

# Islamic Research Institute: History, Objectives and Contribution

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## ABSTRACT

Islamic Research Institute (IRI) was proposed in the Constitution of Islamic Republic of Pakistan in 1956 to contribute in the reconstruction of Pakistani society in accordance with the Objectives Resolution of 1949. The history of the institute is part of history of Pakistan. The important steps towards its establishment and various services rendered by the institute during the last 70 years are very important and significant. This study evaluates what the Institute has achieved since its creation and highlights what yet has to be accomplished. The article begins with a brief about of creation of Pakistan as the background of the establishment of IRI. This part highlights briefly various bases of Pakistan movement and its relationship with the need of establishing the institution of research on Islam. The second part of the study highlights the significance and importance of Islamic research, the thoughts behind the proposal of IRI and important constitutional and administrative steps that were taken for the creation of the Institute. The



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third part of the study highlights the objectives of IRI. It also discusses various changes that have been brought to the objectives of the Institute due to changes in priority of the governments. The fourth part of the study elaborates administrative structure of the Institute. It also provides information about various statutory bodies and other committees of the institute. Moreover, a brief about the various academic and research apartments of the Institute has also been made part of this discussion. The fifth part of the study is about services and contributions of the IRI. It tells about various research trainings and other activities that have been carried out in the Institute. The review of the Institute's performance is also part of this discussion.



# Islamic Research Institute from Conception to Formation: 1947- 1956: A Study of the Debates of Constituent Assembly of Pakistan

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## ABSTRACT

The establishment of academic institute has been a matter of serious importance since the emergence of our beloved country. Such institutes are the ripe fruits of the thought of its founders for sake of its intellectual construction. Islamic Research Institute is such a noble one among these institutions which played a vital role in the guidance of nation from different perspectives.

The very suggestion of the establishment of Islamic Research Institute is found in the recommendations of All Pakistan Educational Conference, Karachi (Nov.27 to Dec. 1, 1947). Its purpose was to provide services in reformation of educational system on the basis of Islamic Doctrine. The formation of this institute has been the topic of discussion in various meetings till its existence in



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1954. This article takes into account the details of different proceedings regarding the formation of this institute. It discusses about its intellectual and financial dimensions being considered in the proceedings.



# A Critical Analysis of Reflective and Research Journals of Islamic Research Institute

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## ABSTRACT

The present study deals with the question of epistemological contribution of Islamic Research Institute. Epistemology and creation of knowledge has remained under studied subjects in Pakistani academia after the creation of Pakistan in 1947. With the exception of few, rare serious efforts have been made to enhance research culture and capacity of Muslim scholars in the field of Islamic studies during the twentieth century in South Asia. Islamic Research Institute (IRI) is among those rare institutions in Pakistan where research, critical thinking and epistemology have always remained at centre during the past six decades. This article is three fold; it introduces the research disseminated by IRI through its three research journals, it critically analyses epistemological foundations of the academic contributions made in these journals and argues that although much serious research is required in the field of Islamic studies that caters contemporary challenges faced

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by the Muslim world, yet a significant advance has been made in the field through research contributions of three academic double-blind peer reviewed journals of Islamic Research Institute namely, (1) *Islamic Studies*, (2) *al-Dirāsāt al-Islāmiyyah*, and (3) *Fikr-o Nazar* published quarterly in English, Arabic and Urdu languages respectively during the past six decades in Pakistan.



# The Analytical Study of Documents related to Islamic Research Institute

Tahira Ifraq<sup>®</sup>

## ABSTRACT

Establishment of Islamic Research Institute was one of the significant initiatives after creation of Pakistan. IRI is one of the Constitutional Institutions which has been established for developing and shaping the ideological basis of Pakistani society in accordance with the objective resolution. The documents about creation, characteristics, objects, purposes and establishment of Institute are not only pertinent to IRI but also valuable in term of history of subcontinent and Pakistan.

These documents have been selected for this study due to the irrefutable prominence at historical, constitutional and national levels. The study of these documents is important in perspective of challenges faced by Pakistani society. These documents have been prepared by those personalities who hold phenomenal educational and research background. They have the wisdom and vision of future of Pakistan and its society. The study of these documents manifest sketch of that Pakistan intended by

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its creators. The documents that are part of this study include objectives resolution, constitutions of Islamic Republic of Pakistan 1956 and 1962. Official orders, ordinances and statutes related to IRI and IIUI are also discussed in this study. Minutes of important meetings related to IRI are also part of this study.



## Some Renowned Scholars of Islamic Research Institute: A Brief Introduction

Usman Ali Sheikh<sup>✉</sup>

### ABSTRACT

Throughout the history of Islamic Research Institute, there have been a number of scholars who earned a name for themselves in nationwide academic circles through their contributions to the field of Islamic Studies. Some of them even got noticed at the international level and became associated with highly reputed international seats of learning. The research carried out by the scholars associated with the Institute ranges over various fields of Islamic Studies. Moreover, they belonged to a variety of schools of thought prevalent in Pakistani society. Hence, the Islamic Research Institute can be considered as a microcosm of Muslim scholarship of the country. Surveying the period between 1956 and 2017, this article attempts to introduce some of the prominent scholars associated with the Institute by outlining their contributions to the field of Islamic Studies in general and



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highlighting their services to the Institute in particular. The scholars included in this survey are: Allama Abdul Aziz Memon, Dr. Ishtiaq Hussain Qureshi, Dr. Fazlur Rahman, Dr. Saghir Hasan Masumi, Dr. Abdul Wahid J. Halepota, Dr. S. M. Zaman, Dr. Zafar Ishaq Ansari, Dr. Muhammad Khalid Masud, Prof. Mazheruddin Siddiqi, Dr. Ahmad Hasan, Dr. Mahmood Ahmad Ghazi, Maulana Abdul Quddus Hashimi, Dr. Ziauddin Ahmad, Dr. Ismail Raji al-Faruqi, Dr. Sahibzada Sajid-ur-Rahman.



# Dr. Muhammad Hamidullah Library and the Press of Islamic Research Institute: Resources and Services

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## ABSTRACT

Dr. Muhammad Hamidullah Library of Islamic Research Institute stands among the leading libraries of Islamic Sciences at national and regional level. A collection of more than 180000 volumes comprises books, periodicals, research reports, theses and pamphlets in different languages of Islamic world as well as in some western languages. National Sirah Library with a collection of about 7000 volumes has a unique value for Sirah scholars. Library also provides access to digital and online resources through HEC Digital Library and IRI Digital Library. The website of Dr. Muhammad Hamidullah Library provides important services including online catalogue to the remote users. This library has implemented an open source library software to automate its operations and services. The first point of this paper attempts to briefly highlight the history and services provided by the library.

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The second part of this paper is an effort to record the services of printing press and it highlights its importance in an academic research organization. An art printing press was established by the Institute in its premises in 1970 to catre modern printing needs of the Islamic Research Institute for publication of books and printing of its three research journals *Islamic Studies* (English), *Fikr-o Nazar* (Urdu) and *Al-Dirāsāt al-Islamiyyah* (Arabic). Since then, the printing press of the Institute has been catering printing needs not only for the Institute but also for the whole university and other constituent units. During the last three-four years, new machines have been installed, press has been renovated and refurbished; therefore this section not only ensures of timely printing of books journals of the institute but also generates profit for it.



## An Overview of Islamic Research Institute's Academic Events in the Twenty-First Century

Muhammad Islam<sup>⊗</sup>

### ABSTRACT

Islamic Research Institute was formally established on March 10, 1960. It continued working under the auspices of different ministries until it became a constituent part of Islamic University, Islamabad in 1980. Its objectives include developing methodologies for research in various fields of Islamic learning; interpreting Islamic teachings in the context of the intellectual and scientific progress of the modern world; identifying and studying contemporary problems of the Muslim world; contributing to the revival of Islamic heritage; publishing academic books and research journals; and organising seminars, conferences, symposia, and workshops. In pursuance of these objectives, Islamic Research Institute has been performing a variety of academic activities since its inception. These activities include not only organisation of various national and international conferences and seminars, training workshops, and lectures of renowned scholars but also publication of numerous academic books and three quarterly

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research journals. This article briefly surveys its academic activities such as conferences, seminars, and lectures. Moreover, due to space constraints, this survey is limited to the academic activities of the Institute during the twenty-first century alone.



# The Role of Islamic Research Institute in the Advancement of Islamic Economics

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## ABSTRACT

Islamic Economics has been a very central social issue of concern for all. Including banking and other types of social trade such as: the issues of property, interest, and mortgage still need the proper solution under the rubric of Islamic law and jurisprudence. The constitution of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan has undergone a lot of developments in terms of the reinforcement in this regard. However, the role of Islamic Institutions in the country is also very central. The current study has focused on the endeavors put in by the Islamic Research Institute (IRI) Islamabad as to how it has been successful in spreading the Islamic commandments in the country through Islamic education and research on Islamic Economics. It is the need of the hour to find out the solution of the contemporary economic issues under the rubric of Islamic domains. It also requires a change in the concurrent economic laws in order to facilitate the

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common readers and researchers to easily probe into the legalities and possibilities in promulgating the processes of Islamic economics in the country. IRI has really been striving for the remedies to the challenges and issues on monetary scaffolding as per Islamic Law. The translations from Arabic to Urdu carried out under the supervision of IRI besides their work in modifying the rules in Islamic economics has served the purpose that has been assigned to them through the constitution of Pakistan to reformation and establishment of a real Islamic society through Islamic education and research. The current study will also discuss the literature published by the IRI and its brief analysis in order to assess the guidance provided by the Institute on Islamic Economics.

