



Pedagogical Training for Religious Teachers at the Secondary Level

The Recommendations of the OIC Commission of Eminent Persons (OIC-Ex-SUM-3/2005/REC/CEP) approved by the Third Extraordinary Summit of the OIC held in Makkah Al-Mukarramah in December 2005 mentioned about the modernization of the curricula of religious schools (Recommendation No (ix) of Section IV: Education, Science and Technology). The Road Map (OIC/10Y-PoA/RM/2006/Final, Section 1 : Intellectual and Political Issues, Point-7 of III. Islam-The Religion of Moderation and Tolerance) recommends the development of balanced educational curricula.

To follow up the above recommendations, Islamic University of Technology (IUT) formulated a proposal for imparting pedagogical training to the religious teachers at the secondary level so that the teaching – learning environment can be improved, which will help the students to be utilized more constructively for nation building and will be less prone to be misused in non disciplined activities. This will lead to alertness amongst the teachers and administrators leading to modernization of curricula and delivery plan. IUT can start the program in its campus but the plan can also be implemented with some modifications in the Member States and the University is ready to provide clarification on implementation.

Training of Religious Teachers at the Secondary School level on Effective Teaching Learning Strategy

Introduction

In addition to developing Human Resources in Science and Technology in the OIC countries, one of the important objectives of IUT is to impart the Islamic values to the students. For that reason IUT has made few Islamic studies subject compulsory for all the programmes. These subjects include Islamiat; Islamic History; Science and Culture; Science; Technology and Islam; and Arabic Language.

In many of the OIC countries the religious education is compulsory at the school level. Most of the teachers at this level do not have the proper academic background to teach Islamiat and they do not also have any formal or informal pedagogical background including training on teaching methodology, psychology of teaching-learning, classroom management and assessment of student learning. So the teaching learning is not effective and it does not make proper impact on the future life of the student. Even some of the teachers do not have sufficient knowledge about their course content. In order to improve this situation, IUT can arrange a series of training every year on teaching methodology, including psychology of teaching-learning, measurement and evaluation and content selection for the teachers who are teaching Islamiat in the High School from Grade VI to Grade X.

Objectives

The general objectives of the training programme are to prepare Islamic Education Teachers for better teaching. The specific objectives of the training are to:

1. Identify the strength and weakness of present Islamic Education in Secondary Schools.
2. Assessment of training needs of Islamic Education Teachers.
3. Developing of training Modules for Teachers and provide the training on:
 - a) Psychology of teaching learning
 - b) Classroom Management
 - c) Teaching learning strategy with special reference to Islamic Education
 - d) Assessment of student learning

Steps of Training

First the training needs of teachers will be identified. On the basis of training needs, the training modules will be developed. The teachers will be trained through participatory training. Each session will include lecture; demonstration; presentation through Multimedia and Over Head Projector; discussion; question answer, group activities and presentation of group activities.

Time Duration and Number of Participants

The duration of the workshop will be two weeks to four weeks depending on the need of the participants. The number of participants in each workshop will be 30.

Financing

The total cost of the workshop will be shared by IUT, participating country and possibly ISESCO/ IDB. The local hospitality (food and accommodation) will be provided by the IUT and the other expenses including air ticket will be borne by the participants or his organisation or ISESCO/ IDB.

Venue

The programme will conducted in the IUT Campus, But if in any Member State of OIC, enough participants can be arranged and some facilities are available, IUT will be willing to hold the programme in that country.

Results of the training

The outcome of the programme will be a group of trained Islamic Education teachers who will be able to:

- a) Teach Islamic Education effectively,
- b) Manage the classroom effectively,
- c) Motivate students towards Islamic Education,
- d) Effectively use different methods in their teaching,
- e) Effectively use different teaching materials (aids) in the classroom,
- f) Assess the student learning effectively.