

# DAISAKU IKEDA

## A Life of Dialogue and Peace

2nd Daisaku Ikeda Memorial Lecture



EDITOR

Nurul Ain Norman



ISTAC-IUM  
International Institute of  
Islamic Thought and Civilization

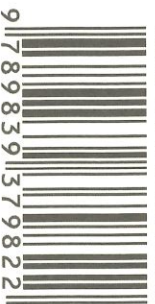


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In collaboration with

Soka Gakkai Malaysia  
(SGM)

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



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International Institute of  
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## DAISAKU IKEDA:

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Nurul Ain Norman

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In Loving Memory of  
Dr. Daisaku Ikeda  
(1928–2023)

A visionary philosopher, educator,  
and advocate of peace  
whose boundless wisdom and compassion  
continue to inspire humanity.



**Prof. Emeritus Tan Sri Annuar Ali**  
Former Vice-Chancellor, Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia  
Former President, Open University Malaysia



**Prof. Emeritus Dr. Azizah binti Baharuddin**  
Official Advisor, Centre for Civilisational Dialogue,  
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**Prof. Datuk Dr. Abdelaziz Berghout**  
Dean, International Institute of Islamic Thought  
and Civilisation (ISTAC-IUUM)



**Mr. Johnny Ng Teck Sim**  
President, Soka Gakkai Malaysia (SGM)

## When Seeds Remember the Rain

(In Honour of Ikeda's Faith in Youth)

He looked not at age but at flame in the eyes,  
And said, "Here begins the world's sunrise."

In every youth, a boundless sea—

Of dreams unsailed and skies yet free.

He spoke of strength not worn by years,  
But born from hope that conquers fears.

"You are the roots," he'd gently claim,

"From your courage will rise the flame."

No throne he sought, no crown he wore,  
Yet kingdoms of hearts he did restore.

He planted visions in quiet minds,

Of peace not sought—but one that binds.

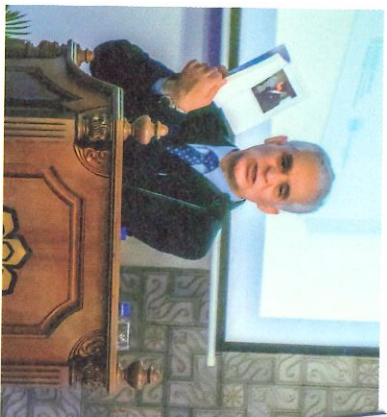
Now winds may change, and seasons bend,

But youth, once lit, will light again.

And those who rise with hearts set free,

Are Ikeda's answer to history.

—Nurul Ain Norman



Prof. Datuk Dr. Abdelaziz Berghout introduces the 1st Daisaku Ikeda Memorial Lecture booklet



## Content

Editor's Note by Asst. Prof. Dr. Nurul Ain Norman	3
Welcoming Remarks Delivered by Prof. Datuk Dr. Abdelaziz Berghout	7
Opening Remarks Delivered by Mr. Koh Sia Feai	12
2nd Daisaku Ikeda Memorial Lecture	
The Relevance of Dr. Daisaku Ikeda's Thoughts and Philosophy on Education in the Context of the Malaysian Education System Delivered by Prof. Emeritus Tan Sri Annuwar Ali	19
Daisaku Ikeda's Critical Ideas on Sustainability Delivered by Prof. Emeritus Datuk Dr. Azizah Baharuddin	26

Daisaku Ikeda's Vision for a Prosperous and Peaceful World Delivered by Prof. Datuk Dr. Abdelaziz Berghout	33
Honouring Daisaku Ikeda-Champion of Global Peace: Celebrating the Vision and Contributions of the Soka Gakkai International President in Perpetuity Delivered by Mr. Johnny Ng Teck Sim	51
Appendix	
Biography of Daisaku Ikeda	69

## Editor's Note

### Honouring the Path of Peace in Our Time

This booklet stands as a heartfelt tribute to the enduring legacy of Dr. Daisaku Ikeda, a visionary whose life has been a luminous embodiment of peace, human dignity, and dialogue. It is not merely a record of remembrance but a call to conscience—a reminder that in a fragmented world, the gentle force of compassion can still heal, and the courage to listen can still unite.

Held on 26 January 2025, the 2nd Daisaku Ikeda Memorial Lecture—jointly organised by the International Institute of Islamic Thought and Civilisation (ISTAC-IUUM) and Soka Gakkai Malaysia (SGM)—offered more than just a commemoration. It was a spiritual and civilisational encounter between two great wisdom traditions: Islam and Buddhism. It illuminated the shared ethical ground of both faiths—the sanctity of life, the pursuit of justice, and the commitment to inner and outer peace. As the Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) taught: “Shall I not inform you of something more excellent in degree than fasting, prayer, and almsgiving? It is putting things right

inner seed of hope. For in the garden of our shared humanity, every word of kindness, every act of justice, and every effort for peace is a prayer that echoes across time.

Asst. Prof. Dr. Nurul Ain Norman  
ISTAC-IIUM

## 2nd DAISAKU IKEDA MEMORIAL LECTURE

### Welcoming Remarks

Delivered by Prof. Datuk Dr. Abdelaziz Berghout  
Dean, International Institute of Islamic Thought and Civilisation (ISTAC-IIUM)

First and foremost, I would like to warmly welcome everyone present today at this beautiful hall of ISTAC-IIUM for the 2nd Daisaku Ikeda Memorial Lecture 2025—an event both significant and timely.

I extend my deepest gratitude to all invited speakers, diplomats, and participants. We are truly honoured by your presence today.

I would also like to extend a special welcome and sincere appreciation to our distinguished speakers who have graciously contributed their vast knowledge and insights to this event:

Prof. Emeritus Tan Sri Dr. Annuwar Ali,

Prof. Emeritus Datuk Dr. Azizan Baharuddin, and;

Mr. Koh Sia Feai General Director of Soka Gakkai  
Malaysia,

Mr. Johnny Ng Teck Sim, President of Soka Gakkai  
Malaysia.

My appreciation also goes to the esteemed ambassadors and all distinguished delegates attending this occasion.

## Tribute and Final Thoughts

This publication would not have been possible without the gracious support and insightful contributions of many individuals. We extend our heartfelt appreciation to:

- Prof. Datuk Dr. Abdelaziz Berghout, Dean of ISTAC-IUUM, for his visionary leadership and unwavering encouragement.
- Mr. Koh Sia Feai, General Director of SGM, for his continuous cooperation and belief in the power of interfaith and intercultural dialogue.
- Mr. Johnny Ng Teck Sim, President of SGM, for his steadfast commitment to fostering peace and understanding through collaborative action.

As we bring this booklet to a close, we reflect on the profound impact of Dr. Daisaku Ikeda, whose life and writings continue to serve as a guiding light in our pursuit of a more harmonious and humane world. His emphasis on peace, education, and dialogue offers a timeless reminder that genuine change begins within each of us.

To all who contributed to the programme and the preparation of this publication, we offer our deepest thanks. Your dedication is a testament to the enduring spirit of unity and compassion that Dr. Ikeda so passionately championed.

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