



***Celebrating the personality and contributions of the renowned Muslim scholar Abu Nasr Al-Farabi in a two-day symposium***

## Global Al-Farabi Forum

**COMSTECH Secretariat, Islamabad**

***December 21-22, 2020***

COMSTECH and the Government of Kazakhstan joined hands to organize a two-day international conference – Global Al-Farabi Forum – during 21-22 December 2020 to celebrate Al-Farabi's 1150<sup>th</sup> anniversary at the COMSTECH Secretariat. The year 2020 is being celebrated internationally as the 1150<sup>th</sup> birth anniversary of the renowned Muslim philosopher and scientist Abu Nasr Al-Farabi.



**1150<sup>th</sup>**

**Anniversary of Al-Farabi**



President of Pakistan, Dr. Arif Alvi inaugurated the Global Al-Farabi Forum at COMSTECH.

In his inaugural speech, the President urged the young generation of scientists and philosophers to follow the scholars like Al-Farabi to achieve excellence. The President

deeply appreciated COMSTECH's role in encouraging socio-economic development of the Ummah through the application of science and technology and urged the OIC member states to join hands with COMSTECH and work together for the renaissance of the Ummah.



The opening session was also addressed by the Coordinator General COMSTECH, Prof. Dr. M. Iqbal Choudhary, the Assistant Secretary General of OIC, Ambassador Askar Mussinov, Dr. Darkhan Kydyrali, President International Turkic Academy and the Kazakhstan Ambassador to Saudi Arabia, Mr. Berik Aryn.

All the speakers of the inaugural session emphasized the need of the advancement of science and technology in the OIC member states and resolved to follow the tradition of the renowned Muslim scholar Abu-Nasr Al-Farabi to recapture the golden era of the Ummah.

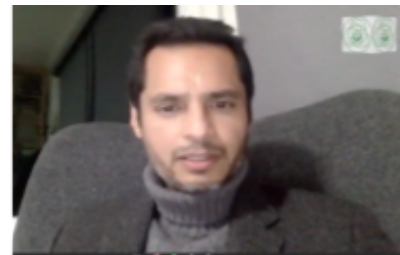
The two-day conference had five working sessions with lectures delivered both in person and online, by leading international experts on Al-Farabi and Islamic history, and philosophy.



Peter Adamson (LMU Munich)



Dr Farhan Ahmad Nizami



Asad Q. Ahmed  
University of California, Berkeley



★ (Iftikhar H. Malik)  
★ Bath Spa University and Wolfson College,  
Oxford.





Prof. Asad Q. Ahmed of Berkeley, USA, Prof. Peter Adamson from Munich, Prof. Ann Druart from Washington, Prof. Iftikhar Malik from Bath UK, Prof. Galimkir Mutanov of Al- Farabi University of Kazakhstan, Dr. Muhammad Modassir Ali and Dr. Dheen Mohammed from Hamad bin Khalifa University, Doha, Qatar were key speakers who participated online in the conference.



Besides online experts from abroad, eminent local experts presented their scholarly lectures on various aspects of Al-Farabi's contributions to Philosophy and political thought in the different sessions of the forum.



#	Name of Speakers and Affiliation	Title of Lecture
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1.	<u>Prof. Asad Q. Ahmed</u> , Professor and Director of the Center for Middle Eastern Studies, University of California, Berkeley, USA	<i>Language, Reality, and Community in Al-Farabi</i>
2.	<u>Prof. Therese-Anne Druart</u> , School of Philosophy, The Catholic University of America, Washington, DC	<i>Al-Farabi on 'Can we think without a phantasma or image?'</i>
3.	<u>Dr Farhan Ahmad Nizami</u> , Centre for Islamic Studies, Oxford University	<i>Special recorded Video message on the significance of Al-Farabi</i>
4.	<u>Professor Iftikhar H. Malik</u> , Professor, Bath Spa University, United Kingdom	<i>Adelard (1080-1151CE), the Pioneer English Philosopher of Islam: A Bridgehead between the Muslim World and the West</i>
5.	<u>Professor Dr. Peter Adamson</u> , Professor, Ludwig-Maximilian University of Munich/ King's College London, United Kingdom	<i>Al-Fārābī in Context: The Background of his Treatise on the Perfect State</i>
6.	<u>Dr. Muhammad Modassir Ali</u> , Senior Researcher, Center for Muslim Contribution to Civilization, College of Islamic Studies, Hamad bin Khalifa University, Doha, Qatar	<i>Al-Farabi and his sources</i>
7.	<u>Dr. Dheen Mohammed</u> , Professor of Comparative Religion, College of Islamic Studies, Hamad Bin Khalifa University, Center for Muslim Contribution to Civilization, Qatar	<i>The relevance of al-Farabi to Contemporary Man.</i>
8.	<u>Prof. Dr. Syed Nomanul Haq</u> , Dean Institute of Liberal Arts (ILA), University of Management and Technology (UMT), Lahore	<i>Al-Farabi as a Phenomenon of World Culture</i>
9.	<u>Prof. Dr. Mohyuddin Hashimi</u> , Dean, Faculty of Arabic & Islamic Studies, Allama Iqbal Open University, Islamabad	<i>Epistemology: From Al-Farabi's perspective</i>
10.	<u>Dr. Moiz Hasan</u> , Assistant Professor, Institute of Business Administration (IBA), Karachi	<i>Al-Farabi and His Vision of Astronomy</i>
11.	<u>Dr Muhammad Waqas Sajjad</u> , Head – Center for Languages, Assistant Professor, Institute of Liberal Arts, Center for Languages, University of Management and Technology, Lahore	<i>The Political Philosophy of Al-Farabi: Legacy and Impact in South Asia</i>
12.	<u>Prof. Dr. Muhammad Saleem Mazhar</u> , Pro-VC, University of the Punjab, Lahore	<i>Abu Nasr Al Farabi and Meta physics</i>

13.	<u>Ms. Anmol Yasmin Ahmed,</u> Lecturer, Forman Christian College, Lahore	<i>Al Farabi and the Attainment of Happiness: A guiding principle for political theory</i>
14.	<u>Dr Mujeeb Ahmad,</u> International Islamic University, Islamabad	<i>Al-Farabi's Impression in South Asia: A Historical Analysis</i>
15.	<u>Dr. Hafiz Tahir Islam Askari,</u> Allama Iqbal Open University, Islamabad	<i>Political thought of Al-Farabi: An analytical study</i>

The Al-Farabi Forum was attended by more than 120 scholars from Pakistan, United Kingdom, Kazakhstan, Cameroon, Nepal, Somalia and Sudan, in-person and virtually.



Dr. Galimkair Mutanov, Rector, Al-Farabi Kazakh National University delivered a special lecture in the concluding session of the forum. He suggested that we should pay special attention to the golden age of Muslim thought and define the issues raised in Muslim philosophy in relation to religion and science.

In the concluding session a one-hour long panel discussion session was held on the topic "Science and the Islamic World - A philosophical assessment". Mr. Ehsan Masood, a leading Science Commentator from UK, and Dr. Noman ul Haq, Dr. Ghazna Khalid, Technical Advisor to the Federal Ministry of National Health Regulations and Services and Dr. M. Iqbal Choudhary were the panel members. The session was moderated by Dr. Khurshid Hasanain from COMSTECH. A number of factors that are responsible for the current decline of science, technology, philosophy and economy in the Muslim world were discussed.



Mr. Ehsan Masood  
from UK

The session was concluded with the vote of thanks by the Coordinator General COMSTECH Prof. Dr. M. Iqbal Choudhary who announced that COMSTECH and the Turkic Academy would together host similar Forums on other leading personalities of the Muslim world.







In the end shields and certificates were distributed among the speakers and participants.



Group photograph with Chief Guest Dr. Arif Alvi, President of Pakistan,  
at the conclusion of the Opening Session

*Presentations by the distinguished experts are being compiled for publication as  
the Proceedings of the Global Al-Farabi Forum*