INSTITUTE OF SPIRITUAL AWARENESS  

a teaching seminar  
with Dr Mark Durie  

Coming to Terms with the Qur’an

20 February 2016  9am - 5.00pm (open from 8.30am)  
at Melbourne School of Theology, 5 Burwood Highway, Wantirna

9 – 10 am  A Cook’s Tour of the Qur’an: Finding Your Way Around  
10 – 11 am  The Theology of the Qur’an: Core Topics  
11 – 11.30 am  Morning Tea  
11.30 – 12.30  The Theology of the Qur’an: More Core Topics  
12.30 pm – 1.30 pm  Lunch  
1.30 – 2.45pm  Eight Crises in Contemporary Qur’anic Studies  
2.45 - 3.15 pm  Afternoon Tea  
3.15 – 4.15  Repurposing Scripture: the Bible in the Qur’an:  
4.15 – 5pm  Question Time

Attendance is by pre-registration only.

Registration Fee:  $75  
Reduced Registration - Concession Card Holders and Full Time Students:  $50  
Includes morning tea, lunch, afternoon tea and notes

Register by 12 February using eventbrite via http://i4sa.org/seminar  
or email your name, email address and phone number to: training@i4sa.org  
and you will be provided with pre-registration information.

Resources will be available for purchase at the venue

This ISA training day will provide unique tools for engaging with the message of the Qur’an from a Biblical perspective.

The Qur’an is a vitally important book for the future of the nations in our time. Yet for many who encounter it, the Qur’an can seem opaque, obscure and difficult to engage with.

This ISA seminar offers a unique and compelling introduction to the message of the Qur’an in its own terms. It also provides up-to-date information on the state of Qur’anic research, including an overview of contemporary theories about the origins of the Qur’an.

The information presented in this seminar cannot be easily obtained from books or the internet. It offers a unique cutting-edge distillation of key ideas which provide an indispensable foundation for understanding this remarkably influential book.

The material presented at the seminar will be of interest to followers of Biblical faiths, atheists or agnostics. It is not intended for observant Muslims. The seminar assumes a basic level of knowledge about the the Bible and the religion of Islam.

The tools imparted will be applicable for many purposes, such as political activism, journalism, or apologetics, but the focus of this training day is on imparting tools for understanding the Qur’an for its own sake. It is not directly focussed on the religion of Islam, but on the Qur’an as Islam’s foundational text.

Mark Durie is the founding director of the Institute for Spiritual Awareness, a Shillman-Ginsburg writing fellow with the Middle East Forum, and an Adjunct Research Fellow of the Centre for the Study of Islam and Other Faiths at Melbourne School of Theology. He has held visiting appointments at the University of Leiden, MIT, UCLA and Stanford, and was elected a Fellow of the Australian Academy of the Humanities in 1992.