



UNIVERSITY OF
CAMBRIDGE

Prince Alwaleed Bin Talal
Centre of Islamic Studies

WOOLF
INSTITUTE
studying
relations
between
Jews
Christians
& Muslims

SYMPOSIUM ON RELIGIOUS CONVERSION

15 June 2015

University of Cambridge

Venue:

Rooms 8 – 9, Faculty of Asian and Middle Eastern Studies
Sidgwick Avenue, Cambridge, CB2 8HE
Tel: +44 (0) 1223 335103

Programme

09:15 Registration

09:45 Welcome, Dr Paul Anderson

10:00 **Panel 1: The Public Sphere** (Chair: Dr Shana Cohen)

Layla Murad: The Muslim-Jewish Star and Manufacturing Conversion as a Political Victory

Dr Hanan Hammad, Texas Christian University & Woolf Institute

Converted or Not Converted, is that the Question?

Shaunaka Rishi Das, Oxford Centre for Hindu Studies

Of Fact and Fiction: The Conversions of Isabelle Eberhardt

Kirsty Bennett, University of Sussex

11:30 Tea & Coffee

11:45 **Panel 2: Prisons and Gangs** (Chair: Professor Yasir Suleiman)

Redemption or Recruitment, Exploring the Phenomenon of Islamic Conversion in UK Prisons

Ishtiaq Ahmed & Maqsood Ahmed

Voice of Those in Prison

Tanayah Sam

13:00 Lunch

14:00 **Panel 3: Ethnicity, Gender & Class** (Chair: Dr Hanan Hammad)

East German Conversions to Islam after the Collapse of the Berlin Wall

Dr Esra Özyürek, London School of Economics

Confronting the Absence of Race and Presence of Racism: Ruptures and Continuities in the Lives of Muslim Converts

Dr Jo Britton, University of Sheffield

Narratives of Conversion to Islam in Britain: Male and Female Perspectives

Shahla Suleiman, Centre of Islamic Studies, University of Cambridge

15:30 Tea & Coffee

15:45 **Panel 4: Ruptures and Continuities** (Chair: Dr Paul Anderson)

Religious Exploration and Conversion in Forced Displacement: A Case Study of Syrian Muslim Refugees in Lebanon Receiving Assistance from Evangelical Christians

Dr Kathryn Kraft, University of East London

Ruptures and Continuities in Conversion to Islam: The Making of Intimate Strangers in British Families

Dorothea Ramahi, University of Cambridge

The Ethics of 'Enjoining what is Right' in a Convert Support Network in Manchester

Philip Rushworth, University of Cambridge

17:15 Concluding Remarks, Professor Yasir Suleiman