

## PAST PARTICIPANT'S VIEWS

"I have learnt a lot more about Islam through CITE, conducted by Muslim practitioners and well respected scholars. In the media, you hear all the soundbites and news articles by non-Muslims who give expert views but they do not project authenticity and credibility unlike these practicing scholars that we have today."  
- Participant, NSCS

"I found CITE extremely insightful and heartening. Prof Ebrahim is honest in approaching the issues discussed with intellectual rigour. His tracing of the major threads of discourse and thought leaders in the Islamic community across history gave me a sense of the global Muslim community, and how the current issues arose. I found his analysis of how the dynamics in the Islamic religious community influenced political developments very sharp and astute. Prof's framework of understanding the historical, cultural and political context of how Islam expanded and was practised was also very important for an informed discussion and approach to religious beliefs and theological debates in general, not just for Islam but for any religion. Most discussions tend to approach religion from either a devotional approach, or from a political/security angle and this has unfortunately resulted in skewed intellectual discourse on theology and the practice of religion."  
- Participant, PMO



# CONTEMPORARY ISLAMIC THOUGHT EXPLORED (CITE)

13-14 July 2017  
Muis Academy

## PROGRAMME SYNOPSIS

CITE is a programme designed especially for public officers. It explores the Islamic intellectual and political trends through a socio-historical framework. The goal is to provide resources for officers to use when faced with challenges in understanding the role of Islam today. The programme explores the diverse movements and groups within Islam drawing upon the idea of a shared "Islamic tradition" today. It will begin with a brief historical overview of the political and intellectual history of Islam from the advent of revelation in 610 AD till the contemporary period. This foundation will be used to explore how the pre-modern tradition is being reinvented in the modern era, by looking at different intellectual, political, and social trends in the global community of Muslims. Finally, we will address the roles of different Muslim groups and ideas on the global stage, and discuss various current social, intellectual and security issues.

## PROGRAMME OUTLINE

### 1. Islamic Traditions: Past, Present and Future

- Development of Islamic Intellectual Traditions
- Trends in Modern Islamic Thought

### 2. Global Development, Local Reality and Islamic Thought

- Islamic Ethics & the Common Good
- Islam, Security & Global Developments
- Local Context: Singapore Muslim Identity

### 3. Fireside Chat with academics, policy-makers and practitioners

## PROGRAMME OBJECTIVE

- Explore the broad strokes of the state of Islamic scholarship, Muslim affairs and the challenges facing the global community.
- Develop a clearer understanding of the historical development of the Islamic schools of thought.
- Situate the emerging global trends and the variety of lived experiences of ordinary Muslims, from conflict, migration and identity issues to research, knowledge and contributions in an overall spectrum.

## TARGET AUDIENCE

- Public officers with interest in religion, social issues, global affairs and security challenges

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