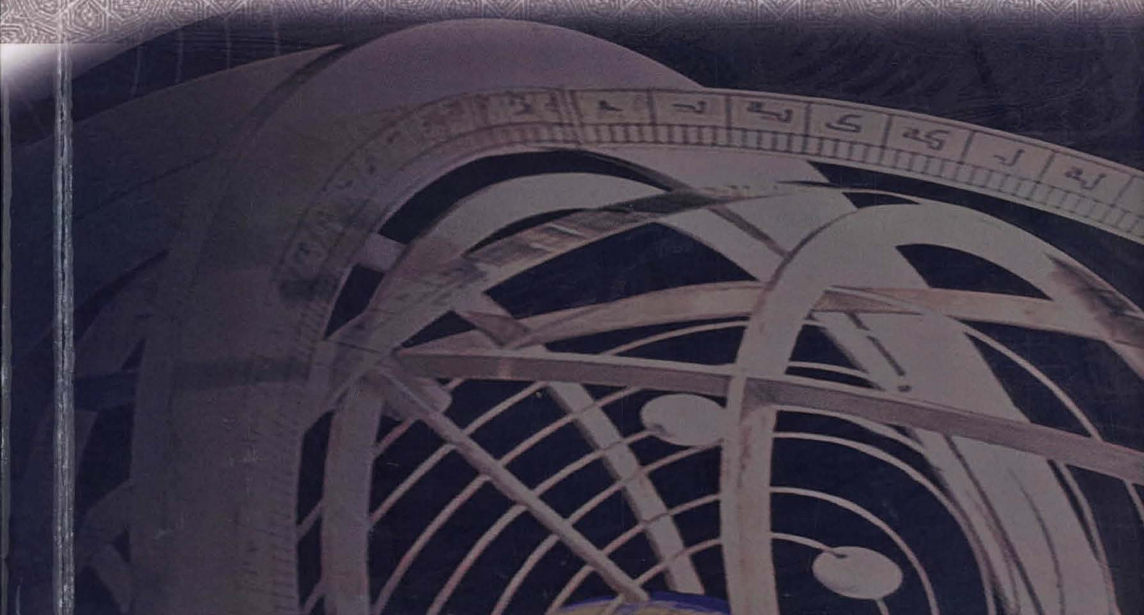


# THE ISLAMIC WORLDVIEW, ETHICS AND CIVILIZATION

Issues in Contemporary Interdisciplinary Discourse



**ABDUL KABIR HUSSAIN SOLIHU**

IIUM PRESS  
INTERNATIONAL ISLAMIC UNIVERSITY MALAYSIA



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*Issues in Contemporary Interdisciplinary Discourse*

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Edited by  
Abdul Kabir Hussain Solihu



**HUM Press**

Published by:  
IIUM Press  
International Islamic University Malaysia

First Edition, 2011  
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Perpustakaan Negara Malaysia

Publication Data

Cataloguing-in-

Abdul Kabir Hussain Solihu: The Islamic Worldview, Ethics and Civilization -/ Abdul Kabir Hussain Solihu

ISBN: 978-967-0225-63-0

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# **Introduction: Islamic Values and Civilizational Worldview**

*Abdul Kabir Hussain Solihu*

Civilization, along with its defining parameters of progress and development, has become a buzzword of our contemporary age. Modern civilization has brought unprecedented achievements, expanding our horizons of the natural world and extending the frontiers of science and technology. Presented with the marvels of modern secular civilization with the apparently limitless resources in nature, we are taught to believe that we are better off in almost every respect than ever before and that ours is “the greatest time there has ever been on this planet” by any measure one wishes to choose.<sup>1</sup> We are thus coaxed to invest more in science and even to replace faith in God with faith in science.<sup>2</sup>

Contrary to these technocratic promises and expectations, we are becoming more and more the prime victims of our own inventions and are getting lost in what some refer to as “the labyrinth of technology.”<sup>3</sup> As Nasim Butt observes, our societal and environmental problems emerged within the matrix of an unhealthy civilizational worldview where the institutionalized system of ethics and morality is dislodged.<sup>4</sup> This has led to a popular clarion call for sustainable development, for revisiting the path and the premises that modern science has adopted and for maneuvering an alternative route to progress.

## **Worldview and Civilization**

The missing parameter in our modern secular civilization, I believe, is the lack of a civilizational worldview based on a transcendental religious value that will guide to the realization of vision and the cause to which all our endeavors are directed. A civilizational worldview is a complex theoretical framework that provides a