

International Conference on World Peace and Security – Role of Islam (ICWPSRI 2017) to be held on December 30-31, 2017 at International Islamic University Chittagong

Keynote Speech (Plenary Session)

## Justice, Peace and Security – Universal Aspirations and Islamic Worldview

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**Abstract:** The most critical issue of the present world is justice, peace and security. The dominance of big military and economic powers as against the weaker nations in world events is the root cause of all these as there is still no end to fear, intimidation and insecurity of smaller nations. The Middle East crisis and US policies alienating Muslims, threats posed by conventional, nuclear and biological weapons, US adventures from Hiroshima to Iraq and its current impasse with N. Korea, *civil/state conflicts, violence and terrorism, and current genocidal ethnic cleansing in Myanmar and organized crimes* in different parts of the world.

The universal aspirations are for a better world with strong, democratic UN to have authority on world events. Further ‘though force can protect in emergency, only justice, fairness, consideration and cooperation can finally lead men to the dawn of eternal peace.’ The realization is that *no nations, powerful or weak, can hope to live in peace with blood, bombs and missiles disregarding justice and human rights without respecting the opinions of others.*

In this context the Islamic tenets (the true teachings of Islam) to mention are of peace, love, mercy and compassion contrary to false perception by western political elites, scholars, media and Christian Evangelists of describing Islam as a ‘barbaric’ religion and acts of Muslim individual or groups as “Islamic terrorism” by ‘Jihadists’. The true concepts of Jihad and Qur’anic provision on warfare will be explained and the Islamic tenets and ‘Charter of Madinah’ of peaceful coexistence will be discussed to show that religious communities and institutions if engaged properly can be effective as partners in creating peace in the world.



**Biography:** Prof. Dr. A.K.M. Azharul Islam, former Vice-Chancellor of International Islamic University Chittagong, was born in Bogra, Bangladesh on 2<sup>nd</sup> November 1946.

**Academic Qualifications:** Prof. Islam was graduated in Physics from the University of Rajshahi. He secured First Class and First position in both B.Sc. Hons. & M.Sc. He has successfully pursued DIC from Imperial College of Sci. & Tech., London in the year 1969. He was awarded Ph. D. in 1972 from London University.

Prof. Islam’s field of research areas are: (i) Elementary particle physics during 1967 - 1978, (ii) Condensed Matter Physics with current interest in Superconductivity, defects of solids, electronic structure of materials, MAX phases.

### National and International Awards:

- 1961: Haji Mohd. Mohsin Prize and Bogra Textile Mill Prize for result at Matriculation in the East Pakistan Secondary Education Board, Dhaka
- 1964: Governor’s First Prize, Air Travel and Certificate for National level Essay Competition in the then East Pakistan
- 1966: Habib Bank Gold Medal and Book prize for B.Sc. Hons result
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- 1968: Presentation of Insignia of the then Pakistan Civil and Military Award as well as President’s Medal for Pride of Performance at PG stage (Gold Medal, US\$ 1000 Prize Money and National Tour)
- 1968: Government Merit Scholarship for PhD at Imperial College of Sci. & Tech, London University
- 1969: Gold Medals at Rajshahi University Convocation (in absentia) for achieving Faculty First Positions at both B.Sc. Hons and M.Sc Examinations
- 1991: Prime Minister honors as Supervisor of UGC PhD Research Fellows in a Ceremony at Dhaka
- 1997: UGC Research Award in Physics– Awarded by the Education Minister of Bangladesh

- 2001: ISESCO International Science Award for Meritorious Research Achievements in the field of Physics (US\$ 5000, Certificates + Tour & others)
- 2006: Bangladesh Academy of Sciences Gold Medal Award 2006 (Awarded by the Hon'ble President of Bangladesh)
- 2010: International CSE Award (2010) as an Editor of Science Journal of the Third World on the occasion of 52<sup>nd</sup> Annual Conference of the Council of Science Editors (Atlanta, 14-18 May 2010)
- 2016: United Group Outstanding Research Award 2016 – (Awarded by the Education Minister at Dhaka, 22 April 2016)
- 2016: UGC Reception for author of University Text book (Crest & Certificate by the Education Minister, Government of Bangladesh)
- 2017: United Group Outstanding Research Award 2017 – (to be awarded in a ceremony at Dhaka on 15 Dec 2017)

**Professional Experience:** Prof. Islam served Rajshahi University as a Lecturer in Physics from January 1968. He became Professor in early 1984. During his long 45-year career he served as:

- Chairman, Department of Physics, Dean, Faculty of Science, Rajshahi University.
- Member of Senate, Syndicate, Academic Councils of Rajshahi and other Universities.
- Member, Board of Governors, RCMP, Chittagong University.
- Editor-in-Chief, Journal of Scientific Research; Member, Editorial Board, 'Journal of Bangladesh Academy of Sciences', 'Rajshahi University Studies'.
- Reviewer of more than a dozen International Journals, and eight national journals.

**Publications and Research Guidance:** Professor Islam already guided 91 research students for their M.Sc, M.Phil and Ph.D works – currently guiding 3 research students including 1 Ph.D student.

**Total number of publications is 274** – Among these are **189 research publications** mostly in intern journals, (**Visit:** [https://www.researchgate.net/profile/A\\_K\\_M\\_Islam3/publications](https://www.researchgate.net/profile/A_K_M_Islam3/publications)); **72 general articles** on Science, Education & National & Intern issues; **13 books** (published nationally and in India and in New York); He has edited Proceedings of International workshop (catalogued by US Library of Congress, ICTP & other libraries of the world, <https://lccn.loc.gov/99938837>). His book “**Bedevelled world**” on contemporary socio-political events was published by Global Media Publications (New Delhi, India, 2008, 324 pages) see OCLC WorldCat **Bedevelled world**.

**Co-discoverer of a Perovskite-type oxide Superconductor** with Japanese physicists (for more information visit: [http://www.spring8.or.jp/en/news\\_publications/press\\_release/2014/140303/](http://www.spring8.or.jp/en/news_publications/press_release/2014/140303/))

Prof. Islam carried out research as a Post-doctoral fellow at Imperial College (London); J. J. Thomson Laboratory (Reading University, UK) on Royal Society Fellowship. He has also worked as visiting scientist at: (i) University of Cambridge (U.K), (ii) Jawaharlal Nehru Centre for Advanced Research, Bangalore (India), and (iii) ICTP (Italy) as a Regular Associate and then as a Senior Associate; (iv) Yamanashi University, Japan, under joint UGC-Japan research project.

**Conferences and Seminars:** Prof. Islam so far visited 27 countries and attended 48 international conferences; Organized two international workshops (participation from 15 countries) in 1996 and 1998.

**Prof Islam is an elected Fellow of** (i) The Institute of Physics (London), and (ii) Bangladesh Academy of Sciences. He is also Member of different professional bodies such as: (i) The New York Academy of Sciences, (ii) The American Physical Society, (iii) AAAS (USA), (iv) The Asian Physical Society, (v) The Bangladesh Physical Society (Vice-President for two years), (vi) Bangladesh Association for the Advancement of Science. He is also a Life Member of Bangla Academy (Dhaka) and a few other Societies.