

Mulla Asgher Memorial Resource Centre

Acknowledging that access to knowledge is a cornerstone of Islam, the *Mulla Asgher Memorial Resource Center* (MARC) was established as an independent resource centre within the Jaffrey Village Complex, in Toronto in 2009. Its aim is to serve as the knowledge navigator for the greater community by being a source for information on Islam in print and electronic formats. Its declared vision is to be a premiere state-of-the-art, Islamic resource centre in North America providing research and learning facilities to Muslims as well as non-Muslims.

MARC endeavours to foster community cultural life and enhance interfaith understanding by hosting exhibits, housing historic fine arts and literary collections, and providing spaces to attract scholars, students and the general public to read, study, and come together to share the great values of all faiths.

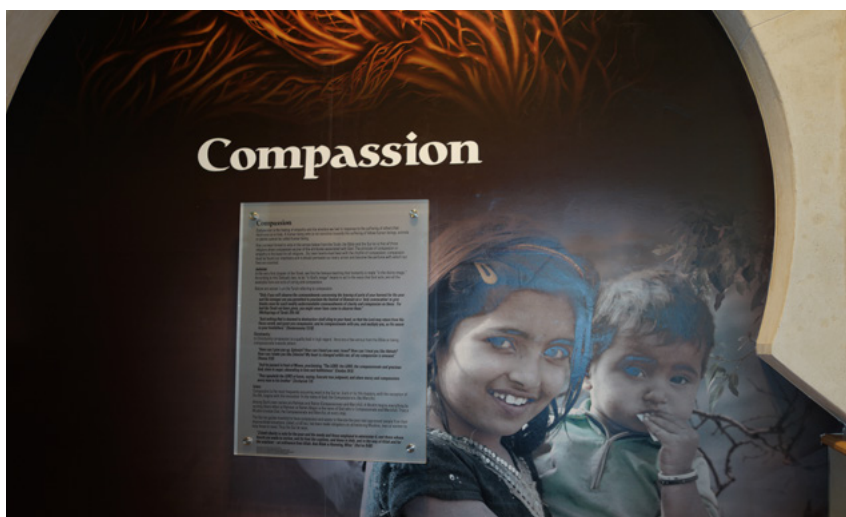
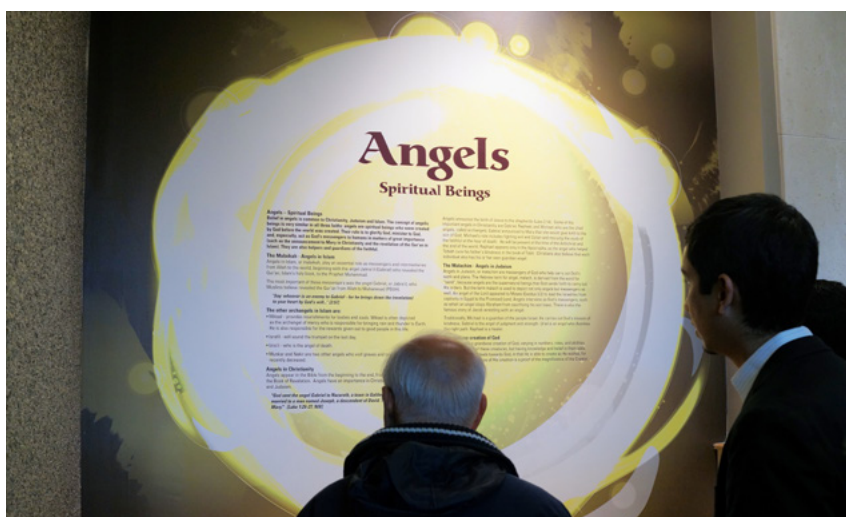
The 'From The Roots of Abraham' exhibition is the third in a series of exhibitions at MARC, the other two were 'Qur'an: Word of Allah - Expressions of Man' and 'Hajj - a journey of a lifetime'.

The exhibition is expected to run until Sep 2015 and is open 7 days a week at specific times. Please visit www.marcresource.org to plan your visit.

In Christianity 'repentance' is also turning away from sin to God. Repentance is an essential part of salvation, requiring a turning away from the sin-ruled life to a life characterised by obedience to God. The Bible states that people are saved by faith alone (Ephesians 2:8-9). However, there can be no faith in Christ without repentance and no repentance without faith. The two are inseparable.

In the Arabic language, *tawbah* (repentance) again means 'returning'. 'Our Lord, make us submissive to You, and [raise] from our progeny a nation submissive to You, and show us our rites [of worship], and turn to us clemently. Indeed, You are the All-Clement, the All-Merciful.' (2:128)

As a preamble to the inauguration of the exhibition, speakers from the three religions reflected on their personal experiences of the Gift of Giving from their respective religious perspectives. 'Giftivism' is a universal concept that promotes the practice of radically generous acts that transform the world. The speakers explored the path to 'Giftivism' and the potential it holds for returning human beings to the priceless gift of giving emphasising that as a society once we shift from consumption to contribution, we will truly discover the joy of giving. ●



Dr. Hasnain Walji is the Founding Director of MARC (Mulla Asgher Resource Center) in Toronto, Canada.