



مجلس حكماء المسلمين  
Muslim Council of Elders

**Program of the Conference:  
“Freedom and Citizenship: Diversity  
and Integration”**

*1st and 2nd of Jumada Al-Thani 1438 AH, corresponding to February 28 and  
March 1, 2017.*



**Day One: Monday, Rabi' Al-Thani 1441 AH - February 28, 2017**

**Location: Fairmont Heliopolis Hotel**

Time	Item	Speaker
	<b>Opening Session</b>	
<b>Opening Session 10:00 - 12:00</b>	Each speaker has 10 minutes.	<b>Professor Ahmed Al-Tayeb</b> His Eminence Grand Imam of Al-Azhar Al-Sharif  <b>Pope Tawadros II</b> Pope of Alexandria and Patriarch of the Coptic Orthodox Church  <b>Patriarch Mar Bechara Boutros Al-Ra'i</b> Maronite Patriarch of Antioch and All the East, and head of the Council of Eastern Catholic Patriarchs  <b>His Eminence Sheikh Abdul Latif Derian</b> Grand Mufti of Lebanon  <b>His Eminence Sheikh Ahmad Qabalan</b> Jafari Mufti of Beirut  <b>H.E. Ahmed Aboul Gheit</b> Secretary-General of the Arab League
<b>12:00 - 12:30</b>		<b>Break</b>
<b>Main Session</b>		
		<b>H.E. Siwar Al-Dahab</b> Former President of Sudan and Member of the Muslim Council of Elders  <b>Patriarch John X Yazigi</b> Greek Orthodox Patriarch of Antioch



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		and All the East – Syria
<b>12:30 - 14:30</b>	<b>First Session: Citizenship</b>	<b>Rev. Dr. Salim Sahyouni</b> President of the National Evangelical Synod of Syria and Lebanon
	<b>First Theme:</b> The Current State of Citizenship Relations in the Arab World: Religious	<b>Dr. Abdal Salam Al-Sayid</b> President of the Substantive Office – Iraq <b>Patriarch Mar Louis Raphael Sako</b> Patriarch of Babylon of the Chaldeans – Iraq <b>His Holiness Ignatius Aphrem II</b> Patriarch of Antioch & All The East. Supreme Head of the Universal Syriac Orthodox Church- Syria <b>Sheikh Naim Hassan</b> Sheikh Aql of the Mouwahidoune Druze Sect– Lebanon <b>Catholicos Aram I</b> Catholicos Of Armenian Church, Holy See Of Cilicia- Lebanon <b>Rev. Dr. Andrea Zaki</b> President of the Evangelical Community – Egypt <b>Patriarch Mar Ignatius Joseph III Younan</b> Patriarch of Antioch and All the East for the Syriac Catholic Church – Lebanon <b>The Right Reverend Bishop Munib Younan</b> Bishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jordan and the Holy Land - Palestine



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	Texts, Peoples, and Realities	<p><b>Father Michel Jalakh</b> Secretary-General of the Middle East Council of Churches – Lebanon</p> <p><b>Bishop Mouneer Hanna</b> Bishop of the Episcopal Church in Egypt and the Middle East - Egypt</p> <p><b>Archbishop Paul Matar</b> Archbishop of Beirut – Lebanon</p> <p><b>Dr. Sami Boudinar</b> Head of the Centre of Research in Humanities and Social Sciences, Oujda – Morocco</p>
	<p><b>Second Theme:</b> Characteristics and Conditions of Citizenship in Today's World</p>	<p><b>Dr. Mohamed Kamal Imam</b> Head of the Islamic Law Department at the Faculty of Law, Alexandria University – Egypt</p> <p><b>Dr. Sameh Fawzy</b> Director of the Centre for Development Studies at the Bibliotheca Alexandrina – Egypt</p>
	<p><b>Third Theme:</b> Al-Azhar and the Question of Citizenship</p>	<p><b>Dr. Sami Marcus</b> Member of the National Council for Human Rights – Egypt</p> <p><b>Dr. Khaled Ziadeh</b> Former Ambassador of Lebanon to Cairo – Lebanon</p>
<b>11:30 - 12:30</b>		<b>Break</b>
<b>First Session: Freedom and Diversity</b>		
<b>12:30 - 14:30</b>	<p><b>First Theme:</b> Individual Freedom and Group Identity</p>	<p><b>Dr. Mohammed Al-Sammak</b> Secretary-General of the Islamic-Christian National Committee for Dialogue in Lebanon</p> <p><b>Professor Mahmoud Hamdi Zaqzouq</b> Former Minister of Waqfs (Religious Endowments)</p> <p><b>Asaad Kattan</b> Professor of Theology at the University</p>



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		of Münster, Germany
	<b>Second Theme:</b> Freedom in Practice and Respect for Diversity	<b>Dr. Lubna Al Qasimi</b> Minister of State for Tolerance, United Arab Emirates  <b>Dr. Tarek Mitri</b> Former Minister of Information, Lebanon  <b>Dr. Mustafa Hegazy</b> Former Presidential Advisor, Egypt
	<b>Third Theme:</b> Religions and Freedoms	<b>Professor Anthony Kurban</b> Professor at Saint Joseph University, Lebanon  <b>Dr. Fadia Kiwan</b> Professor of Political Science at the Jesuit University, Lebanon  <b>Dr. Mahmoud Al-Habbash</b> Supreme Judge of Sharia Courts of the State of Palestine
<b>14:30</b>	<b>Fourth Theme:</b> The Role of the State in Protecting Freedoms and Diversity	<b>Dr. Mustafa El-Feki</b> Former Assistant Foreign Minister and former President of the British University, Egypt  <b>Professor Antoine Messarra</b> Professor at the Lebanese University and Saint Joseph University, Lebanon
<b>Session Three: Experiences and Challenges</b>		
	<b>First Theme:</b> Al-Azhar Initiatives	<b>His Grace Bishop Jeremiah</b> Member of the Holy Synod of the Coptic Orthodox Church – Egypt  <b>Dr. Ridwan Al-Sayyid</b> Professor of Islamic Studies at the Lebanese University - Lebanon
	<b>Second Theme:</b> Christian Initiatives	<b>Reverend Dr. Victor Makari</b> Coordinator of the Christian Academic Forum for Citizenship in the Arab World – Palestine  <b>Father Rif'at Bader</b> Director of the Catholic Centre for



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	<b>Third Theme:</b> Islamic Initiatives	Studies and Media in Jordan <b>Professor Mohie El-Din Afifi</b> Secretary-General of the Islamic Research Academy – Egypt  <b>Dr. Abdel Nasser Abu Al Basal</b> Member of the Jordanian Fatwa Council - Jordan
	<b>Fourth Theme:</b> Joint Initiatives	<b>Mr. Al-Amir Hares Shahab</b> Secretary-General of the Islamic-Christian National Committee for Dialogue – Lebanon  <b>Dr. Ali Al-Hassan</b> Member of the Islamic-Christian National Committee for Dialogue - Lebanon
<b>Session Four: Participation and Initiative</b>		
	<b>First Theme:</b> Working Together to Ward Off External Interventions	<b>His Excellency Dr. Mustafa Osman Ismail</b> Former Minister of Foreign Affairs of Sudan – Sudan  <b>Mr. Michel Nseir</b> Program Coordinator for the Middle East at the World Council of Churches - Geneva
	<b>Second Theme:</b> Preventing the Exploitation of Religion in Conflicts	<b>Dr. Wael Mohammed Abdullah Arabiyat</b> Minister of Awqaf of Jordan  <b>His Eminence Prof. Dr. Abbas Shouman</b> Undersecretary of Al-Azhar Al-Sharif  <b>Dr. Qais Al Mubarak</b> Member of the Council of Senior Scholars in Saudi Arabia
		<b>His Eminence Sayyid Ali Al-Amin</b>



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	<b>Third Theme:</b> Working Together to Avert the Risks of Disintegration	Member of the Muslim Council of Elders  <b>Dr. Elias Halabi</b> Co-director of Sheikh Nahyan Centre for Arabic Studies & Intercultural Dialogue, University of Balamand – Lebanon  <b>Dr. Sharif Hatim Al-Awni</b> Professor at the College of Islamic Studies, Umm Al-Qura University
	<b>Fourth Theme:</b> Working Together to Consolidate and Activate a Partnership of Values	<b>Dr. Nayla Tabbara</b> Director of the Adyan Foundation for Diversity, Solidarity and Human Dignity – Lebanon  <b>Dr. Fares Said</b> General Coordinator of the General Secretariat of Our Lady of the Mountain Conference - Lebanon
	<b>Fifth Theme:</b> For Broader Participation in Public Life	<b>Father Dr. Nabil Haddad</b> President of the Jordanian Centre for Research on Religious Coexistence – Jordan  <b>Professor Ezzedine Anaya</b> Professor of Sociology of Religion in Rome – Tunisia  <b>Sheikh Jawad Al-Khoei</b> Representative of the Al-Khoei Islamic Foundation – London  <b>Dr. Gergis Saleh</b> Honorary Secretary-General of the Middle East Council of Churches - Egypt
	<b>Closing Session</b>	<b>Father Vittorio Yanari</b> Head of Christian-Muslim Relations at the Community of Sant'Egidio – Italy  <b>Reverend Dr. Jim Winkler</b> General Secretary of the National Council of Churches in the USA  <b>His Excellency President Michel</b>



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		<p><b>Aoun</b> President of the Lebanese Republic</p> <p><b>His Excellency President Amine Gemayel</b> Former President of the Lebanese Republic</p> <p><b>His Excellency President Adly Mansour</b> Former President of the Arab Republic of Egypt</p>
	<p><b>Final Statement: Al-Azhar Declaration on Citizenship and Living Together</b></p>	