



## INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON TERRORIST REHABILITATION



The rehabilitation of terrorists has become a global imperative. Amidst the kinetic responses often used by states, an equally potent strategic response needs to be initiated and implemented. Terrorist rehabilitation aims to reverse the processes of terrorist indoctrination. A pioneering domain that offers much hope, the rehabilitation of terrorists has become a controversial yet essential element in the fight against terrorism. The use of religious scholars and counsellors to influence detainees to abandon violence and build peace is having considerable results. From Egypt, Morocco, Yemen, Saudi Arabia, Iraq, Uzbekistan, Indonesia and even Singapore, the process of detainee rehabilitation although varying in pedagogy in these different countries, is steadily gaining popularity worldwide.

Singapore will be the destination for the first International Conference on Terrorist Rehabilitation (ICTR) from February 24-26, 2009. The conference will be organised by the International Centre for Political Violence and Terrorism Research (ICPVTR) a specialist centre of the S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies at the Nanyang Technological University in Singapore. This conference will be conducted in collaboration with the Religious Rehabilitation Group (RRG). The RRG is a group of religious clerics who counsel the Jemaah Islamiyah detainees in Singapore.

The 3-day international conference will include over 20 invited speakers from countries with known rehabilitation programmes. Security specialists, psychologists and counsellors active in both research and in the operational process of rehabilitating extremists and terrorists will be participating. Since its formation, the ICPVTR has constantly sought to explore the new frontiers in counter-terrorism research, analyses and practice. In addition to working with its partners overseas, ICPVTR has worked with the Religious Rehabilitation Group (RRG) and the Government of Singapore to develop concepts and strategies to mitigate the crippling effects of radical extremist ideology on society.

To learn from global best practice and to share their future plans, ICTR 2009 seeks to bring together the world's leading practitioners and scholars on detainee rehabilitation.

The International Conference on Terrorist Rehabilitation 2009 will aim to do as follows,

1. **Draw from global best practices** on terrorist rehabilitation and create a working model
2. **Provide a better understanding** of the processes of de-radicalisation.
3. **Create guidelines** that will assist governments to put in place terrorist rehabilitation centres in their home countries
4. **Provide a crucial network for governments and institutions** that are presently involved in or would be involved in the process of de-radicalisation in the future

The conference is an ideal platform to share rehabilitation methodologies developed by practitioners and researched by scholars. After reviewing programs from around the world, the conference will extrapolate best practices of the processes of de-radicalisation, a methodology often erroneously mistaken to be a pseudo-scientific process of brain washing.

ICTR 2009 will aim to demystify the process while at the same time extol the virtues of ground breaking efforts on the rehabilitation. The conference will examine each process against their unique operational environments. This conference will be the first step towards exploring the development of tools necessary to examine recidivism rates and address other challenges faced by practitioners.

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For further information on ICTR 2009 Contact:

**JOLENE JERARD**

Conference Co-ordinator

International Conference on Terrorist Rehabilitation 2009

E-mail: [isjolene@ntu.edu.sg](mailto:isjolene@ntu.edu.sg)

Call: (+65) 6790 6425

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