

# Sacred Texts and Human Contexts:

## Nature and Environment in: Judaism, Christianity, and Islam

The industrial revolution of the 19th and 20th centuries, abuse of power and human greed, and a continuing population explosion in many countries around the world have all contributed to an environmental crisis that threatens the very sustainability of life on planet Earth as we know it. Our reliance on fossil fuels, our creation of immense quantities of waste products, our destruction of natural resources to fuel our consumer economics have led to global warming, a reduction in bio-diversity and a serious threat to long term environmental sustainability. This current environmental catastrophe challenges religious communities to respond out of wisdom of their traditions to the crisis that affects all of humankind.

### Some Foundational Questions

- How do religions integrate the discoveries of science with the teachings of the tradition with respect to issues of the environment?
- What roles have been played and can be played by faith communities in enhancing protection of nature and environment?
- How do women in faith communities respond to the contemporary environmental catastrophe?
- Do our sacred texts declare any actions to be immoral regarding dealing with nature and environment?



For information regarding registration, arrangements and accommodations, please visit the following website:  
<https://www2.naz.edu/interfaith/programs/academic-conferences/sacred-texts-human-contexts/>

## May 24 - 26, 2016: Conference at Ar-Raniry University, Banda Aceh, Indonesia

### \*Followed by three days of site visits in Banda Aceh, Indonesia

The conference is administered by Nazareth College, Brian and Jean Hickey Center for Interfaith Studies and Dialogue in collaboration with the Department of Religious Studies at Hobart and William Smith Colleges, Geneva, NY and hosted by Ar-Raniry State Islamic University, Banda Aceh, Indonesia and Nazareth College Center for International Education.

Institutional partners include: Department of Religion at the Chautauqua Institutions, Catholic-Muslim Studies Program at Catholic Theological Union (Chicago), College of Arts and Sciences and Department of Religious Studies at Nazareth College, Dialogue Institution at Temple University

More names to be added in the future