

**New Call for Papers**  
**Seminar Extension of Deadline and Extension of Scope**

**Anti-Migration Politics and Islamic Ethics: Nationalism, Discrimination, Securitization  
and Vulnerable Groups**

CILE Seminar in Doha, Qatar  
20-22 September 2020

**New deadline for Abstracts: 10 June 2020**

**Additional Scope**

By the beginning of 2020, the whole world had become involved with the Coronavirus pandemic (COVID-19). With various levels of uptake, most countries closed their borders, restricted movements within their cities, forced social distance, reorganized work hours, etc. Although residents of all categories were impacted by the outbreak and by governmental, social and economic restrictions, the conditions of immigrants, asylum seekers, foreign workers and other groups proved to be more vulnerable. For example, in some countries they were accused of bringing the virus into their land; they were the first to lose their jobs, many or most without payment; the social support system has not provided assistance as has been given to citizens; etc.

The pandemic has raised concerns about the ability of the world to unite to find solutions that will bring life “back to normal”, however that may be conceptualized. The crisis has raised many uneasy questions about the ethics of the world today, the hierarchy of countries and individuals, the role of religion, the role of science, the generation gap, and so forth.

Muslim religious scholars have been and are still vital to the discussions on ways to counter the virus, but not in scientific terms. For example, fatwas have been issued to suspend the ritual of *umrah* at its prime time. Fatwas have been made to suspend congregational prayers. Religious opinions in support of government policies of social distancing continue to be broadcast. In a religion that is based on pride with its strong social bonds, these restriction measures become emotionally and socially difficult.

The history of epidemic in the Muslim world has been recalled to explain to people the gravity of the situation and the threat of following old ways in combating the epidemic, such as going out into the desert in groups for supplication. The hadith that Sa’d reported the Prophet (PBUH) had said:

**“If you hear of a plague in a land, then do not go into it. If it happens in land where you are, then do not go out of it”** (Ṣaḥīḥ al-Bukhārī 5396, Ṣaḥīḥ Muslim 2218).

This has become the most common cited quotation in all religious talks about the virus.

Given the scope of this seminar, questions may be raised about the religious and ethical impact of the COVID19-related religious discourse upon different categories of migrants and other vulnerable groups inside the Muslim world and with Muslim migrants in the non-Muslim world. For example:

- How do Muslim governments deal with their foreign population and workforce - and to what extent are their practices in line with policies based upon Islamic principles?

- How have Muslim citizens interacted with the foreign workers and isolated/supported them, in the context of the call to maintain social distance from alien residents as well as each other?
- How have Muslim migrants in non-Muslim countries dealt with this dilemma? For example, have they isolated themselves, or have they attempted to prove themselves a beneficial asset to the wider society?
- How have first- and second-generation immigrant Muslims networked with other civil society groups?
- How has the virtual world been seen and addressed by Muslims generally (Muslim migrants and refugees as well as Muslims in migrant receiving countries), and what impact have Internet communications had on their lives in the COVID-19 context and beyond?

**Please note that if current circumstances continue, the seminar may have to be conducted online.**

- The link for the Call-For-Papers is [here](#)
- The link for the Background Notes [here](#)

### **Important Dates:**

- June 10, 2020: Deadline for receiving paper title, abstracts and bios.  
**[Please read the Background Notes carefully before writing the abstract]**
- June 20, 2020: Authors whose abstracts are accepted will be notified and invited to write the full papers.
- July 31, 2020: Deadline for receiving the full papers.
- August 15, 2020: Authors whose papers are accepted will be notified.
- September 20-22, 2020: Seminar in Doha, Qatar (or online)
- December 4, 2020: Revisions of papers for refereeing and publication

### **Contact Us:**

Submissions should be sent to [migration2020@cilecenter.org](mailto:migration2020@cilecenter.org)

For any inquiries about this call-for-papers or about the accompanying Background Paper, please contact Dr. Ray Jureidini –[rjureidini@hbku.edu.qa](mailto:rjureidini@hbku.edu.qa) who directs the CILE research unit ‘Migration, Ethics and Human Rights’.