

Program of
African Studies



The Institute for the Study of Islamic Thought in Africa (ISITA)

presents

Islam, Politics and the State: Mediating Permanent Paradox

A keynote address by

Abdullahi Ahmed An-Na'im

Thursday, May 17 2007

Heritage Ballroom, Omni Orrington Hotel
1710 Orrington Avenue, Evanston IL 60201
5:00 pm ~ 7:00 pm (dinner to follow)

RSVP to this event by May 3 to Kate Dargis (see below).



An-Na'im is the Charles Howard Candler Professor of Law at Emory University, and an internationally recognized scholar of Islam and human rights. He holds degrees from the University of Khartoum, Cambridge University, and the University of Edinburgh, and served as Executive Director of Human Rights Watch/Africa from 1993 to 1995. His talk will address the "permanent paradox" of how to separate religion from the state, given the permanent reality of the connectedness of religion and politics. Drawing on the notion of the contingent role of Islam in Africa, An-Na'im will raise the question of how to organize the public sphere in ways that facilitate the mediation of that paradox, over time.

This keynote address launches the [Islam and the Public Sphere in Africa](#) conference, May 17-19 2007, sponsored by ISITA and the Program of African Studies, Northwestern University.

View conference program at

<http://www.northwestern.edu/african-studies/>

Contact Kate Dargis for more information.

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