

2023

# ANNUAL REPORT

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International Institute of  
Islamic Thought and Civilisation  
(ISTAC-IIUM)



# ANNUAL REPORT 2023

International Institute of Islamic Thought and  
Civilisation (ISTAC-IIUM)



**ISTAC-IIUM**

International Institute of  
Islamic Thought and Civilisation

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**IIUM**

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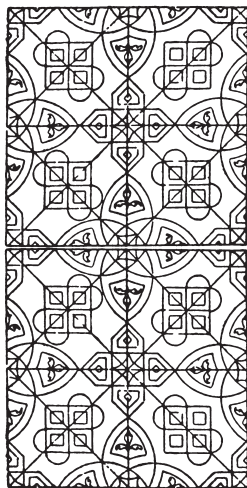
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# Messages & Forewords



**FROM THE PRESIDENT**

**FROM THE RECTOR**

**FROM THE DEPUTY RECTOR (RESPONSIBLE  
RESEARCH AND INNOVATION)**

**FROM THE DEPUTY RECTOR (ACADEMIC  
AND INTERNATIONALISATION)**

**FROM THE DEAN OF ISTAC-IIUM**

Message from

## The President

السَّلَامُ عَلَيْكُمْ وَرَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ وَبَرَكَاتُهُ

I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate ISTAC-IIUM for its many achievements and commitment to the University towards contributing to the growth of the *Ummah* and bringing goodness to all.

ISTAC-IIUM is striving to be an institution of global relevance through its efforts in maintaining educational excellence in teaching and learning Islamic thought and civilisation.

With its niche areas becoming increasingly relevant and sought after by many who wish to understand the actual context of study and research in Islamic thought and civilisation, InshaAllah ISTAC-IIUM will be heading towards nurturing comparative, cultural and civilisational studies that are dedicated to the renewal of human civilisation.

**TAN SRI SAMSUDIN OSMAN  
PRESIDENT  
INTERNATIONAL ISLAMIC UNIVERSITY MALAYSIA**



Message from

## The Rector



السَّلَامُ عَلَيْكُمْ وَرَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ وَبَرَكَاتُهُ

First and foremost, I would like to thank ISTAC-IIUM for the opportunity to say a few words in this important report. Let me begin my remarks by congratulating ISTAC-IIUM and its leadership for demonstrating commendable achievement again this year in various facet of its activities.

Clearly, the Institute has displayed robust organisational resilience despite facing challenges and constraints. It is my belief that as one of the world-leading Islamic institute for Islamic research and civilisational-cultural studies, ISTAC-IIUM has huge untapped potential that can be developed and harnessed further to contribute meaningfully to the nation, humanity and the world.

It is equally important to note that, for the past five years ISTAC-IIUM has continued its legacy and tradition to make an impact nationally and internationally through research, collaborations, conferences and lectures, and publication in various fields

related to its areas of studies such as Islamic Thought, Malay-Islamic Civilisation, Comparative Religion and Intercultural Dialogue, Islamic and Gender Equity, Epistemology, Spirituality and Intellectuality in Islamic Civilisation, Peace and Security Studies, Reform (*Islah*) and Renewal (*Tajdid*) in Islamic History, Comparative Civilisational Studies, Islam and Futures Studies, Ottoman Civilisation and the Modern World. These achievements are clearly documented in the ISTAC-IIUM Annual Report 2023.

It is my hope that these achievements can be sustained and leveraged further. More importantly, what ISTAC-IIUM is doing especially to empower humanity and the *ummah* based on Islamic values is in line with the Sejahtera Academic Framework (SAF) that our University is working together to achieve.

In closing, I would like to congratulate ISTAC-IIUM for its exemplary efforts in 2023 and wish that it will continue to offer excellent world-class education and outstanding research opportunities in the teaching and learning of Islamic Thought and Civilisation, aligned with the concept of Malaysia MADANI. We pray that ISTAC-IIUM will remain steadfast in the quest for excellence and contribute meaningfully to humanity and the world.

PROFESSOR EMERITUS TAN SRI DATO' DZULKIFLI  
ABDUL RAZAK  
RECTOR  
INTERNATIONAL ISLAMIC UNIVERSITY MALAYSIA



*Message from*

**Deputy Rector  
Responsible Research and Innovation**

السَّلَامُ عَلَيْكُمْ وَرَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ وَبَرَكَاتُهُ

**As Annual Report 2023: Driving Research and Innovation Excellence**

The Annual Report for 2023 from the International Islamic University Malaysia (IIUM) highlights significant strides in academic excellence, research, and innovation. As Deputy Rector Responsible for Research and Innovation, I am pleased to present our achievements and milestones.

In a rapidly evolving world, research and innovation are pivotal for academic progress. IIUM remains steadfast in cultivating an environment that encourages scholarly pursuits. Our dedication to research stems from the belief that knowledge creation is vital for addressing global challenges. The year 2023 witnessed remarkable progress in IIUM's research landscape. Our faculty and researchers made impactful contributions across various fields, emphasising quality and relevance to local and global communities. Innovation is central to our ethos, evident in the multitude of initiatives by our researchers and students.

These endeavours not only advance knowledge but also have the potential for societal transformation. IIUM reiterates its commitment to intellectual exploration, positioning itself as a beacon for research and innovation. I express gratitude to our



community for their unwavering support.

The report offers a comprehensive overview of our research and innovation endeavors, showcasing our commitment to knowledge advancement and societal impact. I invite you to explore IIUM's journey towards excellence.

**PROF. DR. AMIR AKRAMIN BIN SHAFIE  
DEPUTY RECTOR (RESPONSIBLE RESEARCH  
AND INNOVATION)  
INTERNATIONAL ISLAMIC UNIVERSITY  
MALAYSIA (IIUM)**

## Message from

### Deputy Rector Academic and Internationalisation

السَّلَامُ عَلَيْكُمْ وَرَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ وَبَرَكَاتُهُ



We congratulate ISTAC-IIUM for publishing the annual report 2023. The International Institute of Islamic Thought and Civilisation (ISTAC), plays a central role in shaping academic development and fostering excellence in areas of Islamic Thought and Civilisation.

ISTAC serves as a dynamic hub for advanced-level study on Islamic thought and civilisation. By engaging different levels of scholars, it contributes significantly to the intellectual growth of the Muslim Ummah. Through rigorous academic exploration, ISTAC seeks to renew and revitalise Islamic thought, ensuring its relevance in contemporary contexts.

The annual report 2023 shows the tremendous efforts undertaken by ISTAC-IIUM to improve the quality and global brand.

Championing interdisciplinary, multidisciplinary, and transdisciplinary research, ISTAC encourages scholars to transcend disciplinary boundaries. Its commitment to excellence extends to spiritual, cultural, and civilisational realms, creating a holistic educational experience.

Thus, ISTAC stands as a beacon of intellectual pursuit, fostering academic excellence, and contributing to the renewal of Islamic thought. Its impact reverberates far beyond its walls, shaping a brighter future for the global Muslim community. Together we are leading the way!

PROFESSOR DR. AHMAD FARIS ISMAIL  
DEPUTY RECTOR (ACADEMIC & INTERNATIONALISATION)  
INTERNATIONAL ISLAMIC UNIVERSITY MALAYSIA

## The Dean

السَّلَامُ عَلَيْكُمْ وَرَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ وَبَرَكَاتُهُ

This document is the Annual Report for the year 2023 of the Institute of Islamic Thought and Civilisation (ISTAC-IIUM). In my previous forecasts for the 2021 and 2022 reports, I strongly emphasised that ISTAC-IIUM is undergoing a transition to ensure its ability to adapt and remain relevant to the current and future developments occurring in Malaysia, the *Ummah*, and the world. As a specialised institute dedicated to Islamic thought and civilisation, ISTAC-IIUM has a responsibility to take a proactive role in revitalising intellectual discussions and enhancing the overall understanding and perspective of Islam from a civilisational standpoint.

The future of ISTAC-IIUM hinges on its role as a pioneer in revitalising and transforming Islamic thought and civilisation. It aims to offer innovative ideas and solutions to address the pressing concerns facing Malaysia and the Islamic *Ummah*. This necessitates improvements in the quality of teaching, learning, faculty, students, research, and community involvement. Moreover, the goal is to enhance the internationalisation and global prominence of the Institute, establishing it as a leading institution in the fields of Islamic thought and civilisation.

The 2023 annual report showcases ISTAC's dedication to enhancing the learning environment and involving scholars from both local and international backgrounds. ISTAC aims to expand its activities beyond teaching, research, and community engagement by organising events and programmes such as art exhibitions, cultural diplomacy with ambassadors and diplomatic corps, and partnerships with religious and cultural organisations.





**ISTAC-IIUM**  
International Institute of  
Islamic Thought and Civilisation

