

# Debating Multiculturalism

## ORGANISERS:

Leeds/UK:



**DIALOGUE  
SOCIETY**

LEEDS



Konya/TURKEY:



Date / Place

**17-19 April 2012**

Konya/Turkey

Attendance:

**Closed Sessions**

For More Information:

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The **Dialogue Society**, Leeds Branch, in collaboration with **Leeds Metropolitan University** (UK) and **Mevlana University** (Konya, Turkey), invites applications from scholars and practitioners (hereinafter 'authors') willing to exchange and test ideas on the theory and practice of multiculturalism in an intimate week-long workshop to be held in Konya, the hometown of Mevlana Jalaluddin Rumi.

In the thirteenth century when Rumi flourished, the region of Konya was much more diverse in terms of community and confession than it is today. Rumi's intense spiritual insights, and his conception and practice of the religious life, encouraged peaceful coexistence on the basis of respect for and engagement with different traditions in shared social and cultural activities. Konya is therefore a fitting venue in which to air the issue of intercultural spaces and possibilities, albeit from a contemporary perspective.

Authors from Britain will present their papers at the Workshop and take part in question-and-answer sessions on the relevant issues as they arise in Turkey. The country's recent record of combining political stability with economic growth and human rights reforms is concentrating minds on the capacity of the present European model of multiculturalism to cope with the eventual accession of Turkey to the EU. In Turkey there is strong interest in the so-called "Anglo-Saxon" practice of secularism as the appropriate framework for the evolution of multiculturalism into interculturalism.

## Editorial Board:

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