

August 31, 2012

Monthly Update

GET INVOLVED TODAY!

[Check out icrd.org](http://Check out icrd.org)  
[Volunteer or Intern](#)  
[Purchase Books](#)

[Join us on Facebook](#)



**Five-digit CFC Code: 12440)**

*“Once Assad falls will you come to Syria to stand with us in rebuilding our nation? You have brought the very message that is needed to galvanize the people of Syria. You have spoken not just to our minds but to our hearts.”*

*As a Bedouin tribal leader I have had a bitter relationship with one of the Kurdish leaders from Hassake at this conference. We had not spoken in decades. After the lecture on forgiveness we reconciled with each other.”*



**With Best Wishes,**  
Doug Johnston  
President  
ICRD  
1625 Massachusetts Ave,  
NW, Suite 601  
Washington, DC 20036  
tel: (202)331-9404  
fax: (202)872-9137  
[postmaster@icrd.org](mailto:postmaster@icrd.org)

**A Step Forward in Syria**

The second seminar for the Syrian opposition leaders (again at their request) took place several weeks ago in Cairo. Its purpose was to help them reconcile their differences in the wake of the Arab League's failure to unite them. We made significant headway and laid some solid groundwork for the future.



Photos used with permission by [Lens Young Homs](#)

Resources permitting, the next steps will involve conducting a similar seminar for Arab and Kurdish leaders from the eastern part of the country followed by one for Bedouin leaders from across the country. Again, our goals are to: (1) avoid conflict between the opposition members once they take over, and (2) mitigate any retribution against the regime and those who didn't join the opposition, including the Christians (who are particularly fearful for their future in light of recent developments in Iraq, Egypt, and elsewhere). Any financial assistance you can provide to help support this process would be greatly appreciated.



**Book of the Year and Beyond**

In other news, as winner of the 2011 Book-of-the-Year Award, *Religion, Terror, and Error* is frequenting book fairs around the world, including London, Frankfurt, Beijing, and Moscow.

**Religion, Terror, and Error**  
U.S. Foreign Policy and the  
Challenge of Spiritual Engagement

Douglas M. Johnston, Jr.  
Forward by General Anthony Zinni, USMC (Ret.)

Placed 1st in the "Political Science" category and  
3rd in the "Religion" category in the 2011 Book of the Year  
competition with ForeWord Reviews

From the Praeger Security International Series

