

June 5, 2012

Monthly Update

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"We have been wanting to do this training for years but could not do it until now. The participants loved it."
-Director, Partners Yemen



"This was a great start to an ongoing program with enormous potential to make a helpful difference in how our different religions understand and treat one another."
-Program participant

"One of the most important contributions of this book is an accurate depiction of what the proper relationship between the state and

ICRD Broadening its Reach

The past couple of months have seen us extending our reach in such places as Lebanon, Yemen, and Oman. **In Lebanon**, Brian Cox, our Sr. Vice President, **addressed an international conference** in Beirut on "Pioneers in Dialogue," organized by a coalition of Lebanese civil society organizations. His talk was well received and carried by two major television programs. He also addressed the Lebanon Institute of Arbitrators and the Tripoli Bar Association on "The Practical Components of Faith-Based Diplomacy."

In Yemen, ICRD Program Manager, Rebecca Cataldi, conducted a **conflict resolution training program** for staff of Partners Yemen, a local NGO that teaches tribal leaders how to mediate local conflicts, facilitates dialogue between community leaders and the government, and conducts women's empowerment programs. The response was enthusiastic, and additional training was provided at the request of the participants.



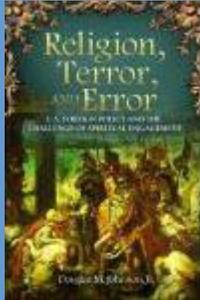
In Oman, ICRD co-sponsored with Intersections International (a New York-based NGO) a three day **meeting on interfaith dialogue** that involved a number of American, Pakistani, and Omani religious leaders and scholars. The event was the first in a series of such encounters that will focus on building added inter-faith capacity in Pakistan and the United States, with an eye toward improving the lot of religious minorities in Pakistan and countering the Islamaphobia that has taken hold in the United States.

Business as Usual

Meanwhile, **in Pakistan** we have trained the faculty of yet another major university, and are currently monitoring their performance in providing **certification training for madrasa teachers**. And closer to home, we continue our **outreach in the United States**. In a recent two week period, for example, ICRD:

religion actually is under our Constitution."

-The Honorable Edwin Meese III, former U.S. Attorney General



"It is a provocative book, it is an inspiring book, and it is an extremely rich book. Every page is packed with interesting ideas and facts."

-The Honorable James Glassman, former President, *The Atlantic Monthly*

1) **addressed students** at two local universities (Georgetown and George Washington);

2) made a **presentation to 250 military officers** at the National Intelligence University, as part of its Distinguished Speakers Program;

3) Conducted a **Policy Forum on Iran** for Washington policy makers;

4) **moderated conferences** on "**Empowering Moderate Islam**" at Brigham Young University, and "Understanding US/Pakistan Relations" at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace; and

5) co-sponsored with the American Muslim Alliance a **conference on "The Role of the Media in Promoting Democracy in Pakistan."**

We also received word that *Religion, Terror and Error* has been selected as a "**Book of the Year**" finalist in both the Political Science and Religion categories, and were notified by the **Defense Language Institute** in Monterey, California that a **DVD series featuring ICRD** is having "an immediate and long-term impact on the cultural and religious training of our soldiers worldwide."



With Best Wishes,
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