

International Qur'an Research Association IQRA'

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TRIP REPORT PAKISTAN



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Dr. Safi Kaskas, serving as President of the International Qur'an Research Association (IQRA'), was extended a gracious invitation by Dr. Muhammad Zia Ul Haq, the Director General of the Islamic Research Institute (IRI) at the International Islamic University, Islamabad (IIUI).

This invitation was tendered to Dr. Kaskas to participate as a resource person in a postdoctoral fellowship workshop hosted by the IRI at IIUI.

Dr. Safi Kaskas arrived at Islamabad International Airport on Sunday, June 2nd, 2024.

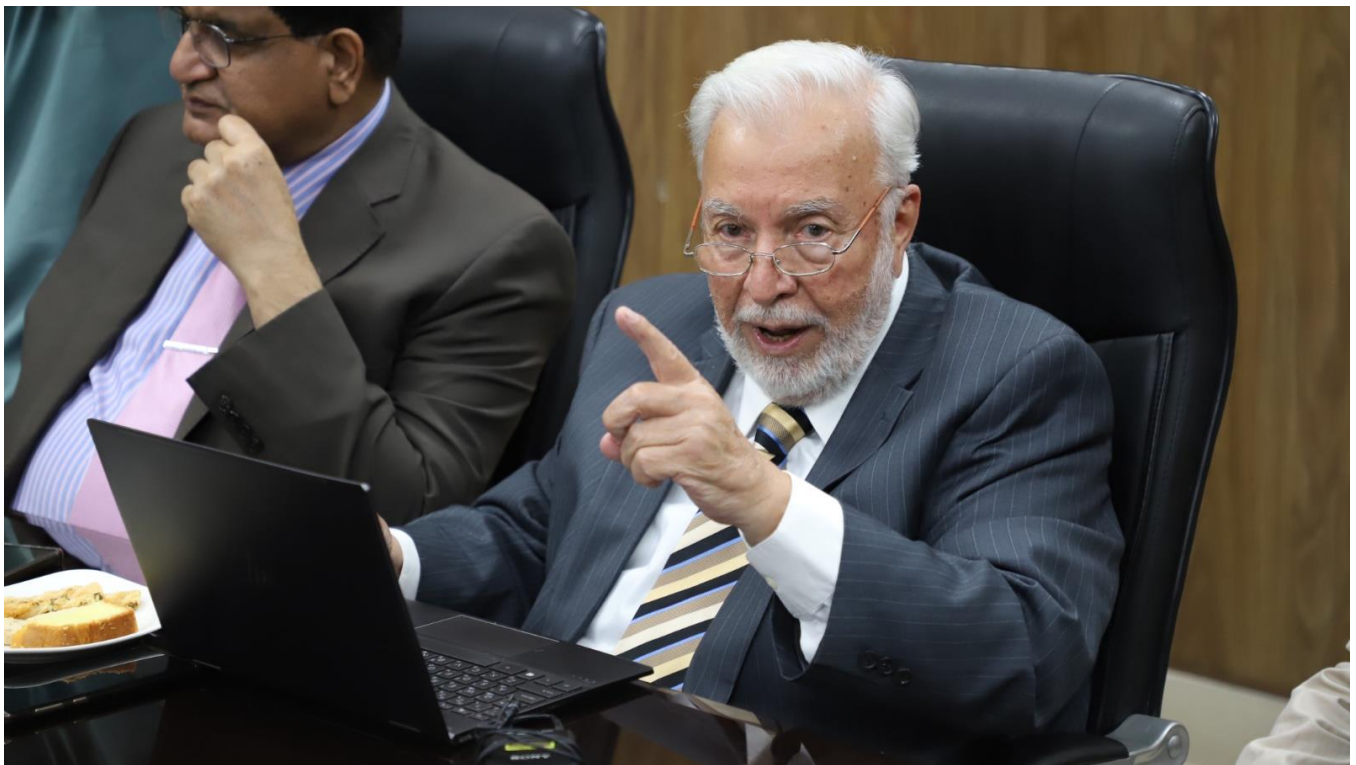
Executive Summary

Dr. Safi's visit to Pakistan was focused on empowering and motivating the nation's youth to become leaders for the Muslim world. He stressed that the state of stagnation that the Muslim world has been experiencing for the last one thousand years should now be over. He pointed out the urgent need for a detailed plan that can be implemented to foster scientific and technological advancements, as stressed in the teachings of the Qur'an and Sunnah. He shared that he holds a firm conviction that Pakistan's achievements can pave the way for the prosperity of the entire Muslim Ummah.



Dr. Safi consistently emphasized the following core ideas in each meeting and presentation:

- **Excellence in Science and Technology:**
Urging Pakistan to lead in these fields.
- **Governance and Civic Excellence:**
Calling for outstanding leadership and citizen engagement.
- **Unity:**
Advocating for unity across political and religious lines.
- **Strategic Institutional Planning:**
Encouraging Pakistani institutions to develop and implement effective plans.
- **Support from IQRA':**
Offering assistance for Pakistan's development.



Islamic Research Institute (IRI)

Dr. Safi met with scholars at IRI and visited various departments, learning about their work under the leadership of our host.

National Language Promotion Department of Pakistan (NLPD)

Dr. Safi had a detailed meeting with Dr. Muhammad Saleem Mazhar, the chairperson of the NLPD, who assured us that all the necessary books would be translated into Urdu, ensuring no language was left out.

National Rahmatul-lil-Alameen Wa Khatam an-Nabiyyin Authority of Pakistan

Dr. Safi met with Mr. Khurshid Nadeem, the chairperson along with the core team and decided to organize a "Futures Conference" and collaborate on other activities with the authority.

Global Center for Legal Thought (GCLT)

Dr. Safi met with the president and central team of GCLT, who expressed interest in collaborating with IQRA' on future projects and activities.



Allama Iqbal Open University (AIU), Islamabad

Dr. Safi Kaskas delivered a lecture to the faculty of Arabic and Islamic Studies at the University, sharing his vision for a developed Pakistan and its role in leading the Muslim Ummah.

IORA' Board Meeting - Pakistan

As the President of IQRA', Dr. Safi chaired the Board meeting, where attendees of the meeting decided to release a declaration from Pakistan encouraging the Muslim world to decide to put an end to its stagnation and to rise again. The board agreed to release The Declaration titled "The Global Muslim Declaration on Rights and Responsibilities", based on Maqasid-al-Shariah, affirming their support for Dr. Safi's vision.

CISS Lecture

Dr. Safi delivered a lecture to researchers and scholars at the Center for International Strategic Studies (CISS), Islamabad, stressing the same vision he has for Pakistan, based on education reforms and plans for a prosperous future. The lecture was followed by an engaging Q&A session with the audience who raised intelligent questions.

Meeting with the Chief Justice of Pakistan

Dr. Safi and Zain Malik had met with The Honorable Justice Qazi Faez Isa, the Chief Justice of Pakistan. The Honorable Justice was impressed by Dr. Safi's vision for The Muslim Ummah and Pakistan in particular, and expressed interest in being part of the Scientists and Scholars Committee of IQRA'.



Meeting with The Council of Islamic Ideology

Dr. Safi was warmly welcomed by the Chairman of the Council of Islamic Ideology of Pakistan. We had a positive meeting with the Chairman, Secretary, and members of the council, including their research committee.

Interfaith Speech

Dr. Safi delivered a speech based on his vision for progressive Pakistan as a nation at Christian Study Centre, Rawalpindi. He interacted closely with the Director of the center, and a picture was taken to promote harmony and peace to the rest of the world.

Meeting with Ahmer Bilal Sofi and Research Team

Dr. Safi met with attorney Ahmer Bilal Soofi, a member of our Board of Directors in Pakistan, and his research team in his law firm office, ABS & Co. We had a very productive discussion about the draft of the declaration that IQRA' is planning to launch soon.

Visit to Dr. Tariq Mustafa's Place

Dr. Safi and Zain Malik visited Dr. Tariq Mustafa, the co-founder of IQRA' and had a discussion with him about IQRA's "Islamic futures' project".

Meeting with the Society 5.0 Initiative (S5i)

Dr. Safi met with the core committee members of "The Society 5.0 Initiative (S5i)." Their initiative is on the ethical and forward-looking approach of Artificial Intelligence. They consented to help us with our upcoming conference on 'AI' and agreed to have a weekly meeting with the IQRA' affiliate.



Meetings with Key Figures

Dr. Safi had important meetings with influential individuals in Pakistan, who requested anonymity but pledged their support for future IQRA' projects, specifically the translation and publication of Dr. Safi's books, especially "The Qur'an with References to The Bible."

IRI Visit and MOU Signing

Dr. Safi visited the Islamic Research Institute (IRI) and had a detailed presentation by Dr. Muhammad Zia Ul Haq. IQRA' signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with IRI, strengthening their future collaboration.

Meeting with Dr. Mukhtar Ahmed

Dr. Safi visited the Chairman of the Higher Education Commission (HEC), Dr. Mukhtar Ahmed, a long-standing member of the Academic Council of OIC. Dr. Ahmed expressed his complete support for IQRA' and their upcoming conference on Muslim Futures.

Grand Dinner

Dr. Safi participated in a grand dinner hosted by Dr. Tariq Mustafa, co-founder of IQRA', attended by a diverse group of dignitaries, including politicians, national and international figures, and civil servants at Islamabad Club. After dinner, we departed for Lahore.



Meeting with Chairman PHEC

Dr. Safi was warmly received by Dr. Shahid Munir, the Chairman of the Punjab Higher Education Commission (PHEC) of Pakistan. The Chairman presented the Commission's accomplishments and plans for universities in Punjab. Dr. Safi appreciated PHEC's endeavors and ensured full support from IQRA', inviting them to join the upcoming conference on the Future of Muslim Ummah.

Visit to Minhaj University

Dr. Safi visited Minhaj University, Lahore, and delivered Khutba-tul-Jumah at the university's mosque, attended by hundreds of students, faculty members, and the Deputy Chairman of the Board of Governors (BOG) of the University, Dr. Hussain Mohi-ud-Din Qadri. After Jumma prayers, Dr. Qadri, hosted a meeting and took us on a tour of the university's different departments, including the library with advanced technology. We had a detailed meeting, and both organizations agreed to support each other's projects and collaborations in the future.

Lecture at Department of Religious Studies

Dr. Safi delivered a lecture to the faculty members of the Department of Religious Studies, FC College University Lahore, which was also attended by the Rector of the University. It was a good interactive session.

Peace Center Lecture and Lifetime Achievement Award

Dr. Safi attended and delivered a lecture at a gathering of religious leaders organized by Peace Center, Lahore. Father James Channan, the Director of the Center, and other leader presented a Lifetime Achievement Peace Award to Dr. Safi.

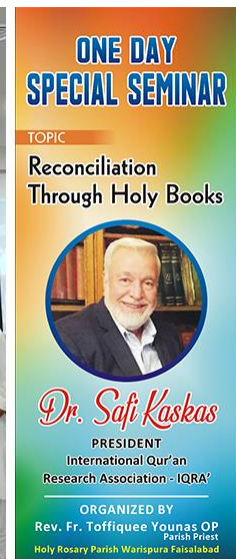


Address at University of Faisalabad (TUF)

Dr. Safi delivered an address to a remarkable gathering of students and faculty members at the University of Faisalabad (TUF) talking about the future of Pakistan and the future of Muslim Ummah. He answered a lot of questions from the audience.

Address to Christian Community

Dr. Safi addressed a gathering of the Christian community, including pastors and fathers, at the Church and Community Center in Faisalabad, recognizing their grievances as a minority, but urging everyone to have unity for the best interest of Pakistan.



The visit was very productive. Pakistani officials and communities greeted Dr. Safi with kindness and gave him souvenirs and books everywhere he went. Zain Malik, Secretary General of IQRA' Pakistan was with Dr. Safi in all his visits. On Sunday 9th June 2024, Dr. Safi departed Pakistan for UAE.