



# INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM

**ON THE SĪRAH OF THE  
PROPHET (PBUH) - 2025**



## **Theme**

Prophetic Sīrah: Contemporary  
Readings and Relevance in a  
Pluralistic Context ”

## **Date**

08<sup>th</sup> & 09<sup>th</sup> of October 2025

## **Organized By**

Faculty of Islamic Studies at Naleemah Institute of  
Islamic Studies (NIIS), Beruwala, Sri Lanka,  
In collaboration with the Faculty of Leadership and  
Management at Universiti Sains Islam Malaysia  
(USIM), Malaysia, under the  
Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)





# INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON THE SIRAH OF THE PROPHET (PBUH) – 2025



## Organized by

Faculty of Islamic Studies, Naleemiah Institute of Islamic Studies (NIIS), Beruwala, Sri Lanka,  
in collaboration with the Faculty of Leadership and Management, Universiti Sains Islam  
Malaysia (USIM), Malaysia, under Memorandum of Understanding (MoU).

### THEME:

**"PROPHETIC SIRAH: CONTEMPORARY READINGS  
AND RELEVANCE IN A PLURALISTIC CONTEXT"**



**Inaugural Speech 1**  
**Ustaz Ash-Sheikh A.C. Agar Mohamed**  
Rector, Naleemiah Institute of Islamic Studies (NIIS),  
Sri Lanka.



**Inaugural Speech 2**  
**Professor Dato' Dr. Nik Salida Suhaila  
Nik Saleh**  
Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Academic and International,  
Universiti Sains Islam Malaysia (USIM), Malaysia.



**Keynote Address**  
**Assoc. Prof. Dr. Mohd Rusdan Mohd  
Jailani**  
Dean, Faculty of Leadership and Management, USIM

## SPEAKERS



**8 & 9  
Oct  
2025**



**Dr. Marina Munira Abdul Mutalib,**  
Head of Aqidah and Religion  
Studies Programme, FKP, USIM.



**Assoc. Prof. Dr. Mohamed  
Mihar Abdul Muthaliff**  
FKP, USIM



**Assoc. Prof. Dr. Ahmad  
Najaa' Mokhtar**  
FKP, USIM



**Main Auditorium,  
NIIS, Sri Lanka  
(Hybrid Mode)**



**As-Sheikh S.H.M. Faleel**  
Dean of FIS, NIIS



**Dr. A.P.M. Abbas**  
FIS, NIIS



**Dr M.J.M. Arafath Careem**  
FIS, NIIS



**Dr A.J.M. Shihaan**  
FIS, NIIS



**Ash-Sheikh M.A.M. Ashker**  
FIS, NIIS

# INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON THE SĪRAH OF THE PROPHET (PBUH) - 2025

**Theme:**

“Prophetic Sīrah: Contemporary Readings and Relevance in a Pluralistic Context”

**Organized by**

Faculty of Islamic Studies at Naleemiah Institute of Islamic Studies (NIIS), Beruwala, Sri Lanka, in collaboration with the Faculty of Leadership and Management at Universiti Sains Islam Malaysia (USIM), Malaysia, under the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU).

**Introduction**

This symposium seeks to explore the timeless teachings of the Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) and their contemporary relevance in fostering harmony, social reform, and interfaith coexistence in today’s diverse world. Bringing together renowned scholars from Sri Lanka and Malaysia, the event will delve into the Prophetic Sīrah through historical, theological, and socio-political lenses, addressing its application in modern pluralistic societies—particularly in minority Muslim contexts like Sri Lanka.

**Objectives of the Symposium**

1. To examine the historical development of Sīrah literature and propose contemporary approaches for modern challenges.
2. To analyze the concept of mercy in the Prophet’s (PBUH) mission and its universal implications.
3. To explore the Prophet’s (PBUH) interactions with people of other faiths as a model for inter-religious harmony.
4. To assess his role as a social reformer and his contributions to justice and societal transformation.
5. To derive principles from the Sirah for nation-building and peaceful coexistence in multi-ethnic societies.
6. To study the representation of the Prophet (PBUH) within Sri Lanka’s Muslim minority context.

**Language:**

Tamil, English & Arabic

**Date:**

8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup> October 2025 (Wednesday & Thursday)

**Time:**

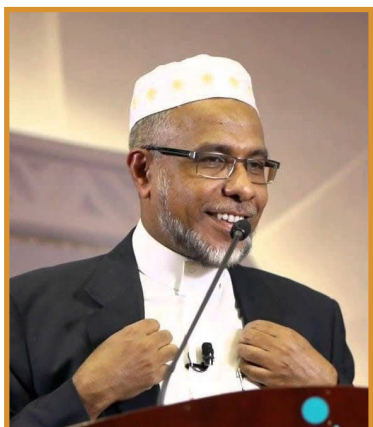
8:00 AM – 5:00 PM

**Venue:**

Main Auditorium, NIIS (Hybrid Mode)



## ADVISORS



**Ustaz Ash-Sheikh A.C. Agar Mohamed**  
Rector, Naleemiah Institute of Islamic Studies  
(NIIS), Sri Lanka.



**Ustaz Ash-Sheikh C.Aiyoob Ali**  
Director, Academic Affairs,  
(NIIS), Sri Lanka.



**Assoc. Prof. Dr. Mohd Rushdan Mohd Jailani**  
Dean, Faculty of Leadership and Management,  
USIM, Malaysia.



**Dr. Marina Munira Abdul Mutalib**  
Head, Aqidah and Religions Studies Programme,  
Faculty of Leadership and Management,  
USIM, Malaysia.



### **Chairman**

As-Sheikh S.H.M. Faleel (Dean, Faculty of Islamic Studies, NIIS).

### **Vice Chairman**

As-Sheikh Dr. H.L.M. Haris

### **Coordinator (NIIS & USIM)**

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Mohamed Mihlar Abdul Muthaliff, Associate Professor, Faculty of Leadership and Management, USIM.

### **Secretary (Meetings and Communication)**

Ash- Sheikh Dr. M.J.M. Arafath Careem

### **Treasurer**

Mr. M.I.A. Imdhad Ali

### **Assistant Treasurer**

Ash-Sheikh Dr. A.J.M. Shihan

## **COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

### **Website, Promotion, Poster, Banner and Publicity**

- Ash- Sheikh M.H.M. Shafkan
- Ash Sheikh T.M Sayimkhan
- Ash- Sheikh M.T Shaheer

### **Students**

1. Shuraif Ahamed M.H
2. Azeem Ahamed A.A
3. Jasaaurrehman S.A

### **Symposium Paper Presentation and e-Proceeding (Abstracts)**

- Ash- Sheikh Dr. A.P.M Abbas (Head)
- Ash Sheikh M.J.M Imthiyas

### **Students**

1. Aakif Zaidh M.B
2. Rikaz M.R
3. Nabeel Najathee A.A

### **Venue, Protocol and Reception**

- Ash-Sheikh M.F. Zainul Hussain (Head)
- Mr. M.N.M Sarjoon
- Ash-Sheikh M.H.M Rashid

### **Students**

1. Usama M.N.M
2. Amhar M.F.M
3. Riham M.R.M

### **Registration, Notifications, letters, Symposium template and Certificate**

- Ash Sheikh M.A.M. Fahri (Head)
- Ash-Sheikh M.A.M. Ashker
- Ash Sheikh M.A.M Firnas
- Ash Sheikh A.R.L.M. Riyas
- Ash Sheikh S.S.M. Hassan Muradh

### **Students**

1. Abdullah M.R
2. Hasni M.H.M
3. Abdullah M.K

### **Technical and Logistics**

- Ash-Sheikh M.L.M. Rinas (Head)
- Ash Sheikh S.L.M. Hassan
- Ash Sheikh M.I.M. Rizwan
- Ash Sheikh A.C Abdullah
- Mr. R.A.J.M. Bandara

### **Students**

1. Faik Ahamad M.J
2. Aadhil Ameen M.N
3. Anfal M.T.A

## AGENDA

Day 01			
Session: - 01			
Date: - 08.10.2025 (Wednesday) Time: - 08:10 AM			
Chairperson: - Ash- Sheikh S.H.M Faleel (Dean, Faculty of Islamic Studies, NIIS)			
Emcee: - M.H Shuraif Ahamed			
NO	Time	Event	Presented by
	07:45 AM	Arrival of Guests	
1.	08:00 – 08:05 AM	Qirath	Ash-Sheikh A.C Abdullah – Lecturer, NIIS
2.	08:05 – 08:10 AM	National Anthem - Sri Lanka	
3.	08:10 -08:15 AM	National Anthem - Malaysia	
4.	08:15 – 08:25 AM	Welcome Address	Ash- Sheikh S.H.M Faleel - Dean, Faculty of Islamic Studies, NIIS
5.	08:25 – 08:45 AM	Inaugural Speech	Ustaz Ash-Sheikh A.C Agar Mohamed - Rector NIIS
6.	08:45 – 09:00 AM	Inaugural Speech	Professor Dato' Dr. Nik Salida Suhaila Nik Saleh Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic and International), USIM
7.	09:00 – 09:10 AM	eProgramme Book Launch	Ustaz Ash- Sheikh A.C Agar Mohamed - Rector NIIS
8.	09:00 – 09:25 AM	Keynote address	Assoc. Prof. Dr. Mohd Rushdan Mohd Jailani Dean, Faculty of Leadership and Management, USIM
9.	09:25 – 09:35 AM	Vote of thanks	Ash- Sheikh Dr. H.L.M Haris - Head of Academic Programme & Quality Assurance, NIIS
10.	09:35 – 10:20 AM	Refreshment	

Session: - 02			
Date: - 08.10.2025 (Wednesday) Time: 10.30 – 12.30 PM			
Chairperson: - Ash- Sheikh Dr. H.L.M Haris (Head – Academic Programme & Quality Assurance, NIIS)			
Emcee: - Natheer & Aakif (By Arabic)			
NO	Time	Event	Presented by
	10:25 AM	Arrival	
1.	10:30 – 10:40 AM	Chairperson's Speech	Ash- Sheikh Dr. H.L.M Haris - Head of Academic Programme & Quality Assurance, NIIS
2.	10:40 – 11:00 AM	Prophetic Sirah as a Framework for Countering Extremism	Dr. Marina Munira Abdul Mutalib - Head, Aqidah and Religions Studies Programme, Faculty of Leadership and Management, USIM
3.	11:00 – 11:20 AM	Prophet Muhammad's (PBUH) Ethics in Pluralistic Societies (in Arabic)	Assoc. Prof. Dr. Ahmad Najaa' Mokhtar, Associate Professor, Faculty of Leadership and Management, USIM.
4.	11:20 – 12:00 PM	Prophet Muhammad (PBUH): A Universal Model for Religious Harmony	Assoc. Prof. Dr. Mohamed Mihlar Abdul Muthaliff Associate Professor, Faculty of Leadership and Management, USIM
5.	12:00 – 12:30 AM	Q & A Session	



Session: - 03			
Date: - 08.10.2025 (Wednesday) Time: 07.00 PM			
Chairperson: - Ash- Sheikh M.J.M Imthiyas (Head -Institute of Arabic Language, NIIS)			
Emcee: - Usama M.N.M			
NO	Time	Event	Presented by
	06:50 PM	Arrival of Students	
1.	07:00 – 07:10 PM	Chairperson's Speech	Ash- Sheikh M.J.M Imthiyas - Head of the Institute of Arabic Language, NIIS
2.	07:10 – 07:40 PM	Evolving Prophetic Sirah Writings: Historical Challenges and Contemporary Approaches	Ash- Sheikh M.A.M Ashker Senior Lecturer NIIS
3.	07:40 – 07:45 PM	Imam Introduction	فريق الإمام ابن سعد
4.	07:45 – 07:50 PM	Song	فريق الإمام ابن هشام

Day 02			
Session: - 04			
Date: - 09.10.2025(Thursday) Time: 08.00 - 09.45AM			
Chairperson: Ustaz Ash-Sheikh C. Aiyoob Ali (Director of Academic Affairs – NIIS)			
Emcee: - Halith H.M.M			
NO	Time	Event	Presented by
	07:50 AM	Arrival of Students	
1.	08:00 – 08:05 AM	Qirath	
2.	08:05 – 08:15 AM	Chairperson's Speech	Ustaz Ash-Sheikh C. Aiyoob Ali - Director of Academic Affairs, NIIS
3.	08:15 – 08:20 AM	Song	فريق الإمام الطبري
4.	08:20 – 09:00 AM	The Merciful Mission of Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) to Humankind	Ash- Sheikh S.H.M Faleel - Dean, Faculty of Islamic Studies, NIIS
5.	09:00 – 09:05AM	Imam Introduction	فريق الإمام ابن هشام
6.	09:05 – 09:35 AM	The Prophet's PBUH Social Reforms and Their Contemporary Application	Ash- Sheikh Dr. M.J.M. Arafath Careem Head, Centre for Foundation Studies, NIIS
7.	09:35 – 09:40 AM	Song	فريق الإمام ابن سعد
8.	09:40 – 09:45 AM	Imam Introduction	فريق الإمام ابن اسحاق
9.	09:45 – 10:15 AM	Discussion & Refreshment	

<b>Session: - 05</b>			
Date: - 09.10.2025 (Thursday) Time: 10.30-12.30 PM			
<b>Chairperson: - Ash- Sheikh M.F Zainul Hussain (Head – Examination &amp; External Studies, NIIS)</b>			
Emcee: - Umar Jahith M.U.			
NO	Time	Event	Presented by
	10:20 AM	Arrival of Students	
1.	10:30 – 10:40 AM	Chairperson's Speech	<b>Ash- Sheikh M.F Zainul Hussain</b> - Head, Examination & External Studies, NIIS
2.	10:40 -11:10 AM	Applying the Teachings of Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) in Minority Contexts: A Case Study of Sri Lanka	<b>Ash- Sheikh Dr. A.J.M. Shihaan</b> - Head, Extracurricular Activities and Career Guidance Unit, NIIS
3.	11:10 – 11:15 AM	Song	فريق الإمام ابن اسحاق
4.	11:15 – 11:45 AM	Prophetic Sīrah as a Model for Nation-Building and Coexistence	<b>Ash- Sheikh Dr. A.P.M. Abbas</b> - Head, NIIS
5.	11:45 – 11:50 AM	Imam Introduction	فريق الإمام الطبري
6.	11:50 – 12:30 PM	Q & A Session	

<b>Concluding Session</b>			
<b>Session: - 06</b>			
Date: - 09.10.2025 (Thursday) Time: 12.30- 01.30 PM			
Emcee: -			
NO	Time	Event	Presented by
1.	12:30 – 12:35 PM	Qirath	
2.	12:35 – 12:45 PM	Address by the Rector	<b>Ustaz Ash- Sheikh A.C Agar Mohammed</b> Rector NIIS
3.	12:45 PM – 12:55 PM	Closing Remarks and Recommendations	Chairman of Symposium: <b>Ash- Sheikh S.H.M Faleel</b> Dean, Faculty of Islamic Studies, NIIS
4.	12:55 – 01:05 PM	Awarding Certificates to Presenters	
5.	01:05 – 01:15 PM	Vote of Thanks	<b>Ustaz Ash-Sheikh C. Aiyoob Ali</b> Director of Academic Affairs, NIIS

**Message from the Chairman of  
International Symposium on the SĪrah of the Prophet (PBUH) - 2025**



**Ash-Sheikh S.H.M. Faleel**  
(Dean, Faculty of Islamic Studies, NIIS)

Chairman, International Symposium on the SĪrah of the Prophet (PBUH) - 2025

*In the Name of Allah, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful.*

It is with immense pleasure and a profound sense of responsibility that I extend my warmest welcome to all participants, scholars, and distinguished guests to the International Symposium on the SĪrah of the Prophet (PBUH) - 2025.

This significant gathering, held under the theme “Prophetic SĪrah: Contemporary Readings and Relevance in a Pluralistic Context,” represents a crucial intellectual endeavour.

We are collectively engaging in a dialogue to explore the timeless wisdom of the Prophet’s life and its powerful guidance for our complex, modern world.

This Symposium stands as a shining example of international academic collaboration.

It is my distinct honour to acknowledge that this event is organized by the Faculty of Islamic Studies at the Naleemiah Institute of Islamic Studies (NIIS), Beruwala, Sri Lanka, in partnership with the Faculty of Leadership and Management at Universiti Sains Islam Malaysia (USIM), made possible under the framework of our Memorandum of Understanding (MoU).

We are deeply grateful for the scholarly contributions that inaugurate our proceedings.

We extend our sincere thanks to Ustaz As-Sheikh A.C. Agar Mohamed, Rector of NIIS, for his insightful inaugural address. Our gratitude also goes to Professor Dato’ Dr. Nik Salida Suhaila Nik Saleh, Deputy Vice-Chancellor for Academic and International at USIM, for her valuable inaugural speech.

We are particularly indebted to Assoc. Prof. Dr. Mohd Rushdan Mohd Jailani, Dean of the Faculty of Leadership and Management at USIM, for delivering the keynote address, “Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) in a Pluralistic Context – A Theological Perspective,” which sets the tone for our critical discussions.



I would like to express my heartfelt gratitude, especially to Assoc. Professor Dr. Mihlar, for his remarkable contribution from the very beginning in organising this symposium.

The success of this symposium is a testament to the dedication of our esteemed speakers from both NIIS and USIM, who are sharing their expertise and research. Furthermore, none of this would be possible without the unwavering commitment and meticulous efforts of the organizing committees from both institutions.

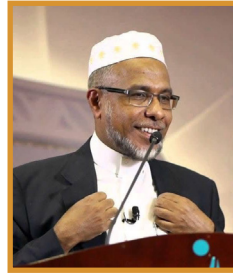
We recognize and thank every individual who works tirelessly behind the scenes to bring this event to fruition.

It is my sincere hope that the discussions we have over these days are enlightening, inspiring, and fruitful, paving the way for a deeper, more relevant understanding of the greatest human example, Prophet Muhammad (PBUH).

Welcome, and may this symposium be a rewarding and enlightening experience for us all.



**Message from the Rector  
Naleemiah Institute of Islamic Studies (NIIS)**



**Ustaz Ash-Sheikh A.C Agar Mohamed**  
Rector,  
Naleemiah Institute of Islamic Studies (NIIS)

*In the Name of Allah, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful.*

It is with sincere gratitude that I congratulate the organizing committee of the International Symposium on the Sīrah of the Prophet (peace be upon him) 2025 for their dedication, commitment, and enthusiasm in bringing this significant academic event to fruition. I am also pleased to extend my warm greetings to all participants of this symposium.

This symposium, jointly organized by the Faculty of Islamic Studies at Naleemiah Institute of Islamic Studies (NIIS) and the Faculty of Leadership and Management at Universiti Sains Islam Malaysia (USIM), under our Memorandum of Understanding (MoU), is a testimony to our shared commitment to academic excellence and the advancement of meaningful scholarship in Islamic Studies.

The theme, “Prophetic Sīrah: Contemporary Readings and Relevance in a Pluralistic Context”, is both timely and deeply significant. The Sīrah of the Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him) is not merely a historical record, but a timeless guide for humanity. His message of mercy, justice, compassion, and human dignity goes beyond the boundaries of faith and culture.

At a time when societies face complex challenges to peaceful coexistence, the Prophetic model provides lasting principles for promoting harmony, strengthening interfaith understanding, and fostering ethical leadership.

This symposium offers a valuable platform for scholars, researchers, and students to re-engage with the Sīrah through diverse lenses—historical, theological, and socio-political—while addressing the realities of contemporary pluralistic societies. For Sri Lanka’s Muslim community, living as a minority within a multi-ethnic and multi-religious nation, such reflection is especially vital. The Prophetic example offers practical guidance for constructive participation in nation-building, upholding justice, and cultivating mutual respect among diverse communities.

I wish to express my heartfelt appreciation to our distinguished partners from USIM, to the organizing committee, and to the esteemed scholars who contribute their insights to this initiative. May this symposium serve as a source of enlightenment and inspiration, and may it strengthen our collective efforts to embody the Prophetic spirit of mercy (rahmah) in our societies today.





**Message from the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic and International),  
Universiti Sains Islam Malaysia (USIM)**



**Professor Dato' Dr. Nik Salida Suhaila Nik Saleh**  
Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic and International),  
Universiti Sains Islam Malaysia (USIM)

*In the Name of Allah, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful.*

It is with immense honor and profound gratitude that I extend a warm welcome to all delegates, scholars, and participants of this significant International Symposium on the Sīrah of the Prophet (PBUH). On behalf of Universiti Sains Islam Malaysia (USIM), I congratulate the Faculty of Islamic Studies at the Naleemiah Institute of Islamic Studies (NIIS) for their visionary initiative in organizing this event under the thoughtful theme, “Prophetic Sīrah: Contemporary Readings and Relevance in a Pluralistic Context.”

This symposium is a beautiful fruit of the collaboration between our institutions, exemplifying how shared knowledge and mutual respect can bridge nations and strengthen our global academic and spiritual community. The chosen theme is profoundly necessary. In our contemporary era marked by interconnectedness yet deep divisions, the life of Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) transcends historical study. It stands as a vital, living manual offering divine guidance, unparalleled wisdom, and practical solutions for modern challenges. The call for “Contemporary Readings” urges us to engage with the Sīrah through modern scholarly lenses—from history and sociology to leadership and psychology—to extract fresh, relevant lessons for today’s world. Furthermore, the focus on “Relevance in a Pluralistic Context” is exceptionally timely. The Prophet’s (PBUH) establishment of the Constitution of Madinah provides the ultimate case study for building a multi-religious society based on justice, mutual rights, and collective security. His example teaches us that diversity is not a threat but a divine sign and a source of strength, guiding us to embody the virtue of Rahmatan lil ‘Alamin—a mercy to all worlds.

This symposium thus serves a critical mission: to reclaim the narrative of the Prophet’s (PBUH) compassionate legacy, to generate innovative and accessible knowledge for a new generation, and to build bridges of dialogue that promote peaceful coexistence.

To all the distinguished scholars and participants, I urge you to engage deeply and collaborate fruitfully. May the discussions ignited here serve as a beacon of light, illuminating paths toward greater justice, peace, and mutual understanding for all.

We commend the Naleemiah Institute of Islamic Studies and our own faculty (Faculty of Leadership and Management) at USIM for their excellent collaboration. Our heartfelt thanks go to every individual who worked tirelessly to make this symposium a reality.

We are filled with great hope for the outcomes of this gathering.

Welcome, and may this symposium be a resounding success.



## ABSTRACT OF KEYNOTE ADDRESS

### Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) in a Pluralistic Context - A Theological Perspective



**Assoc. Prof. Dr. Mohd Rushdan Mohd Jailani**

Dean,

Faculty of Leadership and Management,  
Universiti Sains Islam Malaysia (USIM)

#### Abstract

Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) occupies a central position in Islamic theology, serving not only as the bearer of the Qur'anic revelation but also as the final messenger in the prophetic tradition. Within a pluralistic framework, his mission is not restricted to the Muslim community but is articulated in the Qur'an as universal in scope. The verse, "We have not sent you except as a mercy to all the worlds" (Qur'an 21:107), establishes the theological foundation for his role as a comprehensive source of mercy that encompasses humanity, the natural order, and even the unseen realms. Meanwhile the verse "Had God willed, He could have made you one community, but He willed to test you in what He has given you" (Qur'an 5:48) highlights diversity as part of divine wisdom. Theologically, this signals that religious plurality is not a human accident but a divinely sanctioned reality. However, it should be understood here that although Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) recognized the divinely ordained condition of religious plurality and affirmed coexistence as part of God's will, he did not relativize the absolute claims of Islam's revealed truth. His acknowledgment of diversity was thus framed within a theological commitment to the universality and finality of the Qur'anic message.

#### Keywords

Islamic Theology, Final Messenger, Plurality, Rahmah, Aqidah.



## ABSTRACTS OF SCHOLARLY PRESENTATIONS

### Prophetic Sīrah as a Framework for Countering Extremism



**Dr. Marina Munira Abdul Mutalib**

Head, Programme of Aqidah and Religions Studies,  
Faculty of Leadership and Management,  
Universiti Sains Islam Malaysia (USIM)

#### Abstract

According to Joseph W. Meri (2016), there is a tendency to equate extremism with a particular religion, race, or group. This is compounded by the common misperception that Islam condones violence and terrorism. Meri contends that violent acts are not inherent to the ontology of any religion—be it Islam, Judaism, or Christianity—or to any sacred scripture, such as the Quran, Torah, or Bible. Furthermore, there is no such evidence to prove that Islamic history is replete with instances of pogroms against non-Muslims. In contrast, the Prophet Muhammad (SAW) provided ethical guidelines through his Sīrah (biography) to promote harmony and reject extremism, or ghuluw. The Sīrah Nabawiyah serves as a fundamental exemplary model for Muslims, extending beyond a mere historical account to provide a paradigm for justice and peaceful coexistence for all humanity. This is demonstrated through the ethical principles the Prophet (SAW) established, which include mercy and compassion (rahmah), justice and fairness (‘adl), balance (tawazun/wasaa), and mutual respect and engagement. This article aims to demonstrate that the life of the Prophet (SAW) provides an authentic Islamic framework for peaceful coexistence and for countering extremism in contemporary society. It will do so by presenting examples from the historical records of the Prophet’s life that illustrate his approach to countering extremism.

#### Keywords

Prophetic Sīrah, Extremism (Ghuluw), Peaceful Coexistence, Wasatiyyah (Balance), Theological Ethics.

## Prophet Muhammad's (PBUH) Ethics in Pluralistic Societies



**Assoc. Prof. Dr. Ahmad Najaa' Mokhtar,**  
Associate Professor,  
Faculty of Leadership and Management,  
Universiti Sains Islam Malaysia (USIM)

### Abstract

This paper presents a systematic analysis of the moral and ethical principles exemplified by Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) in his interactions with both Muslims and non-Muslims. It argues that his conduct was not merely situational but constituted a comprehensive ethical framework rooted in the Qur'anic values of justice, compassion, and universal human dignity. The study employs a historical-textual methodology, examining primary sources including the Qur'an and Hadith to delineate the core tenets of his character, such as honesty, trustworthiness, and patience. The paper further investigates the practical application of these principles across diverse social contexts. It analyzes his dealings with non-Muslim tribes and his respectful engagements with religious communities. Moreover, the paper explores his intra-community relations, highlighting how his leadership fostered a cohesive social order based on brotherhood, forgiveness, and consultation (Shura). The findings contend that the Prophet's (PBUH) ethics offer a transcendent model for contemporary interfaith and intercultural dialogue. In an era of global conflict and sectarian strife, his example provides a strong paradigm for building societies grounded in mutual respect and ethical integrity. This study concludes that these principles remain a vital resource for addressing modern challenges of social harmony and peaceful cohabitation.

### Keywords

Prophetic Ethics, Interfaith Relations, Peaceful Coexistence, Islamic Morality, Prophet Muhammad (PBUH).

## Prophet Muhammad (PBUH): A Universal Model for Religious Harmony



### **Assoc. Prof. Dr. Mohamed Mihlar Abdul Muthaliff**

Associate Professor,  
Faculty of Leadership and Management,  
Universiti Sains Islam Malaysia (USIM)

### **Abstract**

In an era marked by global religious discord, identifying foundational models for sustainable harmony is an urgent imperative. This paper addresses this need by proposing the life (Sirah) of Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) as a universal paradigm for religious tolerance and interfaith coexistence. It posits that his teachings provide a comprehensive framework for fostering mutual respect, grounded in the Qur'anic ethics of recognition, dialogue, and religious freedom. Through an analysis of pivotal episodes from the Sirah—including the groundbreaking Constitution of Medina, which institutionalized a pluralistic society by guaranteeing security and religious autonomy for all faith communities—this study elucidates the model's core principles. Furthermore, it identifies the uniqueness of this prophetic model and its distinguishing features, such as its theological foundation, its pioneering legal framework for protecting religious minorities, and its vision of civic citizenship based on shared values. The analysis concludes that these historical principles provide actionable insights for contemporary governance and community building, as well as critical insights for dialogue, conflict resolution, and peacebuilding. It therefore recommends that educators, policymakers, and religious leaders integrate this framework into the design of inclusive social policies, interfaith initiatives, and educational curricula.

### **Keywords**

Prophet Muhammad (PBUH), Religious Harmony, Interfaith Dialogue, Peace building, Coexistence.

## The Merciful Mission of Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) to Humankind



**Ash-Sheikh S.H.M. Faleel**

Dean,  
Faculty of Islamic Studies,  
Naleemiah Institute of Islamic Studies (NIIS)

### Abstract

This paper analyzes the Quranic concept of *Rahmatan lil-‘Ālameen* (mercy to all worlds) as the core of Prophet Muhammad’s (PBUH) mission, affirming his role as the final messenger of Allah (SWT) for humanity. It argues that his prophethood represents a comprehensive moral and spiritual framework designed to transcend temporal and geographical boundaries. The study examines the Prophet’s teachings and practices, which institutionalized mercy, justice, and compassion as universal norms, thereby replacing tribalistic prejudices with a community founded on ethics and human dignity. By exploring his interactions with diverse groups—including unbelievers, the marginalized, and the natural environment—the paper demonstrates how his mission provides a perpetual and practical model for human conduct. In an era of global crises and divisions, this research concludes that the Prophet’s (PBUH) merciful paradigm remains an essential source for fostering interfaith understanding, ethical leadership, and sustainable peace, thereby affirming its relevance as the ultimate guidance for mankind.

### Keywords

Prophet Muhammad (PBUH), Mercy, Peace, Humankind, Final Prophethood.

## Prophetic Sirah as a Model for Nation-Building and Coexistence



**Dr. A.P.M. Abbas**  
Senior Lecturer,  
Faculty of Islamic Studies,  
Naleemiah Institute of Islamic Studies (NIIS)

### Abstract

This paper analyzes the Prophetic Sirah, particularly the Medina period, as a practical framework for nation-building and coexistence in pluralistic societies. Moving beyond classical and modern scholarly interpretations, it examines the establishment of the first Muslim community as a case study in successful statecraft. The key findings demonstrate a robust model that achieves the following: (1) establishes a cohesive civic identity (the ummah) that transcends pre-existing ethnic and religious divisions; (2) grounds principles of pluralism and social contract in enduring theological belief, rather than transient political pragmatism; (3) offers a paradigm for the ethical acquisition, distribution, and application of power rooted in justice and accountability; and (4) serves as a dynamic source for continuous scholarly interpretation to address contemporary global challenges. The study concludes that the Prophetic model offers a unique, values-driven blueprint for constructing stable and inclusive nations, arguing for its enduring relevance as a source of principles for contemporary governance and intercommunal harmony.

### Keywords

Prophetic Sirah, Nation-Building, Coexistence, Civic Identity, Ummah.



## The Prophet's (PBUH) Social Reforms and Their Contemporary Application



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### Abstract

In an era of widespread social, moral, and economic instability, the need for a holistic and sustainable model of reform is more pressing than ever. This study examines the social reform initiatives of Prophet Muhammad (PBUH), emphasizing their lasting relevance and applicability to contemporary challenges. Utilizing a content analysis of Sīrah sources, this paper investigates the Prophet Muhammad's (PBUH) transformative approach to addressing the deeply entrenched societal issues of seventh-century Arabia. It begins by defining the concept of social reform from an Islamic perspective before exploring the Prophet's multidimensional strategy for change. His comprehensive reform efforts encompassed moral revival, social justice, the advancement of women's rights, legal fairness, economic ethics, and educational empowerment. He promoted literacy and the pursuit of knowledge as central pillars for societal advancement, thereby establishing the foundations of a compassionate, just, and inclusive community. The study concludes by arguing that the Prophet's legacy as a social reformer provides a timeless and universal paradigm for ethical leadership and holistic societal development. His teachings continue to offer a guiding framework for addressing the complexities of modern and contemporary reform efforts in diverse global contexts.

### Keywords

Prophet Muhammad, Social Reform, Holistic Development, Contemporary Relevance

## The Application and Relevance of Prophetic Teachings in Contemporary Pluralistic Contexts: A Case Study of Sri Lanka



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### Abstract

This study addresses the challenge of communicating the universal teachings of Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) within pluralistic societies, using Sri Lanka as a case study. While Sri Lanka has a history of interfaith coexistence, a significant gap persists in the broader public's understanding of the Prophetic message beyond the Muslim community. This paper develops and proposes a novel framework for introducing these teachings to a non-Muslim audience, with the aim of fostering interfaith dialogue and collaboration. Through a qualitative case study approach that analyses core Islamic texts and historical accounts, the research inductively derives a framework structured around key interconnected principles: the universal and merciful nature of the message, its balanced worldview, its emphasis on social justice and environmental stewardship (Imarah), and its relevance to contemporary disciplines. Central to this framework is a role-model approach, presenting the Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) as an exemplary figure whose life offers ethical and practical guidance for all of humanity. By focusing on these accessible principles, the study demonstrates the contemporary applicability of Prophetic teachings and provides a common platform for academic and public discourse, thereby contributing to greater mutual understanding in pluralistic contexts.

### Keywords

Prophet Muhammad (PBUH), Pluralistic Society, Interfaith Dialogue, Sri Lanka, Role Model Approach.

## Evolving Prophetic Sīrah Writings: Historical Challenges and Contemporary Approaches



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### Abstract

This study critically examines the evolution of Sīrah Nabawiyyah (Prophetic biography) writings, tracing their historical development and contemporary transformations. While the early Muslim scholars documented and compiled the Sīrah primarily to meet the needs of their respective times, these works also reflect the intellectual and socio-political contexts of their production. Beyond the Islamic world, however, i Nabawiyyah has often been subjected to criticism and misrepresentation by non-Muslim scholars, particularly within Orientalist traditions. This paper analyzes how such approaches differ from the perspectives of modern Muslim researchers in the Islamic World and beyond. It further highlights the contemporary methodological frameworks applied to the study of the Prophet's life, including historical analysis, thematic approaches, and critical discourse, to assess their relevance in addressing present-day challenges. By situating sīrah writings within both historical and modern scholarly debates, this study aims to contribute to the ongoing discourse on how the legacy of the Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him) can be meaningfully understood and contextualized in the contemporary world, especially in Muslim-minority countries.

### Keywords

Prophet Muhammad (PBUH), Sīrah Nabawiyyah, Orientalism, Historiography, Muslim Minorities.

## Closing Remarks and Recommendations

On behalf of the Faculty of Islamic Studies at the Naleemiah Institute of Islamic Studies (NIIS) and the Faculty of Leadership and Management at Universiti Sains Islam Malaysia (USIM), it is our profound honor and privilege to deliver the closing remarks for this momentous International Symposium on the Sirah of the Prophet (PBUH) - 2025.

Over the course of this enriching symposium, under the theme “Prophetic Sirah: Contemporary Readings and Relevance in a Pluralistic Context,” we have embarked on a collective intellectual and spiritual journey. We have traversed the timeless landscape of the Prophet’s life, not as a mere historical relic, but as a dynamic and living source of guidance for our complex, modern and contemporary world.

The success of this collaboration, forged under our Memorandum of Understanding (MoU), stands as a testament to the power of shared knowledge and a unified vision. We began with a profound theological exploration in our keynote address, which set the stage for a series of illuminating presentations. We delved into the Sirah as a robust framework for countering extremism, explored the unparalleled ethics of the Prophet (PBUH) in dealing with diversity, and examined his role as the definitive social reformer who established a community based on justice and compassion.

We were particularly moved by the case studies, especially the application of Prophetic teachings within the Muslim minority context of Sri Lanka, reminding us that the Sirah’s wisdom is universal, transcending majority-minority dichotomies. The discussions on the evolution of Sirah literature challenged us to adopt fresh, contemporary methodologies to make this noble narrative accessible and impactful for new generations. The central thread weaving through all our sessions has been the concept of Mercy—the Rahmatan lil-‘Alamin—the very essence of the Prophet’s mission. We have seen, through rigorous academic discourse, how his interactions with people of other faiths provide an immutable model for inter-religious harmony, and how the principles derived from his statecraft offer a blueprint for nation-building and peaceful coexistence in our multi-ethnic and multi-religious societies.

As we bring this symposium to a close, we do not see this as an end, but a vital beginning. The conversations started here must now echo in our lecture halls, our publications, our communities, and our policy recommendations.

### Recommendations

To ensure the legacy of this symposium and to translate its intellectual wealth into tangible action, we, the participants and organizers, propose the following recommendations:

#### 1. For Academic Institutions and Researchers:

- **Develop Interdisciplinary Curricula:** We recommend that institutions like NIIS, USIM, and others integrate the findings of this symposium into their undergraduate and postgraduate programs, creating specialized modules on “Sirah and Contemporary Challenges” and “Prophetic Models for Pluralism.”
- **Establish a Digital Sirah Repository:** We propose the creation of a collaborative online portal hosted by the partner institutions to archive all symposium papers, presentations, and future research, making them accessible to a global audience.

- Promote Collaborative Research: Encourage joint research projects between Malaysian and Sri Lankan scholars, and beyond, focusing on thematic areas explored in the symposium, such as the Prophetic principles of social justice and their application in modern governance.

## 2. For Community Leaders and Educators:

- Translate Scholarship into Accessible Content: We urge scholars and community leaders to distill the complex academic insights from this symposium into simplified formats—sermons (khutbah), workshops, multi-lingual publications, and social media content—to educate the wider Muslim community and the public.
- Implement Practical Interfaith Initiatives: Using the Prophet's (PBUH) interactions as a model, we recommend establishing sustained, action-oriented interfaith dialogues and community service projects that address common social issues, moving beyond theoretical discussion to practical cooperation.

## 3. For Policymakers and Civil Society:

- Utilize the Sirah for Social Policy: We recommend that policymakers and NGOs study the Prophet's (PBUH) model as a social reformer to derive principles for crafting policies that promote social cohesion, economic justice, and the protection of minority rights.
- Leverage the Sirah for Counter-Extremism: The papers presented on this topic should be compiled into a whitepaper for relevant national and international bodies, showcasing the Sirah as a powerful, theological antidote to violent extremism and radicalization.

## 4. For the Muslim Ummah, Particularly in Pluralistic Societies:

- Embrace the Universal Mercy of the Prophet (PBUH): We call upon Muslims worldwide to internalize and project the merciful and compassionate character of the Prophet (PBUH) in all their interactions, thereby embodying the true spirit of his message.
- Act as Ambassadors for Coexistence: Inspired by the symposium, Muslims, especially those living as minorities, should actively engage as bridge-builders and contributors to their societies, demonstrating through action the relevance of the Prophetic example in fostering harmony and mutual respect.

In conclusion, the life of Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) is a vast ocean of wisdom. This symposium has allowed us to draw a few precious buckets from it. Let us now carry this water to the fertile fields of our societies to nurture a future defined by understanding, justice, and peaceful coexistence.

We extend our deepest gratitude to everyone who contributed to the event's success—our keynote speaker, presenters, session chairs, and all participants.

Thank you, and Wassalam

Organizing committees of NIIS and USIM  
International Symposium on the Sirah of the Prophet (PBUH) - 2025







**PREPARED BY**

Committee of Symposium Paper Presentation and e-Proceeding (Abstracts)

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