

PROJECT SUMMARY

Title of Project	Project Developing and Islamic Research Library
Location	In the main campus of Social Advancement Foundation of India (SAFI), East Vazhayoor P.O., Via Ramanattukara, Malappuram Dist., Kerala, South India
Objective	The Islamic Research Library (IRL) will aim to promote the proper presentation, understanding and appreciation of Islam, as well as removing misconceptions about Islam- amongst less aware Muslims and Non-Muslims. The proposed library will strive to revive the Islamic Renaissance through intellectual advancement of the Muslim community.
Duration	One year
Executing Agency	Social Advancement Foundation of India (SAFI) Rasia Nagar, Vazhayoor East P.O Ramanattukara Via Malappuram-673 633 Kerala, S. India
Project Cost	Rs. 86,62500.00 (Rupees eighty six lakh sixty two thousand five hundred only)

Dr. P. Mohamed Ali (Galfar)
Chairman

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Secretary

Rasiya Nagar
06.02.08

A Brief Outline of The Proposed Project for Developing an Islamic Research Library

1. Introduction

The Social Advancement Foundation of India is a non profit Charitable Trust established for removing the backward status of Muslim particularly in higher education and research. The SAFI Institute of Advanced Study (SIAS) was organized to remove this vacuum by establishing a world class educational centre in Science and Technology, Mass Communication and Journalism and, above all, a School of Islamic Studies. We are endeavoring to provide state of the art facilities in Biotechnology, Bioinformatics and Mass Communication.

In the case of Islamic Studies we want to provide the highest facilities for both teaching and Research. We have already started M.A. Islamic Studies. It is a unique course providing for the proper understanding of the religion of Islam, Islamic History and Culture, an understanding of other world religion (Comparative Religion), the present condition of Muslim Society and the Muslim countries of the world. The course includes the study of Arabic as an integral part.

SAFI Institute of Advanced Study has a general library and has quite a few books on Development of Islam, Qur'an, Tafsir, Hadith, Fiqh, Tasawwuf, Kalam, History of Muslim Civilization, Muslim Historiography, Geography and Arabic. The current stock of books is barely sufficient to meet even the essential requirements.

Establishment of a first rate Islamic Research Library for conducting research by students and scholars had been one of the most cherished dreams of SAFI right from its inception.

2. Objective

The Islamic Research Library (IRL) will aim to promote the proper presentation, understanding and appreciation of Islam, as well as removing misconceptions about Islam- amongst less aware Muslims and Non-Muslims. The proposed library will strive to revive the Islamic Renaissance through intellectual advancement of the Muslim community.

The Library will strive to evolve a holistic knowledge of the universe and purpose of human life through a logistic hybridization of science with the Quranic messages.

The importance of the library in this context cannot be overemphasized. We already have a general library for all subjects including Islamic Studies. These have to be strengthened and amplified. The initial steps have already been taken and have to be finalized soon.

3. Proposal

Collective wisdom of Islamic scholars, encyclopedias and journals are required for the synthesis of such a knowledge base. The library ought to be located in a more spacious building and should have adequate number of books and publications. This will serve as the knowledge backbone for Research and Development.

- The library will have to be digitalized and uninterrupted online access should be provided to students, teachers and researchers.
- Library should provide additional facilities for research scholars, like rare books, manuscripts, encyclopedias and research journals and special cubicles for research scholars.
- An audiovisual theatre will be a useful additional facility. This shall be equipped with the state of the art audio-video equipment and sound system.
- The library shall have large collections of CDs, diskettes and also subscribe to International journals.
- The IRL shall have academic collaboration with various universities.
- The IRL shall develop and maintain an updated website through which conferencing or interactions with other Islamic universities shall be made possible.
- The IRL shall also have numerous packages of Islamic soft wares on Research, Arabic, Christianity, Hinduism, Other Religions, Arabic / English translations, etc.
- A collection of unique Islamic Audio CDs, audio and video systems to support shall be available.

- A reading area shall be arranged for the spill-over mass in conjunction with separate areas for research and rooms for faculty.
- A Multipurpose Room for discussions, seminars or conferences shall be prepared complete with audio visual aids – whiteboards, OHP, LCD Projectors, Interactive Boards, etc.

3.1 Activities

- Organizing lectures, seminars, national and international conventions to promote the revival of Islamic Renaissance.
- In the field of Islamic Studies, special endeavor is necessary for promotion of research.

4. Project Estimate

In order to meet the above additional needs the Architect has designed a further addition to the Library. A copy of the proposal is attached herewith. The basement floor and the ground floor are set apart for Islamic Research Library. The estimated cost is Rs.86,62,500/-. This may need further amplification and expansion in due course.

There will be an expenditure of Rs.10 lakhs to begin with for collection of rare books and encyclopedias and manuscripts. This will no doubt need the help of scholars and patrons and good administrative set up.

As stated above the estimated cost for the initial stage is expected to be:

a.	Building of Islamic Research Library	Rs. 71,62,500/-
b.	Books & equipments	Rs. 15,00,000/-
	Total	Rs. 86,62,500/-

5. Location

The Islamic Research Library building will be constructed in a convenient place adjacent to SAFI main campus building.

6. Project implementation and monitoring

The project will be implemented within one year. The Museum will be dedicated in the name of the donor or his nominee.