

**MIDDLE EAST INSTITUTE
AT THE NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF SINGAPORE**

Middle East Institute S R Nathan Distinguished Lecture 2024

**The St Regis Singapore
Caroline's Mansion
29 Tanglin Road, Singapore 247911**

PROGRAMME

	Thursday, 7 Nov 2024
1430 hrs – 1500hrs	Registration
1500 hrs	Welcome Note Professor Joseph Liow <i>Chairman, Middle East Institute, National University of Singapore</i>
1505 hrs	In Conversation His Excellency Dr. Ali Rashed Al Nuaimi <i>Chairman Of Hedayah, Member of the UAE Federal National Council</i> Professor Joseph Liow <i>Chairman, Middle East Institute, National University of Singapore</i>
1545hrs	Question and Answer Session Moderated by: Professor Joseph Liow <i>Chairman, Middle East Institute, National University of Singapore</i>
1630hrs	End of Session

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Abstract

The Middle East is currently undergoing long-overdue religious reform aimed at aligning religious practices with modern societal needs and national aspirations. These reforms, however, are specific to the region and should not be applied universally. Instead, other regions, such as South and South-east Asia, must pursue their own localised religious reforms that better reflect their distinct cultural identities, legal frameworks, and social contexts.

This session will explore the significant role of religious leaders and their influence on both local and global Muslim communities. It will also highlight how nations like Singapore can adapt religious practices to honour their local heritage, uphold the Constitution, and foster harmony among diverse religious communities.

DR. ALI AL NUAIMI

Chairman Of Hedayah, Member of the UAE Federal National Council



Dr. Ali Al Nuaimi is a Member of the UAE Federal National Council representing the Emirate of Abu Dhabi and serves as the Chairman of the Council's Defense, Interior & Foreign Affairs Committee.

A leading international expert on extremism and education, Dr. Ali Al Nuaimi has over 30 years of distinguished academic and professional achievements across government, non-governmental, and private sectors within the UAE and internationally.

As a pioneer in educational reform and policy, Dr. Al Nuaimi has held key leadership roles, including Chairman of the Abu Dhabi Department of Education and Knowledge (ADEK) and Chancellor of the United Arab Emirates University (UAEU), while serving as a Member of the Executive Council of the Government of Abu Dhabi.

Dr. Al Nuaimi is also a prominent advocate of global peace, tolerance, and coexistence. He is the inaugural Chairman of the International Steering Board of Hedayah, the International Center of Excellence for Countering Extremism and Violent Extremism, based in Abu Dhabi. Additionally, he founded and currently chairs the World Council of Muslim Communities, the Manara Regional Center for Coexistence and was the first Secretary-General of the Muslim Council of Elders.