II- Current and Past Events

IN THE MEMORY OF THE GREAT THINKER DR. JAMAL BARZINJI (1939-2015)

Sep 21st, 2016

Eddiya Canadian Centre remembering the great leader Dr, Jamal Barzinji by mentioning part of his Achievements and inspiration of Muslim Communities in North America. Later on we play a video introducing IIIT the Institution that he was ruling and his rule to make it one the biggest Institutions in North America and Muslim world.

Dr, Abdallahi Hamdy in talk mentioned that he still remembered his speech on Friday Prayer (during the international conference in Jakarta, Indonesia 1996) about the importance of Salat and its impact on Muslim daily life. Finally, Dr, Hamdy urges the Muslim organizations to organize conference about this great leader in different aspects: The thinker the Educator and the manager..ect.

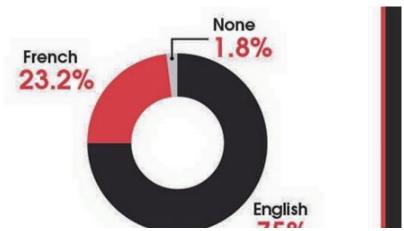


Figure 1. Dr. Jamal Barzinji is third from the left in the first row

Cross-Canada official languages Consultations- Calgary September 6, 2016

The department of Canadian heritage has launched public consultations toward the development of a new multi-year action plan for official languages in Canada. The minister of Canadian Heritage, Melanie Joly, invited community representatives to participate actively in the bilingual round tables held across the country. One of these round tables was held today in Calgary. There were many participants from many different communities and language schools coming to voice their opinions. It was also attended by a member of parliament, Randy Boissonnault, who gave an informative presentation on the federal views of the future of the official languages. Dr. Abdallahi Hamdy attended this round table as a representative of the Mauritanian Community of Calgary and Eddiya Canadian Centre. He emphasized the importance of building a bridge between Minority and Majority languages in Canada. He also mentioned one of the main challenges of learning French in Alberta, which was the lack of after school activities. He proposed the solution to this was to give more funding towards after school activities such as language club, French language competitions, and French camps. Finally, he emphasized on the importance of learning the language through technology. The round table concluded with comments from the organizers about the ideas discussed and the importance of putting them to action.





Eddiya 3rd Annual Arabic Language Competition 2016

This annual Arabic language Competition was held in May 5th 2016. It was opened with a speech by Dr. Abdallahi, who welcomed the contestants and attendees. He continued to explain the goal of the competition which was to encourage the youth to love and appreciate the Arabic language. The competition had 49 participants which were split up into 3 categories, Beginners, Intermediate, and advanced. These 3 groups were focused on 4 language skills including public speaking and calligraphy. Awards and certificates were then presented to the 9 winners of the competition, 3 from each category. Then Dr. Abdallahi closed the event with a talk about the relationship between language and identity, and made a request of everyone present to preserve our beautiful language





MOHAMED HAMDY 3RD ANNUAL AL-QURAN COMPETITION JUNE 4TH 2016

The 3rd Annual Mohammed Hamdy Al-Quran Competition which took place at the Centre and was attended by representatives of Arab, African and Asian communities, which reflects the diversity of the students at the centre. 57 students participated, 27 of them won spread over three levels. The event opened with verses from the Holy Quran from the student Kazi Tawfiq. The MC, Moctar Baba then continued by explaining the objectives of the competition, and gave a brief history of Mohamed Hamdy, who's name the competition is named after, May God have mercy on him. After that, the President of the Centre Dr. Abdallahi Hamdy, in his talk emphasized the need to teach the Quran to the younger generation in the West in order to preserve their identity. On behalf of the parents, Ibrahim M'Baye and Khadija Jalloh talked about the Centre's efforts and thanked the Eddiya staff for their hard work. Finally it was time to start honouring the winners and volunteers from the community who have contributed to the establishment of this event. Then they began to have lunch in an atmosphere of joy and pleasure. The event was a success alhamdulillah and we appreciate everyone who attended. We are all very proud of our students and their achievements.





The Urban Agenda: Calgary (Multiculturalism and diversity roundtable)

Wednesday, May 18, 2016 5:30pm to 9:00pm Bow Valley College

Eddiya Canadian Centre participated in The Urban Agenda: Calgary on May 18th 2016. The focus of this event was exploring Canadian Values about Multiculturalism. This event is the 5th in a series of national Roundtables on cities as hubs of diversity. There were many speakers at this roundtable, among them was:

- The Mayor of Calgary, Naheed Nenshi
- Mohammed Idriss, Service Manager at BCIS
- Iman Bukhari, CEO of Canadian Cultural Mosaic Foundation
- Roger Chaffin , Chief Constable at the Calgary Police Service
- Wayne Chiu, Board member of United Way of Calgary; CEO of Trico Group
- Sam Nammoura, Co-founder of Syrian Refugee Support Group Calgary
- Judy Shapiro, Associate Executive Director, Calgary Jewish Federation

All of the speakers spoke strongly about the topic of "Race relations and Multiculturalism in Canadian Cities." Each speaker presented their perspective on this issue, most of them believed in the celebration of the individual and collective success of the Canadian Cities as hubs of diversity and models of inclusion. The speakers also brought up and explored issues that remain unsolved and identified emerging challenges. These unsolved issues include Islamaphobia, racial discrimination and so on, which all violate our Canadian values. Finally we would like to deeply thank the advisory committee for their hard work in organizing this event which reflected our diversity in Calgary. Also a special thanks to Cam Stewart who invited our centre to benefit from this event.



The Arabic for life conference April 1st & 2nd 2016 Horizon Academy

The Arabic for life conference, University of Calgary started yesterday April 1st 2016. Many speakers attended this conference from inside and outside Canada such as Saudi Arabia, Emirates, united states and United Kingdom. The language of the conference was English and Arabic. Eddiya Canadian Centre for Arabic studies was represented by Dr. Abdallahi Hamdy who Presented a lecture about "Teaching Arabic Language & Contemporary Challenges in The West". more information about this conferences will be published soon.





Arabic language teachers training Seminar in the city of Edmonton and Fort McMurray

February-27 2016

Location: Seifeddine Learning Centre: Glengarry School

The Seminar opened with welcome words by the Assistant Principal of Glengarry School Mr. Hassan Saifeddine, who welcomed the guests: Dr. Shawki al-Khalidi and Dr. Abdallahi Hamdy and Mohamed al-Qahtani, also welcomed the teachers who came from different schools including:

- Glengarry School
- Edmonton Islamic Academy
- CAFA School
- Mac Islamic School
- Caldar School
- Killarney School
- Weekend Mac School
- Let's learn School
- Fort McMurray Islamic School

He emphasized the Importance of developing Arabic training for teachers in public school in Alberta. After that the president of Eddiya Centre Dr Hamdy thanked the Glengarry School administration for helping to organize this seminar and welcomed all the participants. He made several remarks in his presentation among them: he highlights the importance of education in the promotion of any civilized nation. He gave several Examples from the history and our contemporary life. He then added that the training of the teacher is the first step towards achieving the desired goal.

Then the training sessions continue as follow: method of teaching the four Arabic Language skills; lesson planning and ended with showing a video of an Arabic teacher presenting a lesson for grade one. Each session is followed by questions and relevant comments. The closing remark was made by a representative of Glengarry school who thanks the guests and all the participants saying that this great number of teacher who met today is sign of success and commitment to continue this development process.









Arabic language teachers training Seminar at the

Calgary Islamic School

Feburary 24th, 2016

Eddiya Canadian Centre for Arabic Studies centre held a training seminar for the Arabic teachers Wednesday February 24, 2016 at Calgary Islamic School. The president of Eddiya Centre, Dr. Abdallahi Hamdy had opened the session by welcoming the attendances especially the lecturer Dr. Shawqi Al-Khalidi and the teachers. He thanked those in charge of Calgary school Islamic for this opportunity in his speech. the subject of the session:

"Modern educational solutions in dealing with different levels in a Single classroom."





Report on the Arabic teachers training seminar in the City of Calgary

February 21, 2016

Eddiya Canadian Centre for Arabic studies and the Arab Center for Educational Services in Toronto held a training seminar for Arabic teachers. It was attended by representatives from several schools in Calgary such as: Eddiya Academy, Falah weekend school, Calgary Islamic School, MAC School, Hope learning Academy, Sudanese School and a few students who are interested in the educational field from Mount Royal University and Bow Valley Collage.

The event opened with verses from Al-Quran Al-Kareem by Sheikh Ahmed Abdul Kadir from Calgary Islamic School.

The session coordinator of the seminar announced the program, which consisted of several sessions.

The opening session was done by the President of Eddiya Centre Dr. Abdallahi Hamdy, who welcomed the guests and teachers who came from different institutions. He indicated that the subject of the training has not been given the attention that it deserves in our educational institutions. This has reflected negatively on the performance of teachers which in turn has had negative outcomes for students. Dr. Abdallahi added that the need for teacher training and evaluation today is very important in order for teachers to play their role in pioneering educational institutions.

The second session was titled "Challenges facing the Arabic language in the West." The first part of the seminar was conducted by Dr. Shawqi Al-Khalidiby focusing on the contemporary situation of the Arabic language in the west. The second part was by Dr. Hamdy, who focused on the impact of local dialects and foreign languages on the future of the Arabic language in the west.

The topic of the third session was "New approach of teaching the Arabic language skills ."

The last session was on "modern methods of teaching Arabic language and addressing the problem of teaching different levels in one class"

All sessions were very interactive where many very interesting questions and comments were raised and discussed. This helped many of the teachers get answers to questions that will better their teaching styles.

The seminar concluded by remembering the legacy of Dr. Jamal Barazanji, who dedicated his life to preserving the Arabic language and to reforming the Islamic education in the west. Eddiya Centre also awarded three members in recognition of their continued support and effort in the educational programs of the year 2015. They are respectively Dr. Hashim Al-Sharif, Sister Heidi Salem, and Mr. Mohamed Ahmed Kory Hamdy. There was also an exhibition of Arabic books and Arabic language curriculums held during the seminar.

Finally, the head of the organization committee of the seminar, Mr. Khalil Naffe thanked all the participants and asked them to fill in the evaluation forms. All participants were awarded a certificate for successfully completing the seminar.







Eddiya celebrates: World Arabic Language Day

December 18th, 2015 Time 5:00 to 8:00 PM

Eddiya Canadian Centre for Arabic Studies celebrates the International Arabic Language Day December 18, 2015 and the activities of the celebration focused on: reading poetry, Arabic language contests, recitations of Al Quran, sayings of the Prophet, Arabic songs, and finally with a lecture about the Arabic language and the contemporary challenges presented by Dr Abdallahi Hamdy. He referred to three important points.

The first point relates to the loss of identity, indicating that some of the Arabs have become proud of themselves when they speak foreign languages, by taking into account the importance of these languages in our time. Also, our children should have a chance to learn and to understand their mother language and culture. Unfortunately, the abandon of Arabic language led to the weakness of the academic curriculums and lack of interest from the new generations to learn this beautiful language.

The second point, Dr. Hamdy raised the awareness of teaching of local dialects and creating a new system of communication called "Al ARBIZI" which mixes between Arabic and English, or any foreign language. This kind of language is well known between youth in the internet and the social media. In this contest, the community leaders and teachers should pay more attention and emphasize the use of pure Arabic language (Alfusha) in the classrooms and family social activities.

In his final remark, Dr. Hamdy confirmed that the Arabic language will remain a language of culture and civilization of this nation despite all the challenges, whether local dialects or foreign languages. He also reminds the Arabs that great countries like Japan, China, South Korea and Turkey became more developed because of paying attention to their native languages. They have studied sciences and knowledge in their mother languages and tied their new generations on the glories of those languages and cultures.

The students of Eddiya remind us of those meanings through this great celebration. They rose by hands Arabic books curriculum and posters glorifying the language of the Al Quran such as:

"Preserving the Arabic Language is the responsibility of all of us. Are we doing our part and fulfilling our responsibility?"

Finally, the ceremony concluded by dinner and recitation of verses from the Holy Quran highlight the strong relationship between the Arabic language and Al Quran.



Eddiya Celebrates Mauritanian Independence Day

Remembering Arabic Language scholars (November 28, 1960)

Today Students of Eddiya Centre celebrated the 55th independence day of Mauritania. This was a very multicultural gathering with students originally from more than 10 different countries learning about and celebrating Mauritania's Independence. There were several activities such as, Raising of Mauritania's flag, singing the national anthem, competition about Mauritanian culture, and finally a lecture by Dr. Abdallahi Hamdy about the role of Mauritanian scholars in the spreading of the Arabic language and Islamic culture around the globe. Dr. Hamdy also mentioned that the role of Eddiya Centre in Canada is a continuation of the effort of those great scholars. We are proud to say that Eddiya Centre has taught over 600 students throughout the last 3 years, the majority of which have learned about Mauritania and its role in teaching Arabic language.

We wish everyone a safe and joyous Mauritanian Independence Day.



Calgary 2020: Responsible Citizens Looking Into the Future conference

By Khalil Naffe

On November 19th, 2015, The Intercultural Dialogue Institute of Calgary organized this conference; several organizations attended this great event. Mr. Malik Muradov the executive director welcomed the guests and made the opening remarks. Followed by Three panels that ran from 1:00 PM to 6:30

PM discussing the idea of what we want to see in our city by 2020. The subjects focused on different topics such as, Infrastructure, Community & economic development, and public space & cohesive society.

Panelists and Organizational Partners Included:

Panel 1 1:00pm-2:30pm Infrastructure Needs of Tomorrow

- Tom Sampson, Chief, Calgary Emergency Management Agency
- Katherine van Kooy, CEO, Calgary Chamber of Voluntary Organizations
- Don Mulligan, Director, Transportation Planning, City of Calgary
- Gregory Hart, Executive Director, Safer Calgary (moderator)

Panel 2 3:00pm-4:30pm Community & Economic Development

- Jim Dewald, Dean, Haskavne School of Business
- · Derek Cook, Board Member, Canada Without Poverty
- James McAra, CEO, Calgary Food Bank
- Julie Black, Citizen Engagement Associate, Calgary Foundation (moderator)

Panel 3 5:00pm-6:30pm Public Space & Cohesive Society

- Elza Bruk, Dean, Immigration and Intercultural Advancement, Bow Valley College
- Janvee Konkin, Regional Project Manager, Initiatives of Change
- Debra Faulk, Co-chair, Metro-Alliance For The Common Good Calgary
- Cheryl Foggo, Author and Historian (moderator)

Many attendants enriched these three panels with valuable questions. Dr. Abdallahi Hamdy, president of Eddiya Canadian Centre raised an important question about the minority rights concerning volunteering and access to the leading positions in Calgary, in addition to that he emphasized the importance of multiculturalism and eliminating racism and discrimination in our society.

The conference concluded with an important speech from Calgary Mayor, Mr. Naheed Nenshi who discussed the importance of collaboration between all Calgarians towards welcoming the Syrian refugees and emphasized on the idea that the beauty of Calgary and Canada comes from our diversity.



Eddiya Canadian Centre participated in the conference: Being Me: Muslimah Empowered Calgary

By Khadija Abdallahi,

On November 14th, 2015, the second annual Islamic conference took place in the city of Calgary, AB "Being Me: Muslimah conference". It is organized by Mercy Mission, a Muslim organization which focuses on the empowerment of women in the Muslim world. They are established in 8 countries and active in building schools and organizing seminars and educational conferences. The aim of this conference is "to bring woman from all walks of lives in a gathering of excellence and love, and remembrance of Allah". This is the second time this conference be held in Calgary and it was a huge success, with more than 1000 women attending. The lectures ran the whole day from 9 AM to 9 PM and it was a full day of learning from great women speakers and connecting with amazing members from our Muslim community.

This year's theme was "Divine Liberation from the Quran and Sunnah" to focus on divine empowerment. The program started by Quran Recitation and Transalation by Sr. Orusa Mohsin, and a welcoming remarks and introduction by Ust. Fuseina Mohamed which emphasized that the message of Al- Quran "brought ultimate liberation to the status and the role of a Woman in this world". This was followed by many wonderful lectures by many amazing speakers such as Ust. Taimiyyah Zubair (Tafseer of Surah Mujadilah), Sr. Luise Adams (Let's Move! Liberation through Modesty), Sr. Du'ah Al-Soubani (Breath – Liberation through Patience), Sr. Megan Wyatt (Radiating with Confidence: 3 Keys to Living Confidently in Any Situation), Sr. Shahina Siddiqui (Domestic Violence: Navigating the First Steps Towards Healing), Rulla Abbas "Women's Health"

In the addition to the lectures, there were several workshops and panels such as: Domestic Violence and Raising the Next Generation.

The conference was concluded at 9 PM by closing remarks.

Eddiya women groups participated in this great event through the following sisters: Maimouna Cheikh, Fatima Zahra Hamdi, Soukeina Jidou and I as a volunteer in this conference.

Thank you from Eddiya women group and we are highly appreciate your efforts to organize this event in our city and we are looking forward for more similar events in the future.



For more information: www.being-me.org

<u>YEMENIETTES</u>: FILM SCREENING-UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY

Organized by the Arabic Language and Muslim Cultures Program

On October 28, 2015 Dr.Hamdy was invited to attend the Yemeniettes film screening discussion, which was organized by the Department of Linguistics, languages and cultures in The University of Calgary. The discussion was led by Dr.Mushegh Asatryan, Professor of Islamic Civilization. This very powerful documentary follows a group of teenage girls from Yemen who strive to break the barriers of traditional yemeni society through their creative entrepreneurship. These group of teenage girls display the power of muslim women through their hardwork, dedication and commitment to succeed. Throughout the discussion Dr.Hamdy pointed out a very controversial issue. In his comments he said "Although this is a very powerful and inspirational movie, it may be considered gender biased. The men in the Yemeniettes film are portrayed very negatively, always intoxicated (eating ghat) and having no concern of the problems around them. This may be true In some of the men in Yemen, but it is definitely not true in all of them." Dr.Hamdy concluded his comment by praising the film and pointing out that the film would not only have a great impact in Yemen but throughout all of the Arabic World.



Khateeb training: Eddiya Youth Club July -2015.

This is a training program which occurred every three months to develop confidence and public speaking skills under the supervision of Dr. Abdallahi Hamdy.



Eddiya Canadian centre participated in <u>MACPACC -TFI youth leadership retreat</u> conference.

(August 2nd to 7th 2015) VA-USA

Participant: Mohamed Ould Abdallahi, Mount Royal University said this in his presentation at Eddiya Canadian Centre:

This past week, I had the pleasure of traveling from Calgary, Canada to Washington, DC to participate in the MACPACC youth retreat. This was by far one of the best experiences I've ever had. I was able to learn so much from like minded individuals from different states in the U.S and Canada. I am so pleased to have met everyone because we all brought something different to the table in our discussions, which benefited everyone. This group was definitely an accurate representation of the Muslim Ummah, may Allah bless them. I got the opportunity to meet with such distinguished speakers such as Dr. Hisham Altalib, the vice president of international institute of Islamic thought who gave us An interesting presentation regarding the history of Islam in America and the MSA, Imam Johari Abdul-Malik the director of community Outreach for the Dar Al – Hijrah Islamic centre who emphasized the importance of community involvement with Muslims and non-Muslims in order to develop an active initiative which can bring people together from different backgrounds. Also, we had the chance to listen to a great speaker from Council on American Islamic relation regarding civil rights and the importance of civic engagement in the local community. In addition to that, Sara Cochran, from the state of Virginia at Emerge USA taught us how to defend ourselves and enforce our constitutional right. And many other organization heads, that advocate for our Ummah. They all were truly inspiring. Some of the highlights of this trip was being invited to a meeting in the white house and Capitol hill to discuss unanswered issues with congressman Carson and some of the white house officials. Overall this retreat was above and beyond what I expected and I could not have been happier that I was chosen to be a part of it. Thank you Eddiya Canadian centre for presenting me with this opportunity and Fairfax institute and MACPACC for this extraordinary experience. A special thanks to sister Amina Derbi for her hard work to organize this event.



IMAN Fortress Camp in Partnership with EDDIYA CENTRE

Eddiya Canadian Centre for Arabic Studies and IMYD have partnered up to organize the Iman Fortress Camp for the youth which ended very successfully on July 23rd. Recently another Islamic camp has begun on August 3rd, which will last for 3 weeks. In these camps the youth get a chance to learn Quran, Arabic and about their Islamic tradition. They also get a chance to play many games and sports which keep them active and healthy while they learn about the deen of Allah SWT.

For more information regarding deen strong activities visit this link:

http://www.youtube.com/watch...



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Eddiya Weekly women group Iftar during The Holy Ramadan

Eddiya invited all of you for Iftar on July 7th,it is a good opportunity to build brotherhood in this Holy month of Ramadan . It is sponsored by someone like you. So do not miss this opportunity and be part of this great efforts by sponsoring another Iftar .



This is Eddiya celebration, Honoring the winners and the most Improved students in Al – Quran Al kareem and Arabic Language Competition 2013



<u>University of Calgary</u> <u>Eddiya Centre participated in the Arabic language seminar organised by the</u> Arabic language and Muslim Cultures program.

This is a wonderful Arabic program in Calgary which continues to grow and develop new courses. I have participated in some of its seminars, so I highly recommended it. This program should be supported by community leaders that care about the language, and University students by registering in it as a credit course. For more info: www.llc.ca/news/archives



President of University of Calgary, Elizabeth Cannon & Dr. Abdallahi Hamdy president of Eddiya Canadian centre