



Life After Death

Myth or Reality

?

Scholars from Buddhism, Christianity, Judaism, Aboriginal and Islamic faiths will present their points of view on this topic.

Thursday October.30.2008

6:00 - 9:00 PM

Margaret Parson Theatre, Red Deer College
(Free Admission, Refreshments will be served)

Communications Coordinator

1 866 208 2683

Registration is Recommended

Online Registration:

www.islamevents.ca/red-deer

DR. GUILLERMO BARRON *Moderator*

Dr. Guillermo Barron studied philosophy at Red Deer College, the University of Calgary, and the University of Alberta before returning to Red Deer College to teach.

In addition to instructing a wide range of philosophy courses, he is also the host of RDC's monthly Philosophers' Cafe.

His interests include ethical theory, the philosophy of religion, evolution and its implications for philosophy and the contrasts between religious and scientific worldviews.



Speakers

DR. PLINY HAYES *Representing Buddhism*



Dr. Hayes did his B.Sc. in Zoology from University of Alberta with honours in 1976. He later got his Ph.D. in Genetics from the same university in 1982. He did 4 years post-doctoral research on the developmental genetics of *Drosophila melanogaster* at Kansas State Univ. and U of A. He

worked for 5 years as a research associate in the Dept. of Biochemistry, Queen's Univ. He is teaching at RDC since Fall of '89.

Dr. Hays was Raised in the Episcopal Church; he has been Buddhist for 30 years. He took two-year leave of absence from RDC to live in Nepal where his wife was a project manager and consultant to the Government of Nepal. Dr. Hayes Spent 8 months studying Buddhist philosophy and Tibetan language in a monastery outside Katmandu.

Naseem Mehdi *Representing Islam*



A scholar of the Holy Qur'an, Naseem Mahdi is the Senior Vice President and Missionary In charge of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community, Canada.

Prior to his appointment in 1985, he was the President of the Community in Switzerland, Austria and Italy.

He graduated from an Islamic University, Rabwah Pakistan, in Islam, Comparative Study of Religions and Arabic.

Naseem has great interest in improvement of the society and promotion of Multi-faith dialogue. In addition to weekly Friday Sermons, he has delivered scores of lectures across Canada at various universities and other settings, representing the Islamic point of view on social and moral issue.

Apart from his administrative responsibilities, Naseem regularly lectures at the Ahmadiyya Muslim Institute of Islamic Studies, Toronto.

He is recipient of Governor General's Award for Community Services and is the President of Muslim Television Ahmadiyya (MTA), Canada – a 24 hour satellite channel.

Born in Edmonton of a Cree mother (Keewatin) from the Ojibwa band on the Touchwood/File Hills Reserve in Saskatchewan, Lyle grew up in Alberta, adopted into the home of a white United Church Minister (Richards).

Lyle has been with Alberta Family and Social Services Ministry in a variety of Child Welfare and Aboriginal Community Development roles beginning in 1993. He began his public service career in 1990 with WCB as an Occupational Rehabilitation Worker. He is currently an Aboriginal Permanency Planning Specialist for Region 4 CFSA.

Lyle has worked for the John Howard Society with federal inmates and their families, is a Journeyman Welder; Railway Tank car Repairman; worked in Canada's high Arctic, sailed for the Canadian Coast Guard and began work as a labourer in the shipyards on Vancouver Island.

Lyle has a wide variety of volunteer experience spanning 20+ years including; Aboriginal politics, race relations, music, housing and historical re-enactments.



Lyle W. Keewatin Richards *Representing Aboriginal*

DR. PAUL VIMINITZ *Representing Judaism*

Paul Viminiz, PhD (University of Alberta) has been professor of philosophy at the University of Lethbridge since 1997.

He specializes in philosophy of war and philosophy of religion. He is currently in the final throes of a book-length manuscript entitled *Children of a Lesser God*, which deals theologically with the cycle of violence between Jews, Christians, and Muslims.



DR. PAUL VALLEE *Representing Christianity*

Dr. Paul Vallee has an undergraduate degree from Seattle Bible College (BTh – 1981), a Masters from Briercrest Biblical Seminary (M.A. – 1995), and his Doctorate (D. Min. – 2001) from Northwest Graduate School of Ministry in Seattle, Washington. He has served as a youth pastor at McMurray Gospel Assembly (1982-1984), Church planter and Senior Pastor of Living Stones Church (1984-1994, 1998-present), Executive Pastor at Philadelphia Church in Seattle, Washington (1994-1995), and church planter and Senior Pastor of Living Hope Church in Lynnwood, Washington (1995-1998). He has also served as adjunct faculty at both Living Faith Bible College (1987-1993, 2004 & 2006), and Seattle Bible College (1997) and is currently serving as an adjunct faculty in Central India Theological Seminary since 2002.

Dr. Paul Vallee currently resides in Red Deer with his wife Patty who he has been married to for 30 years and their family. They have two beautiful daughters, Andrea and Rachel.





3rd World Religions Conference

Organized by:

Ahmadiyya Muslim Community

in association with

Department of Humanities and Social Sciences, Red Deer College

The Ahmadiyya Muslim Community

This is a religious organization, with branches in over 185 Countries. This is the most dynamic denomination of Islam in modern history, with membership exceeding millions. The Ahmadiyya Community was established in 1889 by Hadhrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad (1835-1908). He claimed to be the expected reformer of the latter days. The Community he started is an embodiment of the benevolent message of Islam - peace, universal brotherhood, and submission to the Will of God - in its pristine purity. Wherever the Community is established, it endeavors to exert a constructive influence of Islam through social projects, educational institutes, health services, Islamic publications and construction of mosques, despite being bitterly persecuted in some countries. Ahmadi Muslims have earned the distinction of being a law-abiding, peaceful, persevering and benevolent community. It encourages interfaith dialogue, and diligently defends Islam and tries to correct misunderstandings about Islam in the West. It advocates peace, tolerance, love and understanding among followers of different faiths. Its present Head, Hadhrat Mirza Masroor Ahmad, was elected in 2003.

~ LOVE FOR ALL HATRED FOR NONE ~

Program Thursday October.30.2008

5:30 PM – Doors Open

6:00 PM – Opening Remarks

6:10 PM – Guest Speakers

6:20 PM – Buddhism Perspective

6:40 PM – Judaism Perspective

7:00 PM – Aboriginal Perspective

7:20 PM – Refreshment Break

7:30 PM – Christian Perspective

7:50 PM – Islamic Perspective

8:10 PM – Question and Answer Session

8:55 PM – Closing Remarks/Vote of Thanks

End of Program

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