

# Terms and Conditions

## New Voices: AKU-ISMC Undergraduate Essay Competition 2024

### 1. Definitions

1.1 “Contract” means the Application Form together with the Letter of Prize and these Terms and Conditions.

1.2. “Competition” refers to the “New Voices: AKU-ISMC Undergraduate Essay Competition”.

1.3 “Application Form” means the application for enrolment in the Competition, assessable via – <https://forms.gle/58jHmy47K7PhrDqp8>.

1.4 “Terms and Conditions” means these terms and conditions contained on the AKU-ISMC webpage.

1.5 “Participant” means the person applying for the Competition.

1.6 “We” or “Us” or “Our” means The Aga Khan University (International) in the United Kingdom (UK) incorporated in England as a company limited by guarantee number 4448389 and Registered Charity Number 1179136 having its registered office at Aga Khan Centre, 10 Handyside Street, London N1C 4DN.

1.7 “You” or “Your” means the Participant in the Competition.

1.8 “GBP” refers to the currency of the United Kingdom, Great British Pound Sterling.

### 2. Introduction

2.1 The New Voices: AKU-ISMC Undergraduate Essay Competition (hereinafter referred to as the “Competition”) is organised by the Aga Khan University (International) in the United Kingdom, also known as the Aga Khan University Institute for the Study of Muslim Civilizations (AKU-ISMC).

### 3. Eligibility

3.1 The Competition is open to current or recent undergraduate students registered at a UK higher education institution. Recent undergraduates include students who have graduated in the last 2 years (2022 and 2023).

3.2 Participants can submit essays from 2000-3000 words. This word-limit includes references and the bibliography.

3.3 Essays must be written in English.

3.4 Work can be an independent piece written specifically for the competition based on the questions provided. Relevant pieces of coursework can be considered for this competition if the student receives approval for the title by writing to [ismc.events@aku.edu](mailto:ismc.events@aku.edu).

3.5 The deadline for submissions is 1st July 2024, 23:59.

3.6 By applying for the competition, each applicant confirms that they are submitting an original piece of scholarly work authored by themselves. Additionally, they verify that any references or citations included in their essay adhere to proper academic standards. Lastly, they affirm that no content has been generated or directly copied from AI platforms such as OpenAI without appropriate attribution. By submitting an essay, they acknowledge a commitment to academic integrity and the principles of originality in scholarly work.

## 4. Scope

4.1 The Competition includes essays that demonstrate a deep understanding of Muslim cultures and civilizations, both in the historical and contemporary worlds.

4.2 Academic disciplines could come from an array of humanities and social sciences, such as History, Archaeology, Anthropology, Comparative law, Digital Humanities, Sociology, Literature, Language and Linguistics, Religious studies, Economics, Political Science, Development Studies, Islamic Studies, and Middle Eastern Studies.

## 5. Prizes and Recognition

5.1 The First place prize is awarded to one person and includes a cash prize voucher of £250.00, the opportunity for peer review and publication of their essay if of sufficient quality as part of AKU-ISMIC's Abdou Filali-Ansary Occasional Paper series, pre-approved public transport within the UK to the conference up to £100.00 booked by AKU-ISMIC, and 3-nights' accommodation booked by AKU-ISMIC at a chosen provider to attend the 2024 Arabic Pasts Conference in London.

5.2 Four runners-up will receive a £100.00 voucher, in recognition of their efforts.

5.3 The quality and assessment of the applications will be determined by a panel of Faculty at AKU-ISMIC.

5.4 Due to high-demand, only Essays awarded a prize or runner-up will be guaranteed to receive feedback on their essay.

5.5 Shortlisted prize-winners will be expected to provide evidence of their UK undergraduate status or graduation, prior to the awarding of the prize. Failure to provide sufficient evidence will result in a revocation of the prize.

5.6 The awarding of an internship is subject to internal agreement at AKU-ISMIC. It is not guaranteed that anyone of those shortlisted for the competition will be awarded an internship,

## 6. General

6.1 By participating in the Competition, participants agree to be bound by these Terms and Conditions.

6.2 By participating in the Competition, participants consent to The Aga Khan University (International) in the United Kingdom storing the data shared in the Application Form and using it to contact them about future events, webinars, and other marketable activities. Furthermore, the names and essay title of the winners will also be published by The Aga Khan University (International) in the United Kingdom.

6.3 AKU-ISMC reserves the right to disqualify any participant who breaches these Terms and Conditions.

6.4 AKU-ISMC reserves the right to cancel or amend the Competition or these Terms and Conditions at any time without prior notice.

6.5 AKU-ISMC reserves the right to advertise the essays of the prize-winners of the Competition for promotional purposes.

6.6 These Terms and Conditions shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of England and Wales. Any disputes arising under or in connection with these Terms and Conditions shall be subject to the exclusive jurisdiction of the courts of England and Wales.

6.7 If, in our reasonable opinion, an applicant's presence or essay is an impediment to the provision of any of AKU-ISMC's services or brings AKU-ISMC into disrepute, as determined by AKU-ISMC, the applicant will be disqualified from the competition.

6.8 Participants understand that the decision made by AKU-ISMC, relative to the Competition or the Contract, shall be final and conclusive.

## 7. Data protection

7.1 All personal information provided by You will be used and held in accordance with Our Privacy Policy at <https://www.aku.edu/ismc/about/SiteAssets/Pages/datausage/AKUUK%20Data%20Protection%20Policy.pdf>

7.2 We use your personal information that we hold in our records for registration purposes and to undertake research or to plan or improve our services. It is necessary to keep your personal information up to date and notify us of any changes or errors. You must give prompt notice of a change of name, the country where you are resident or any of your contact details.

7.3 By submitting an Application Form, You confirm that that You understand and agree to Your data being uploaded to a Microsoft Teams folder. These data will not be used for any purpose other than making admissions and scholarship decisions. Anonymized data will be used to analyse the distribution and composition of Our participants.

7.4 We are not responsible for the data protection of services provided by Google, which is the host company of the Application Form.

## 8. Limited Liability

8.1 Our sole liability shall be for direct loss or damage incurred or suffered by You or death or injury to You as a result of wilful default or negligence on Our part in the performance of Our obligations under this Contract and which liability is not otherwise excluded or restricted by this Contract, save that there shall be no limit of liability in respect of death or injury to You.

8.2 We do not guarantee any specific results or outcomes of the Competition.

8.3 We accept no liability if You are unable to participate in the Competition due to adverse weather conditions, ill-health, poor IT connectivity, weak broadband, and any travel disruption.

8.4 We will not be held responsible for any infringements because of plagiarism, libel, slander, or any misuse of any material.

## **9. Support for Students with Disabilities or Learning Difficulties**

9.1 If you think that You are likely to require any support because of a disability and/or learning difficulty while you are on the Competition, You are advised to contact [ismc.events@aku.edu](mailto:ismc.events@aku.edu) for further advice or guidance. All requests for support will be considered in line with the criteria for reasonable adjustments as outlined in the Equality Act 2010. We encourage You to contact Us as soon as possible to make appropriate arrangements for You.

## **10. Miscellaneous**

10.1 We and You agree that no person who is not a party to this Contract is to have the benefit of or be capable of enforcing any term of this Contract because of the Contracts (Rights of Third Parties) Act 1999.

10.2 If any court or competent authority finds that any provision of this Contract (or part of any provision) is invalid, illegal, or unenforceable, that provision or part-provision shall, to the extent required, be deemed to be deleted, and the validity and enforceability of the other provisions of this Contract shall not be affected.

10.3 Any dispute or claim arising out of or in connection with this Contract or its subject matter or formation (including non-contractual disputes or claims) shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the law of England and Wales, and you irrevocably submit to the non-exclusive jurisdiction of the English courts.

10.4 We will not be liable to You for any delay in or failure to perform our obligations as a result of any cause beyond our reasonable control, including but not limited to an Act of God, decree of Government, fire, flood, explosion, sabotage, riot, rebellion, war, civil war, armed conflict, terrorism, nuclear, chemical or biological contamination, disease, quarantine, official strike or similar official industrial action or dispute, and/or unavailability of teaching personnel which directly unable Us to comply with all or a material part of our obligations under these Terms and Conditions. If such delay or failure cannot be resolved, You or We shall be entitled to terminate the Contract by notice in writing.

10.5 The Contract constitutes the entire agreement between Us and You. You acknowledge that You have not relied on any statement, promise, representation, assurance, or warranty made or given by Us or on Our behalf which is not set out in this Contract.

## **11. Application Process**

11.1 Applications are awarded on a case-by-case basis, based on the details provided in the Application Form.

11.2 Individual applications will not be provided with feedback, and only successful applicants will be contacted.