructive dialogue and not give into negative emotions, hatred and intolerance.

7. The participants propose to hold the 15th anniversary International Muslim forum in Berlin to further strengthen intra-Muslim ties on the European continent and to develop more deeply the themes of harmonious inter-civilizational and interreligious coexistence, as well as the questions of integration, identity, and respect for secular law in conjunction with the observance of religious rights and freedoms.



## ORGAINIZERS



Secretariat of the Muslim International Forum



Religious Board of Muslims  
of the Russian Federation and Russia Muftis Council



Faculté d'Islamologie de Paris

## SUPPORTED BY



The French Council  
of the Muslim Faith



The Rally of Muslims  
in France



Confédération Islamique  
Millî Görüş France



Grande mosquée de Lyon



European Muslim Forum



Institute of Oriental  
Manuscripts

## MEDIA PARTNERS



Official web-site of the Muslim International  
Forum Foundation



Muslim International Magazine  
'The Minaret of Islam'



Medina Media Holding



## LIST OF KEY ORGANISATIONS PARTICIPATED

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### **FRANCE:**

Faculté d'Islamologie de Paris – FSIP  
The French Council of the Muslim Faith  
The Rally of Muslims in France  
Grande mosquée de Lyon  
Confédération Islamique Millî Görüş France  
Ministry of the Interior Affairs of France

### **BELGIUM:**

Federation of Islamic Organizations in Europe

### **CROATIA:**

The Islamic Community in CROATIA

### **ESTONIA:**

Islamic Cultural Center «Turas»

### **FINLAND:**

Muslim Community of Finland  
The Finnish Muslim Network

### **GERMANY:**

The Islamic federation of Berlin

### **ITALY:**

International Foundation for Interreligious and  
Intercultural Education

### **INDIA:**

Chishty Foundation

### **KAZAKHSTAN:**

The Religious Board of Muslims of Kazakhstan

### **KYRGYZSTAN:**

The Religious Board of Muslims of Kyrgyzstan

### **LITHUANIA:**

Religious Board of Muslims of Lithuania

### **POLAND:**

The Highest Board Muslim Religious Union in  
Poland

### **ROMANIA:**

The Muslim Community in Romania

### **RUSSIA:**

Religious Board of Muslims of the Russian  
Federation  
Russia Muftis Council  
The Bulgarian Islamic Academy  
The Institute of Oriental Manuscripts of the  
Russian Academy of Sciences in St. Petersburg

### **SERBIA:**

Islamic Community in Serbia

### **SLOVENIA:**

Islamic Community in the Republic of Slovenia

### **SPAIN:**

Islamic Community in Spain  
Islamic Commission in Spain

### **UZBEKISTAN:**

The Religious Board of Muslims of Uzbekistan

### **UNITED KINGDOM:**

Muslim Council of Britain  
The Islamic Cultural Centre in London