The Liberal Arts Program presents

Liberal Arts Guest Speaker Series 13-14

“’Psychosomatics’: Is It a Complementary Medicine, or an Alternative One?”

Professor Ali Al-Hail Al-Mahmoud

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12-1 pm
LH 238

ABSTRACT INFO: “Psychosomatics” is a fairly new and somewhat controversial field of inquiry. Unlike traditional psychology, which focuses on the mind (including emotions, etc.), psychosomatics considers the interaction between mind and body. It is a cross-disciplinary field that combines psychology, chemistry, biology, and other disciplines to study the human condition. Psychosomatics maintains that certain conditions or illnesses, such as cancer, are caused not only by physiological factors (such as bad eating habits, smoking, etc.) but by non-physiological factors as well, including negative feelings such as bitterness, hatred, racism, temper, jealousy, and recalling bad experiences. Prof. Al-Hail argues that ‘Psychosomatics’ should be considered an instrument to help ‘physiological’ doctors do their job in a more comprehensive manner.

BIO: Professor Ali Al-Hail Al-Mahmoud served as BBC correspondent in Qatar from 1978 to 1982. He received several Fulbright scholarships and visited the University of Minnesota, Simpson College, and Drake University. He has taught and lectured at numerous other institutions, including Qatar University (1995-1998), Ujman University for Science and Technology (2003-2004), Zaid University (2006-2007), American University at Cairo (2009), American University in Lebanon (2000-2009), and others. Upon a special invitation from H.H. Prince Charles, Prince Of Wales, Prof. Al-Hail has lectured at Oxford University on: "Islam And The West" in September 1997. He has also lectured at Mainz University, Germany, October, 2003 and at the Institute Of Arab World, French television channel TV5, at Paris, France, October 1996.

His publications include, apart from works on “psychosomatics” and other scholarly treatises, poetry. He regularly serves as a contributor for the BBC and Al Jazeera TV, and currently writes columns for the London-based Al-Quds Al-Arabi newspaper. He also serves as an information & media consultant for Qatar T.V.

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