

EUGEN-BISER-STIFTUNG

Dialog aus christlichem Ursprung



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Eugen Biser Award 2008

The Eugen Biser Award is to be conferred on the essential contributors to that thought-provoking Open Letter "A Common Word Between Us and You" to the Christian Churches, dated October 13, 2007

H.R.H. Prince Ghazi bin Muhammed bin Talal
The Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan

Shaykh Al-Habib Ali Zain Al-Abidin Al-Jifri
United Arab Emirates

Reisu-I-Ulema Dr. Mustafa Cerić
Grand Mufti of Bosnia and Herzegovina

in recognition of their extraordinary contribution to Muslim-Christian dialogue and their consequent and blessed endeavours towards peace among the nations.

The Award will be presented at a ceremony in Munich, Germany, on November 22, 2008,

The Council of the Foundation unanimously agreed to grant the Award on those here named. The foundation is conscious of the honour and recognition reflected on it by their willingness to receive the Eugen Biser Award.

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Eugen Biser developed his life's work in dialogue and argument with the original texts of Christianity, with Christianity's history and not least with the spiritual situation of our own times, which are marked by secularism and atheism. At the core of his thinking is the understanding of God which Jesus transmitted to us – that God is the father of unconditional love. The love of God, which finds concrete expression as the love of one's neighbour, is the indispensable basis for a Christian existence.

It is difficult to imagine a closer agreement in origin and aim, than that contained in the epochal Open Letter of Muslim Scholars "A Common Word Between Us and You". Inter-religious dialogue - without abandoning one's own identity - is the duty of both responsible Christians and Muslims, above all since there can and will be no peace among people if there is not peace among the religions.

Munich, October 16, 2008

p.p. Prof. Dr. Richard Heinzmann
Chairman of the Council

p.p. Marianne Köster
Chairman of the Executive Board