

**Greetings from the chairman of the Fatih Mosque - Marl, Muhammet Catmak**  
**Occasion: Beginning of the 21st Feast of Abraham on September 12th, 2021 in the Fatih Mosque - Marl,**  
Simultaneously opening of the nationwide "Religious Nature Conservation Days" of the Abrahamic Forum in Germany (Darmstadt)  
**Today: day seminar with the topic**  
**„Water, Climate, Trees - Our Responsibility Here and Today“**

Ladies and gentlemen,

- Prof. Dr. Frithjof Küpper (Prof. Marine Biodiversity Universität Aberdeen, Schottland UK)
- Amal Hasan, MSc (Kuweit),
- Dr. Deborah Williger (Deutschland, WWU Münster, Theologische Zoologie),
- Dr. Samet Kalkan (Türkei/Giresun, RTE University),
- Christine Figgner (Costa Rica),
- William Morris LL.D., Secretary General, The Next Century Foundation (UK)

you are very welcome to the Marl's Fatih Mosque. I am pleased to welcome you as chairman of the Fatih Mosque Association on behalf of our community. I am especially pleased to welcome Prof. Dr. Frithjof Küpper as the patron of this year's 21st Abraham Festival, and thank him for taking over this role. The motto this year is: **Utopian in times of crisis - traveling together!** And in terms of its patronage, it really couldn't have been better.

Ladies and gentlemen, please join me in welcoming our special guests who, as experts in their fields from Germany and from different parts of the world, have met here in our mosque - whether physically present, or ... and we will hopefully experience with the help of technology – by being connected from the distance. Today ... on a topic that is becoming more and more important - and it could not have been better titled: **"Water, climate, trees - our responsibility here and today"**.

Dear Frithjof, dear guests,

Let me say a few words about where and who we are.

We are located on the site of the DITIB - Turkish Islamic Community of Marl-Hamm e.V. - also known as Fatih Mosque Marl. Our association was founded in 1978 by Turkish guest workers of the first generation, making it one of the oldest mosque associations in Germany. We belong to the head organization DITIB - that is the Diyanet Turkish Islamic Union of the Institute for Religion, based in Cologne. The mosque next door opened in 1992 after it was built new on greenfield. In addition to its function as a

place of prayer, the mosque and its adjoining rooms also serve as a meeting point for social and community activities for young and old, for Muslims ... as well as non-Muslims. Right from the start, we have been involved in CIAG - today's CIJAG, the Christian-Islamic-Jewish Working Group and the Abrahamic Festival. As a non-profit organization, we exclusively pursue non-profit and religious goals and are selflessly active in this context.

For example, we recently took part in the nationwide fundraising campaign of our head organization DITIB, where we organized a special campaign with the active support of our women's group - we made over 1,000 Lahmacun - Turkish pizza and, in exchange for donations for the flood disaster in the southern part of Germany - this hand over the helpful donors. We were able to donate a considerable amount directly to those in need on site through our head organization DITIB. What was remarkable in this context was the extraordinarily high level of solidarity with which both Germans and non-Germans helped.

Ladies and gentlemen,

- This hardworking group of women is taking care of your well-being today with delicious food. Enjoy your meal. The appropriate time is planned for this. Tea is available permanently – in self service,
- In connection with the Covid-19 regulations, the preparatory committee has also dealt with them in order to offer you a safe event at this point. In general, the 3G rule applies to events of this kind, i.e. one of the prerequisites “**recovered**, **vaccinated** or **tested**” must be met.

As part of my studies as a master of mechanical and process engineering, I wrote a computer program at the University of Essen, which was supposed to calculate the initial flow behavior of fluids with an extremely large spatial distribution - i.e. extremely low density ... in weightlessness - i.e. excluding the force of gravity. This task was commissioned by a department of ESA (the European Space Agency). I had neither a computer nor had I ever operated one and I certainly didn't know what the term “programming language” meant. But my thirst for knowledge from childhood in connection with the universe was so great that I took on this task anyway. So I bought a

computer, learned programming on my own and was able to complete this task in 3 months with a top grade. Maybe curiosity was the key, maybe my childhood thirst for science, maybe the urge to solve a problem. All these aspects have never diminished ... so personally I am really looking forward to the upcoming lectures and presentations, as well as the refreshing discussions and conversations - especially with such special guests and experts. The special flavor brings the religious perspective, as well as the representations of what you do and can do yourself .. **very Exciting!**

In the back area on Thursday I brought two books from our DITIB publishing house in Cologne, which you can look at or take with you. These deal with the topic of environmental protection / environmental ethics and our responsibility from a religious point of view. Another event within the scope of the **Nature Protection Weeks** will take place at DITIB in Cologne on September 24th, 2021. The Abrahamic Forum, the Mosque Forum and the DITIB are among the co-organizers.

Dear guests,

Finally, I would like to thank everyone who contributed to today's success, the preparation team, our women's group, the young helpers who prepared the space and the technology. I would especially like to thank everyone who is here in the room and who brought this event to life.

I wish everyone an entertaining and pleasant day.! ...

Thanks very much.

Muhammet Catmak

(Chairman of the Fatih Mosque Marl)



**Beginn des 21. Abrahamsfestes:**  
Utopisches in Krisenzeiten – gemeinsam unterwegs!  
Zugleich Eröffnung der bundesweiten  
„Religiösen Naturschutztage“ des Abrahamischen  
Forums in Deutschland (Darmstadt)

## „Wasser, Klima, Bäume – unsere Verantwortung hier und heute“

Tagesseminar mit dem Schirmherrn Frithjof Küpper  
(Prof. Marine Biodiversity Universität Aberdeen  
Schottland UK) und internationalen Expert\*innen  
Amal Hasan MSc (Kuweit), Dr. Deborah Williger  
(Deutschland), Dr. Samet Kalkan (Türkei), Christine  
Figgenger (Costa Rica), William Morris LL.D., Secretary  
General, The Next Century Foundation (UK)

**12. September 2021**  
Marl Hamm Fatih Moschee,  
Bachackerweg 195-197,  
45772 Marl



### Programm:

- 8:45 Uhr  
- Eintreffen mit Stehkafee
- 9:00 Uhr  
- Eröffnung mit Grußworten
- 9:30 Uhr  
- Vorstellung der Wissenschaftler\*innen  
- Kurzvorträge der Naturwissenschaftler\*innen (sind anwesend oder digital präsent)
- 12:00 Uhr  
Pause
- 12:15 Uhr  
Rückfragen- Diskussionsrunde
- 13:15 Uhr  
Mittagspause, Mittagessen, Teilnahme am Mittagsgebet in der Gemeinde möglich
- 14:30 Uhr  
- Fortsetzung der Diskussion, u.a. „Input“ vom Friedensethiker William Morris (England UK)  
- Verantwortung der Religionen für Friedens-Klima hier und heute...
- 17:00 Uhr  
Ende der Veranstaltung

**Herzliche Einladung!**  
Der Eintritt ist kostenlos.  
Anmeldung erforderlich:  
i-Punkt: 02365 994310/  
i-Punkt@marl.de

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abrahamsfest-marl.de  
Änderungen vorbehalten,  
aktueller Stand:  
siehe Homepage.



ZENTRUM GESELLSCHAFTLICHE  
VERANTWORTUNG  
DER EVANGELISCHEN KIRCHE  
IN HESSEN UND NASSAU

