

ABS RELIGIOUS STUDIES SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP, BI-ANNUAL SEMINAR NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE, December 5-7, 2003

■ **PROGRAMME**

■ **FRIDAY, December 5th**

Session I

7.00 pm Introduction and History of the UK Seminars
 7.30 pm Todd Lawson, University of Toronto, Canada
 TBA
 8:30 pm Work in Progress, Miscellaneous Reports and Discussion

4:30-5:00

Relationship between 'Abdu'l-Bahá and Muhammad 'Abduh"

Break

5:00-6:00

Moojan Momen, Cambridge, UK
 "The Conversion of Zoroastrians and Jews to the Baha'i Faith in Iran"

6:00-7:00

Panel Discussion: "Babi-Baha'i Literatures, Book Collecting, Publishing, and Sources (Electronic and Other)"

7:00

DINNER

■ **SATURDAY, December 6th**

Session II

9:30-10:30 Roger Prentice, University of Sunderland, UK
 "Spiritual Inspiration in the Art of Bill Viola"
 10:30-11:00 BREAK
 11:00-12:00 Anne-Sophie Lamine, Professeur d'Université, Membre du Centre
 d'Etudes Interdisciplinaires des Faits Religieux (CNRS - EHESS),
 France
 "Religious Truth, Identities, and Recognition of Otherness"
 12:00-1:00 David Palmer, Eileen Barker Fellow in Religion and Contemporary
 Society, Dept. of Sociology, London School of Economics, UK
 "The Institutional Economy of Knowledge and the Science-Religion
 Dichotomy: the Case of Modern China"

1:00-2:30

LUNCH

Session III

2:30-3:30 Joan Barden California State University, USA
 "Discovering Faith in the Age of Modernity: A Journey from Islam to
 Bahai"
 3:30-4:30 Oliver Scharbort University of London, School of Oriental and
 African Studies, UK
 "Encounters in the Land of Bá: Muslim and Bahá'í Accounts on the

■ **SUNDAY December 7th**

Session IV

9:30-10:30 Necati Alkan, Bochum University, Germany
 TBA
 10:30-11:00 Cyrus Agahi, University of Sheffield, UK
 "Sociological Research in Contemporary Iran: A Case Study"
 11:00-11:30 Break
 11:30-12:30 Stephen Lambden, Ohio University, USA
 "A New Jerusalem on Mount Carmel?: An Overview of the Bab and
 Judaism, Scriptural Tablets of Baha'u'llah to Jews with Some Aspects
 of the Baha'i Approach to Ancient Israelite Religion and Modern
 Judaisms"

Session V

12:30-3:00 LUNCH and possible visit to the grave of E. G. Browne at Elswick
 Cemetery, Newcastle upon Tyne

3:00-4:00

Panel/Group Discussion/Open Forum