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# **INTERCULTURAL COMMUNICATION IN MUSLIM SOCIETIES**

*Editor*

**Mohd. Yusof Hussain**



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# CONTENTS

## **Preface**

### **Understanding Culture**

*Jamil Farooqui*

1 ✓

### **The Meaning, Process, Context and Goals of Intercultural Communication**

*Shafizan Mohamed*

29 ✓

### **Qualities of a Good Intercultural Communicator**

*Zeti Azreen Ahmad*

51 ✓

### **Contents of Conversations among Muslims of Similar and Different Cultures**

*Saadah Wok*

63 ✓

### **The Importance of Using Proper Language in Communication within and Across Cultures**

*Che Mahzan Ahmad*

81 ✓

### **Principles of Communication in Islam: A Guide for Muslims of All Cultures**

*Mohd. Yusof Hussain*

97 ✓

### **Communicating with the Malays: Some Principles to Observe**

*Mohd. Yusof Hussain*

105 ✓

<b>Intercultural Communication among Students at International Islamic University Malaysia: Some Problems and Suggestions</b>	
<i>Zaharah S.A. Keeney</i>	113
<b>Communicating with Pilgrims of Diverse Cultures in Islam's Two Holiest Cities</b>	
<i>Mohd. Yusof Hussain</i>	133 ✓
<b>Learning from Stories of Intercultural Encounters</b>	
<i>Norbaiduri Ruslan</i>	143 ✓
<b>Overcoming Barriers in Intercultural Communication</b>	
<i>Azmuddin Ibrahim</i>	167 ✓
<b>About the Contributors</b>	177
<b>Index</b>	179

# COMMUNICATION WITH PILGRIMS OF DIVERSE CULTURES IN ISLAM'S TWO HOLiest CITIES

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*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-Hijjah* to perform the annual pilgrimage. They come to Makkah to perform the pilgrimage in response to Allah's commandment in the Qur'an:

“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 *Hajj* on you. You should perform it.”

Muslim and al-Nisae