



Doha International Award for Interfaith Dialogue for 2013
offered by:
Doha International Center for Interfaith Dialogue
Doha - Qatar

Introduction

Doha International Center for Interfaith Dialogue (DICID) hosts an annual international conference that is attended by leading figures from different religions and research specialists in issues pertaining to interfaith dialogue. DICID is an international organisation that is active in the field of interfaith dialogue. It contributes immensely to building bridges between the followers of different religions around the globe.

The tenth anniversary of Doha interfaith forum this year is an important landmark for DICID. For this occasion the Center has decided to grant an award during the conference to be held under the title: "Best Practices in Interfaith Dialogue". A significant number of organisations and individuals who are specialists and experienced in the field of interfaith dialogue will present their successful experiences and display their achievements.

The Doha International Award for Interfaith Dialogue will be provided to an organisation or individual having presented the best practices, implemented in the field of interfaith dialogue.

This award is an important global event and a new addition for several reasons:

- DICID is one among the very few institutions that seek serious and effective dialogue between the followers of various religions and cultures in modern societies, on the basis of religious principles, humanism and peace building.
- This award is one of the leading initiatives in this area. DICID looks forward to contribute to the further advancement of building a culture of peace, coexistence and mutual respect among the whole of humanity.

About the award

- 1 – This annual award will be granted by His Excellency the Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs to the best practice that has made a positive contribution to the field of interfaith dialogue.
- 2 – The announcement of Award winner will be made immediately after the opening session of the Tenth Doha Conference of Interfaith Dialogue.
- 3 – The Award Committee will announce the topic for the competition annually.
- 4 – The applicant for the Award can be an individual or an organisation.

Objectives of the Award

- 1 - Enrich and promote a culture of peaceful coexistence and tolerance among followers of different faiths.
- 2 - Activate the religious values to address the issues and problems of concern to humanity in order to promote peaceful coexistence and understanding between different civilizations and faiths.
- 3 - Expand the content of the dialogue to include aspects of life interacting with religion.
- 4 - Expand the dialogue to include researchers, academics and those interested in the relationship between religious values and life's issues.
- 5 - Provision of scholarly insight, education and training in the areas of competence related to the dialogue of religions.
- 6 - Encourage researchers and relevant specialized institutions for fruitful interaction between them in order to reach new prospects for dialogue, in particular, as a method of conflict resolution and peace building.
- 7 - Honour the productive, active and creative persons and organisations in the field of inter-religious dialogue.

Award topics

- 1 – Academic research in interfaith studies that includes the academic content of books and courses, the development of school and university curricula that encourage understanding between religions, and the training of teachers and students for better interfaith understanding.
- 2 – Economic justice for sustainable development and poverty reduction, social and environmental justice, and charity and improving services in health care.
- 3 – Peace building and conflict resolution, that include studying the causes and consequences of conflicts. Developing preventive strategies before conflicts become violent and configuring policies to promote reconciliation and peace during conflict, or remedial solutions to post-conflict and sectarian conflicts.
- 4 – Culture and media that are supported by modern technology and creativity, to improve access to social networking and the development of new concepts for building stronger relations between the followers of different religions through various media of communication and creative expression.



Terms for Applying

- 1 – The candidate should be an individual or an organisation or a member of a team, active in the field of interfaith dialogue.
- 2 – The candidate shall fill out the nomination form.
- 3 – In case of an individual candidate, at least 5 years experience in the field of interfaith dialogue is required, supported by a biographical experience, qualifications, Honours and Awards.
- 4 – If the candidate is a team or an institution or a research center, a report is required, that includes all information related to the organisation.
- 5 – Commitment to the nomination deadline stated on the centers website and in the media, and commitment to the date of submitting the candidacy application.
- 6 – It is necessary to mention clearly that the candidate “has not benefited financially in the past from institutions hostile to any religion and to not use the award money in any project that can be hostile or detrimental to any religion”.

Terms for submitting application

- 1 – The submitted application including all attached documents must be sent via e-mail.
- 2 – The application shall be written in Arabic or English.
- 3 – The candidate is committed to the submitted topics, as announced by the Award Committee.
- 4 – The work should not have received another award previously for the same project.
- 5 – The application should be in the range of 4000-7000 words.
- 6 – The proposed experiences or project should have had a significant positive impact on society at least for a three year period.
- 7 – The fruits of the project should be continuing at the date of the application.
- 8 – The outcomes of the project should be well known in the concerned society.

Value of the award

The award amount is one hundred thousand US dollars (100,000 USD), in addition to a gold medal and a certificate from the Center.



Award Committee

A permanent Award Committee, representing the three monotheistic religions and representing the interfaith Centers, will meet several times a year. The functions of this committee include:

- A - Announcement of the award, topics and terms.
- B - Selection of judges.
- C - Announcement of the Award winners on the recommendations of the judges.

Jury

Jury members are selected each year by the Award Committee from among the specialists in that year's award topics. Names of the judges are confidential, and their main functions are:

- 1 – To read articles nominated for the award.
- 2 – To grade and rank each article/experience based on scholarly criteria including marks for quality of the material presented.
- 3 – To submit sealed reports and recommendations to the Award Committee on all applicants of the award which will be officially opened only at the meeting of the Committee.

The organization of the Award

- 1 - The invitation for submissions of nominations for the award (September).
- 2 - The Center announces the award and its terms and themes in academic journals and in the local newspapers (in Arabic and English) as well as on the websites of DICID and other Centers operating in the field of interfaith dialogue and in universities and colleges related to the topics, in addition to the embassies of Qatar overseas and foreign embassies in Qatar.
- 3 - The nomination for the award is done by those who are eligible to apply, or by the Award committee who can nominate a Center or a particular institution or individual.
- 4 - Requests for nomination made in accordance with the Nomination Form and accompanied by a curriculum vitae of the candidate or a report on the organisation.
- 5 - Nominations open until 31 December 2012.
- 6 - The Committee will hold several meetings to consider the materials submitted and then select the best papers, projects or experience to be sent to the judges.



7 - The Committee shall meet again (in February 2013) to evaluate reports and recommendations of the judges to choose the winner and the announcement of the name of the winner will be made. The Commission's decision is final and not subject to appeal.

8 - Winners are not allowed to run for another award.

9 - The award can be annulled in case of lack of achieving an adequate quality of the submitted works.

10 -The name of the winner will be announced in the Doha annual conference on interfaith dialogue, immediately after the opening session. The winner will then make a presentation of 20 minutes after receiving the award.

11 - The materials provided that are suitable for publication will be published by DICID, and the authors will be invited to attend the annual conference of the Center.