

## Bruno Guiderdoni

**Bruno Guiderdoni**, PhD, is a Director of Research at the National Center for Scientific Research (*Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique*). He now serves as the Director of the Observatory of Lyon, as a recognized expert in cosmology and galaxy formation, on which he has published more than 130 scientific papers and contributions.

Bruno Guiderdoni embraced Islam in 1987, with the Islamic name of Abd-al-Haqq. Since then, he has been extensively lecturing in the world to introduce the spiritual and intellectual aspects of Islam to audiences of young Muslims, predominantly in mosques, as well as to non-experts (e.g. high-school teachers, judges, physicians, pupils and students, and the general public). He has written about 60 papers on current issues in Islam. His main expertise encompasses issues such as Islamic spirituality, epistemology in the prospect of the relationship between science and religion, and reflection on the presence of Islam in the West. He strives continuously to promote the inter-religious dialogue, in particular between the monotheistic faiths, and he now acts as a consultant for public authorities.

In 1994, he and other scholars created the *Institut des Hautes Etudes Islamiques* («Islamic Institute for Advanced Studies») that organizes meetings and summer schools on the above-mentioned topics. IHEI has a quarterly journal («Les Cahiers de l'IHEI») that publishes the proceedings of these meetings. Bruno Guiderdoni is the Director of IHEI, and Editor-in-Chief of the “Cahiers”.

From 1993 to 1999, Bruno Guiderdoni was in charge of the TV show «*Connaître l'Islam*» («Knowing Islam») of the State Channel France 2. This weekly 30-minute show is broadcast on Sunday morning from 8:45 to 9:15 am, and takes place in a series of programs including the major religious denominations that are present in France. Bruno Guiderdoni has made about 300 issues of this show, in which he has presented reports on the Muslims' life in the French society, and interviewed most of the religious leaders and academic experts of the Islamic community in France, as well as imams and researchers from other European countries, and Algeria, Morocco, Tunisia, Egypt, Lebanon, the Emirates, Saudi Arabia, etc. In spite of its early schedule, this program is followed by an audience of 500,000 in France, and 2 million in the Maghreb (mostly Algeria and Tunisia).

Bruno Guiderdoni has served as a member of the Board of Advisors of the John Templeton Foundation (Radnor, USA), and as a Judge of the *Templeton Prize for Progress toward Research or Discoveries about Spiritual Realities* (2003—2005). He was an Advisor of the *Science and the Spiritual Quest II* program of the Center for Theology and the Natural Sciences (Berkeley, USA). He is a founding member of the *International Society for Science and Religion* (Cambridge, UK) for which he is currently serving in the Executive Committee. He also serves as an Editorial Advisor of several journals. He is now the Principal Investigator of an international Research Program on *Science and Religion in Islam* at the Interdisciplinary University of Paris (2004—2007).

IHEI is actively working with the Mosque of Lyon to promote the project of an *Institut Français de Civilisation Musulmane* in Lyon, and with CO.RE.IS. to create an *Academy of Islamic Studies* in Milan.

## Personal Data

Married, 2 children

Spoken languages: fluency in French, English and Italian, some knowledge of Arabic

### Office address

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### Professional Cursus

2005— : *Director of the Observatory of Lyon*  
2002— : *Directeur de Recherche* (CNRS)  
1994— : *Director of the Islamic Institute for Advanced Studies*  
1993—1999: *Presenter of the TV show «Connaître l'Islam»*  
1992—2002: *Chargé de Recherche 1* (CNRS)  
1988—1992: *Chargé de Recherche 2* (CNRS)  
1986—1988: *French Academy of Sciences Post-doctoral position*  
1983—1986: *Fellow of the French Ministry of Research*  
1981—1983: *Physics teacher at the French High School Lyautey of Casablanca (Morocco)*

### Studies

2000: *Habilitation to Supervise Researches* (University of Paris 7)  
1986: *Doctoral Dissertation* (University of Paris 7, *summa cum laude*)  
1981: *Graduate level in Astrophysics* (University of Paris 7, *summa cum laude*)  
1979: *Undergraduate level in Physics* (University of Paris 11, *summa cum laude*)  
1976: *Baccalauréat in Sciences, Paris* (Paris, *summa cum laude*)

### Current Responsibilities

- *Principal Investigator of the GalICS Project (Galaxies in Cosmological Simulations)*
- *Co-Investigator of the National Project Horizon of Numerical Simulations*
- *Co-Investigator of the MUSE instrument (Multi-Unit Spectroscopic Explorer) for the European Space Agency Very Large Telescope*
- *Associate scientist of European Space Agency Planck HFI Instrument*
- *Associate Scientist of European Space Agency Herschel SPIRE Instrument*
- *Member of the Board of the Paris Observatory*

## **Awards**

French Citation Laureate 1981—1998 (Institute for Scientific Information, Philadelphia USA)

## **Selected International Lectures in Science and Religion (since 2000)**

2006: Invited lecturer at the *Islam and the West* meeting, Al-Jazeera Centre for Studies (Doha, Qatar)

2006: Invited lecturer at the *Dâr al-Hadîth* and Mosque Hassan II (Rabat and Casablanca, Morocco)

2005: Invited lecturer at the Institut du Monde Arabe meeting "*Perspectives euro-arabes sur les sciences contemporaines*" (Paris, France)

2004: Invited lecturer at the *Second Meeting of the International Society for Science and Religion* (Boston, USA)

2003: Invited lecturer at the *Science and Religion in the Post-colonial World* meeting (Yogyakarta, Indonesia)

1999—2003: Participant in the *Science and the Spiritual Quest II* Program of CTNS (invited lecturer in

- Boston, USA
- Paris, France,
- Ifrane, Morocco,
- Granada, Spain,
- Bucharest, Rumania,
- Tokyo, Japan,
- Bangalore, India)

2002: Invited lecturer at the *Founding Meeting of the International Society for Science and Religion* (Granada)

2000: Invited lecturer at the international meeting on Islam and Science (Islamabad)