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*Empowering the Humanities
in Upholding
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PROGRAMME

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itu, kajian makmal oleh saintis menunjukkan siwak mengandungi bahan-bahan kimia seperti trimetilamina, salvadorina, vitamin C, klorida, florida, silika, sulfur, minyak mustard, resin, tannin, saponin, flavonoid dan sterol. Siwak juga mempunyai kesan antibakteria yang lebih baik berbanding penggunaan berus gigi biasa dan membantu mengatasi masalah mulut berbau. Hasil tersebut selari dengan pendapat ulama Islam terdahulu yang menyatakan penggunaan siwak secara sederhana dan konsisten mampu memutihkan gigi dan menghilangkan bau mulut. Justeru, siwak merupakan alternatif terbaik dalam penjagaan kesihatan gigi dan mulut kerana ianya murah, mudah dan berkesan.

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THE METHODOLOGY OF IBN HAZM IN COMPARATIVE RELIGION WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO HIS MASTER PIECE AL-FAṣL FĪ AL-MILAL WA AL-AHWĀ' WA AL-NIẒĀ'L

This paper attempts to study the methodology of classical scholar of *'Ilm al-Kalām*, Ibn Ḥazm, in comparative religion with special reference to his *master piece* "Al-Faṣl fī al-Milal wa al-Ahwā' wa al-Niẓā'l." It will provide extensive exposition of Ibn Ḥazm's contribution in the development of the science of comparative religion. The focus of this research will be on the study of: (1) bibliography of Ibn Ḥazm and his writings related to comparative religion; and, (2) the methodology used by him in his study of Christianity with examples. The findings of this research hope to assist the Muslim scholars of 21st century in comparative religion to develop a better methodology in their study of other religions, which leads to mutual respect and better understanding of others.

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EMPOWERMENT AND THE OPPRESSED: JOE SACCO'S FOOTNOTES IN GAZA

The conflicts of Palestine-Israel in Gaza have produced many strong political and historical writings. One of the most commanding literatures that come from this struggle is *Footnotes in Gaza* (Metropolitan Books, 2009), authored by a Maltese-American journalist and cartoonist Joe Sacco. Here, Sacco researched on the two long-forgotten massacres of Palestinians in Gaza back in 1956. What is very interesting is the way Sacco designed the characters and the layout to tell the story