INTERCULTURAL COMMUNICATION
IN MUSLIM SOCIETIES

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IIUM Press
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COMMUNICATION WITH PILGRIMS OF DIVERSE CULTURES IN ISLAM’S TWO HOLIEST CITIES

Mohd. Yusof Hussain

Every year more than two million Muslims from all parts of the world come to Makkah during the month of Dhū al-Ḥijjah to perform the annual pilgrimage. They come to Makkah to perform the pilgrimage in response to Allah’s commandment in the Qur’ān:

“And proclaim the pilgrimage among mankind: they will come to thee on foot and (mounted) on every kind of camel....”

*Al-Hajj* (22):27

Pilgrimage to Makkah *al-Mukarramah* is mandatory to every Muslim, male and female. It is the fifth of the five pillars of Islam. Every adult, sane and able-bodied Muslim who can afford it has to perform it once in a lifetime. Allāh s.w.t. says in the Qur’ān:

“... Pilgrimage thereto is a duty men own to Allāh, those who can afford the journey....”

*Āl-‘Imrān* (3): 97

Prophet Muḥammad p.b.u.h. was reported to have said:

“O Muslims, Allāh has enjoined Ḥajj on you. You should perform it.”

Muslim and al-Nisae