- The role of Islamic Learning in creating religious consciousness in the society
- o Media perceptions of the Islamic education
- o The role of Islamic Learning in Reconstruction of Pakistani Society
- o The cultural impact of Islamic Learning on the society
- o Political and economic impact of Islamic Learning in the society
- o The role of Islamic Learning in urbanization
- o The role of Islamic Learning in protection of environment

Problem and Solutions

- o Problems related to curricula
- o Financial Issues
- o The allegations of extremism, terrorism, and narrow-mindedness
- Ways to bridge the gaps
- Proposed solutions and remedies for the challenges faced by Islamic Education in Pakistan

KEY DATES OF THE CONFERENCE

Deadline for the submission of Abstracts & Short CV: February 25, 2019 Announcement of the accepted Abstracts: February 28, 2019

Submission of full papers: March 18, 2019 February 28, 2019 Dates of the Conference: April 10-11, 2019

CHAIRS OF THE CONFERENCE

Prof. Dr. Tariq Mahmood Ansari Vice-Chancellor, Bahauddin Zakariya University, Multan Prof. Dr. Ahmed Yousif A. Al-Draiweesh President, International Islamic University, Islamabad

VICE CHAIRS OF THE CONFERENCE

Prof. Dr. Muhammad Idrees Lodhi Chairman, Department of Islamic Studies Bahauddin Zakariya University, Multan Office Phone: 061-9330239 Email: chairmanislamicstudies@bzu.edu.pk

Prof. Dr. Muhammad Zia-ul-Haq Director General, Islamic Research Institute International Islamic University, Islamabad Office Phone: 051-2281289

CHIEF ORGANIZER/SECRETARY OF THE CONFERENCE

Prof. Dr. Abdul Quddus Suhaib (Coordinator) Director, Islamic Research Centre Bahauddin Zakariya University, Multan. Office Phone: 061-9330240 Email: <u>irc@bzu.edu.pk</u>



INTRODUCTION AND SCOPE

The religious education in Pakistan claims much important position in the overall educational system of the country. Number of the students enrolled in universities and traditional religious madrasas is much higher than the number of students enrolled in any other discipline. The religious education in Pakistan is basically divided into two mainstreams. One stream is comprised of *Deenī Madrasas* which are controlled by independent Madrasa Boards, that have been established by various religious schools of thought (Sects) in the country. The other stream constitutes colleges, universities and other institutions that are patterned along the modern western educational system. This stream can be further subdivided into two types: Public Institutions and Private Institutions. Despite many commonalities, the curricula, institutional setups, objectives, and outcomes of these three types of institutions are quite different, apparently irreconcilably from each other.

The graduates of these different streams turn out to have developed quite different levels of competence, modes of articulation, and basic cultural orientation. Though there are certain possibilities for the graduates of *Deeni Madrasas* to get enrolled in the mainstream educational institutions at higher level of studies, there is hardly any possibility for the graduates of the modern institutions to get integrated into the traditional Madrasa education system.

Concerns have been expressed by various scholarly and activist circles that these different streams of religious education in the country need to be unified for a harmonious society. Resultantly, a heated debate is taking place in the Pakistani society on the nature of religious education, its objectives, and possibilities of integration of the two streams. The discourse on religious education has culminated in various voices for reform and counter reform campaigns. The present conference is designed to contribute to this debate in a constructive and professional manner by bringing together scholars, experts, and those in control of the religious seminaries at one forum.

The Conference Aims to Achieve the Following Objectives:

- To analyze the course and syllabus of Islamic education at various levels in various institutions
- To highlight social, political, economic and spiritual role of religious seminaries in Pakistan
- To analyze various types of *deenī madrasas*, private institutions, state sponsored public institutions
- To determine the problems that are faced by the Graduates of Religious Education in Pakistan particularly in the equalization of their degrees
- To determine the reality of stereotyped perceptions about Madrasa Education in Pakistan

- To evaluate the impact of present religious and Islamic education on Pakistani society
- To suggest measures for possible reforms in the Islamic Learning Education
- To advance the scholarships on ways of bridging the gap between different streams of religious and Islamic Learning in Pakistan
- To measure the performance of Madrasa Education Boards (Private and Public)

Expected Outcome of the Conference

- It will bring together academicians, administrators of the institutions, policy makers and other officials concerned at one forum and thereby provide a unique opportunity of constructive consolations of different stakeholders in the field of Islamic Learning in Pakistan.
- It will bring into light the strengths and weaknesses of various curricula of religious education and Islamic Learning in Pakistan.
- It will elaborate various impacts of Islamic Learning on the Pakistani Society.
- It will discuss the present challenges and prospects for Islamic Learning in the country.
- The conference will pave the way towards an integrated religious educational system, which would be a contribution to the social harmony in the country.

Themes of the Conference

Institutions of Islamic Learning in Pakistan

- Case studies of important Madrasas in the country
- o Case studies of various Madrasa Boards and the Federation of Madrasa Boards
- o Primary and secondary level Islamic education
- o Islamic learning in contemporary universities
- National and Institutional experiments of integrating religious and modern education
- o Case studies of the Madrasa Board established by the Government of Pakistan
- Various Curricula of Religious Education
- o Curricula of different madrasas
- o Curricula of Islamic Learning in private institutions
- Curricula of Islamic Learning in state sponsored public universities and other institutions
- o Curricula of religious education in the Islamic universities
- The Impact of Islamic Learning on Pakistani Society
- o The role of Islamic Learning in peace-building and co-existence
- o The role of Islamic Learning in articulation and advancing of national
- Narrative 'Paigham-e-Pakistan.