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### March 2012: Faisal Kutty speaks at a CAIR-Cleveland banquet

Original address:

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Date: April 6, 2012

#### Original title: 350+ Turn Out for CAIR-Cleveland Civil Rights Banquet

(CLEVELAND, OH, 4/6/12) – More than 350 guests attended the 10th Anniversary Civil Rights Banquet of the Cleveland chapter of the Council on American-Islamic Relations (CAIR-Cleveland) held on March 31.

Nationally-known attorney and human rights leader Faisal Kutty of Valparaiso University Law School delivered an address on the status of civil rights in America. CAIR-Tampa Outreach Director Imam Abu Farah also urged Muslim Americans to stand up for the cause of justice and to always work hard to serve the common good and benefit one's fellow man.

The Cleveland Chapter presented the I-CAIR Leadership award to Imam Abbas Ahmad for his exemplary efforts to build unity across the Muslim and interfaith communities. The I-CAIR Civil Rights award went to Gadeir Abbas staff attorney for CAIR National for his work on challenging anti-Sharia legislation and to Faisal Kutty for his outstanding work as an international human rights leader. The I-CAIR Community Service award went to Malak Jadallah of Congressman Kucinich's office for her many years of public and community service.

"This event sends a clear message that Muslim Americans support our nation's ideals of freedom, justice, and equality and we are committed to helping ensure our democracy works for everyone," said Dr. Ahmad Banna, President of the Cleveland Chapter of CAIR-Ohio.

CAIR is America's largest Muslim civil liberties and advocacy organization. Its mission is to enhance the understanding of Islam, encourage dialogue, protect civil liberties, empower American Muslims, and build coalitions that promote justice and mutual understanding. To learn more about CAIR go to [www.cair.com](http://www.cair.com) or [www.ohio.cair.com](http://www.ohio.cair.com)

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### **350+ Turn Out for CAIR-Cleveland Civil Rights Banquet**

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## Faculty News

**Assistant Professor Faisal Kutty**, was the keynote speaker and a civil rights award recipient at the 10th Annual Civil Rights banquet for the Northern Ohio Chapter of the Council on American-Islamic Relations (CAIR) on Saturday, March 31st in Cleveland.



**Assistant Professor Faisal Kutty** appeared at the Islam and Democracy Conference, hosted by the University of Western Ontario Law School. He presented a paper titled "Islam, Democracy and Constitutionalism: A Rawlsian Approach Toward a New Theory of Islamic Constitutionalism."

### Paper

**Assistant Professor Faisal Kutty's** paper, "The Myth and Reality Of 'Shari'a' Courts In Canada: A Delayed Opportunity for the Indigenization of Islamic Legal Rulings", was recently listed on SSRN's Top Ten download list for: ISL: Islamic Religion (Topic) – Forthcoming. As of early July, the paper had been downloaded over 200 times.

<http://www.valpo.edu/law/faculty-news>