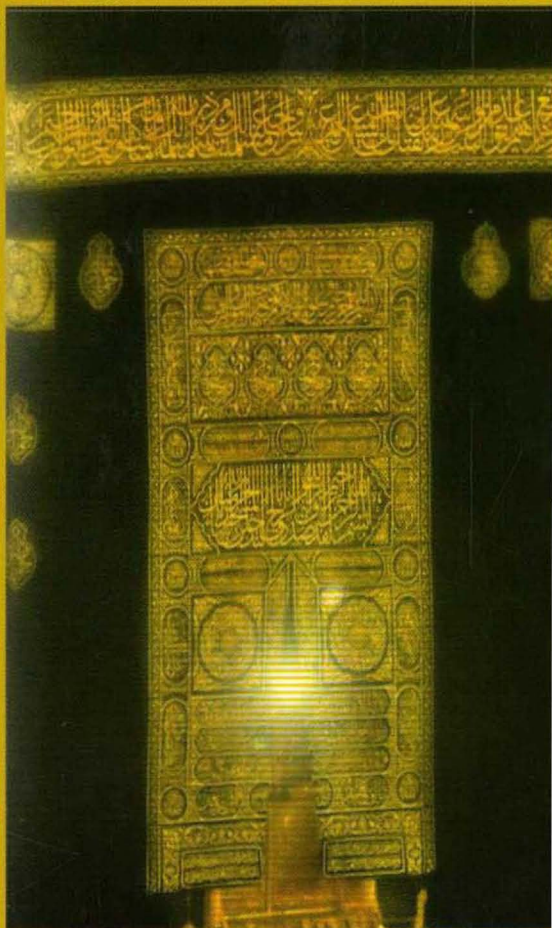
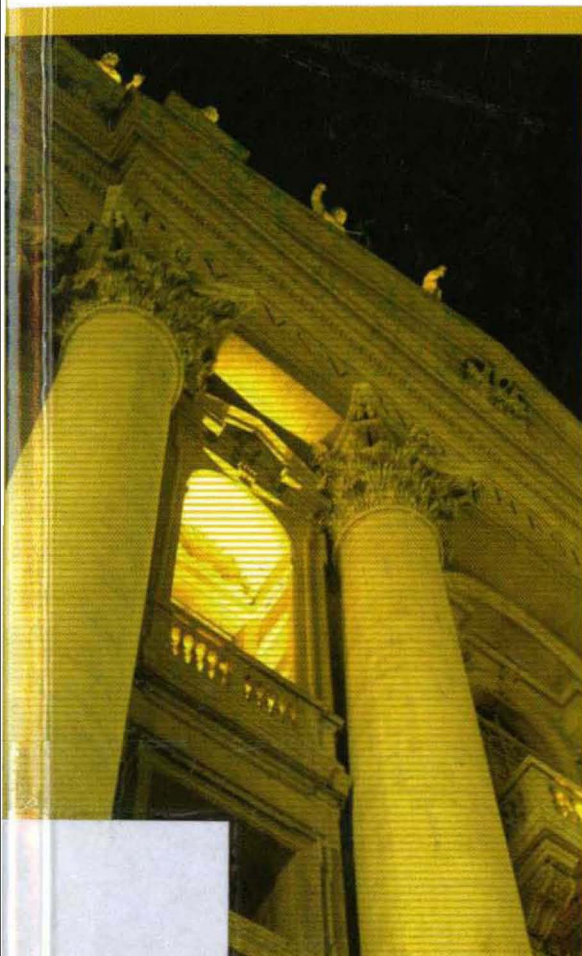


NOSTRA AETATE
and
THE ISLAMIC PERSPECTIVE
of
INTER-RELIGIOUS DIALOGUE

FATMIR MEHDI SHEHU



INTERNATIONAL ISLAMIC UNIVERSITY MALAYSIA

***NOSTRA AETATE AND THE ISLAMIC
PERSPECTIVE
OF
INTER-RELIGIOUS DIALOGUE***

DR. FATMIR MEHDI SHEHU

Assistant Professor (Uṣūl al-Dīn & Comparative Religion),
Department of General Studies
Kulliyyah of Islamic Revealed Knowledge & Human Sciences
International Islamic University Malaysia



**INTERNATIONAL ISLAMIC UNIVERSITY
MALAYSIA**

Published by:
IIUM Press
International Islamic University Malaysia

First edition, 2008
©IIUM Press, IIUM

All right reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted, in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording, or otherwise, without any prior written permission of the publisher.

Perpustakaan Negara Malaysia Cataloguing-in-Publication Data

Fatmir Mehdi Shehu

Nostra Aetate and the Islamic perspective of inter-religious dialogue / Fatmir Mehdi Shehu

Includes index

Bibliography

ISBN 978-983-3855-50-6

1. Religious pluralism. 2. Islam- - Relations. 3. Christiani and other religions. I. Title.

BL50.42

Printed by:

MULIA ERAT SDN BHD (594344-A)
No. 51, Jalan Metro Perdana Timur 10,
 Kepong Entrepreneurs Park, Jalan Kepong, 52100 Kuala Lumpur
Tel no. 03-6257 8004 Fax no. 03-6258 7004 e-mail. mesb66@yahoo.com

CONTENTS

Transliteration.....	v
Preface	vii
Introduction.....	xi

CHAPTER ONE: *NOSTRA AETATE* AND INTER-RELIGIOUS DIALOGUE.....

A Brief Historical Exposition of the Formulation of <i>Nostra Aetate</i>.....	1
Transformation of Christian Thought from a Traditional Exclusivist Stance to Openness or Inclusivism.....	2
The Attempts of the Catholic Church for Reconciliation with the Jews.....	19
The Philosophy of <i>Nostra Aetate</i> in Promoting Inter-Religious Dialogue.....	41
Inaugurating a New Paradigm Shift in the History of World Religions.....	42
The Attempts of the Catholic Church to Initiate a Better Understanding between Muslims and Christians.....	56
<i>Nostra Aetate</i> 's Theological Aim for Nurturing and Extending the Horizon of Inter-Religious Communication with non-Christians.....	74

CHAPTER TWO: INTER-RELIGIOUS DIALOGUE: AN ISLAMIC PERSPECTIVE.....

The Holy Qur'ān and the Concept of Inter-Religious Dialogue.....	92
The Concept of <i>Ḥiwār Dīnī</i> (Inter-Religious Dialogue) in the Qur'ānic Verses.....	93
<i>Da'wah</i> and <i>Ḥiwār Dīnī</i> as the Basic Means of	

Communicating the Islamic Message to Others.....	112
The Qur'ānic Philosophy in Promoting Amicable Inter-Religious Dialogue.....	126
The Inclusivistic Stance of <i>Dīn al-Islām</i> towards an Amicable Inter-Religious Dialogue with Others.....	128
The Amicable Inter-Religious Dialogue between Muslims and Christians: A Historical Assessment.....	172
 CHAPTER THREE: MUSLIMS' SHIFT FROM APOLOGETIC STANCE TO MUTUAL RESPECT AND BETTER, SUBJECTIVE AND UNBIASED UNDERSTANDING OF OTHERS	205
Muslims' Understanding of Islamic-Christian Inter-Religious Dialogue after Vatican II.....	210
<i>Nostra Aetate</i> : A Muslim Perspective.....	220
Contemporary Scenario of Islamic-Christian Inter-Religious Dialogue.....	225
 CONCLUSION.....	233
 BIBLIOGRAPHY.....	245
 INDEX.....	273