

THE ISLAMIC FOUNDATION FOR ECOLOGY & ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

The Islamic Foundation for Ecology and Environmental Sciences (IFEES) based in Birmingham, England emerged as a result of the work begun by Fazlun Khalid who is its founder and director. His interest in reviving Islamic environmental practice led him in the mid 1980s to persuade a group of his close associates to join him in setting up an Islamic eco-community. Although this has yet to materialise in the form it was originally conceived the work itself progressed to the extent that IFEES has now established itself as perhaps the only internationally recognised body articulating the Islamic position on these matters and at the same time attempting to give practical manifestation to this. It was officially recognised as a charity in 1994.

IFEES is a multi-dimensional organisation and its objectives include -

- Setting up a centre for researching Islamic conservation practice.
- Compiling a database and acting as an information exchange on environmental affairs.
- Producing teaching materials, books and journals.
- Training on practical and theoretical subjects. This will comprise of weekend courses and medium and long-term programmes.
Training modules will be based on the principles of the *Sharia*. A range of subjects covering the environmental sciences will be also be taught.
- The setting up of an experimental project focusing on land use and organic farming. Practical training will include sustainable land resource management and non-industrial, traditional farming techniques as a practical demonstration of self-sufficiency. IFEES will be drawing on the expertise already developed in the field.
- Developing alternative low energy, low cost technology. It will function as a demonstration centre for such technology and will participate in their promotion.
- Acting as a consultancy to various international NGO's, funding agencies and academic bodies

Among its distinctive features are -

- An emphasis on resolving current concerns through the application of the *Sharia*
- Developing projects world wide that gives expression to specifically Islamic conservation practice.

Our programme is designed to activate those properties inherent in Islam capable of remedying the socio-ecological imbalances of our time. A dedicated core of people with a range of expertise and skills (administrative, research, technical, agricultural,

crafts and training) will work together as a community with a commitment to the goals outlined.

IFEES networks world-wide with NGOs, international organisations, academic bodies and grass roots organisations and invites collaboration from organisations and individuals from all persuasions who are also dedicated to the maintenance of the Earth as a healthy habitat for future generations of humankind as well as other living beings.

Contact details

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