

Theme E: Tasawwuf and Conflict Resolution

Sub themes:

- E1. Sufism and Interfaith Conflict Resolution.
- E2. Conflict Resolution in Society through *Tasawwuf*.
- E3. Theory of conflict Resolution of Sufis in South Asia.
- E4. Extremism against Sufis: causes and remedies.
- E5. Thoughts of Sufis on resolving conflicts in Society .

In addition to the specific sub-themes, participant can submit paper on any topic related to the Theme of the Conference.

Key Information

Call for Abstracts

Abstract Submission Begin: **01 April 2026**

Abstract Submission Ends: **31 May 2026**

(Abstract should be between 250-300 words)

Abstract Selection Notification:

16 June 2026 - 30 June 2026

Full Paper Submission Deadline:

01 August 2026 - 30 September 2026

Final Selection Notification:

16 October 2026 - 31 October 2026

Conference Dates:

09-11 December 2026

Office Address: Dew Udayan, Level-12, Bus
Terminal Connecting Road, Chandgaon,
Chattogram-4212, Bangladesh.



INTERNATIONAL SUFI CONFERENCE 2026

Tasawwuf, Social Harmony & World Peace

📅 09-11 December 2026

📍 Chattogram, Bangladesh

Organized by
**Shahanshah Hazrat Syed Ziaul Huq
Maizbhandari (KA) Trust (SZHMT)**

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Submit an Abstract



Conference Overview

The **8th International Sufi Conference 2026**, organized by the Shahanshah Hazrat Syed Ziaul Huq Maizbhandari (KA) Trust, serves as an important international forum dedicated to exploring the contemporary relevance of *Tasawwuf (Sufism)* in addressing modern moral, social, and spiritual challenges. Held under the theme **“Tasawwuf, Social Harmony and World Peace,”** the conference gathers academics, researchers, Sufi scholars, spiritual leaders, and participants from diverse cultural and intellectual backgrounds to discuss how Sufi teachings can promote inclusive, peaceful, and ethically grounded societies.

The conference also commemorates the **bicentenary (200th birth anniversary)** of the esteemed founder of the Maizbhandari Sufi Order, Gausul Azam Shah Sufi Hazrat Syed Ahmad Ullah Maizbhandari (KA), whose spiritual legacy has significantly shaped the Sufi tradition in South Asia. Inspired by the teachings of **Shahanshah Hazrat Syed Ziaul Huq Maizbhandari (KA)** and the enduring Maizbhandari heritage, the event highlights fundamental Sufi values such as *Ishq-e-Ilahi (Divine Love)*, *compassion*, *tolerance*, *pluralism*, *justice*, *Khidmat-e-Khalq (service to humanity)*, and *spiritual accountability*.

Through scholarly dialogue and collaborative engagement, the conference underscores the role of Sufism in addressing pressing global issues such as social division, inequality, conflict, and extremism while promoting interfaith harmony, mutual respect, and sustainable community development. It also aligns with key **United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, particularly SDG 16 (Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions), SDG 10 (Reduced Inequalities), and SDG 17 (Partnerships for the Goals)**, while supporting goals related to **quality education and sustainable communities**. Overall, the conference functions as a platform for translating Sufi principles into practical initiatives that foster justice, compassion, and global peace.

Objectives of the 8th International Sufi Conference 2026

1. **Examine the ethical and spiritual foundations of Tasawwuf** and their role in promoting peace, tolerance, and social harmony.
2. **Explore the relevance of core Sufi values**- including divine love, compassion, justice, pluralism, service to humanity, and moral responsibility-in addressing contemporary issues such as conflict, inequality, extremism, discrimination, and environmental challenges.
3. **Encourage global scholarly dialogue and collaboration** among Sufi scholars, interfaith leaders, academics, and civil society representatives
4. **Highlight the contributions of the Maizbhandari Sufi tradition** in fostering spiritual development and social well-being.
5. **Show the connection between Sufi teachings and the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)**, particularly those related to peace, equality, education, sustainability, and international partnership.
6. **Promote the practical application of Sufi wisdom** to support justice, inclusion, compassion, and sustainable peace in contemporary societies.

Expected Outcomes

The **8th International Sufi Conference 2026** aims to create meaningful and lasting contributions by translating the ethical and spiritual teachings of *Tasawwuf* into practical initiatives that benefit society. The key expected outcomes include:

1. **Conference Publication**– Selected papers and keynote presentations will be compiled into a peer-reviewed proceedings volume or special issue to be published by SZHMT or collaborating academic institutions.
2. **Advancement of Research**– The conference will encourage rigorous academic research on Sufism and the Maizbhandari tradition, including recognition programs such as the **SZHMT Best Sufi Researcher 2026** to inspire new scholarship and contemporary interpretations.
3. **Joint Declaration or Roadmap**– Participants may adopt a collective declaration outlining commitments to apply Sufi principles in promoting peace, social justice, and international cooperation.
4. **Global Collaboration and Networks**– The event will facilitate partnerships, research networks, and collaborative initiatives focused on interfaith dialogue, community service, and academic exchange.
5. **Action-Focused Recommendations**– Policy briefs and practical frameworks will be developed to connect Sufi values with the **UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)**, ethical education, gender inclusion, and conflict resolution.
6. **Preservation of Cultural and Spiritual Heritage**– The conference will support the documentation and promotion of Sufi traditions such as **sama (Sufi music), poetry, zikr, and devotional practices**, helping to preserve the Maizbhandari spiritual heritage.
7. **Expanded Global Outreach**– Increased international awareness of the Maizbhandari Sufi tradition will be fostered through media engagement, digital platforms, and recorded conference sessions.
8. **Youth Engagement and Leadership**– Young scholars and practitioners will be encouraged and empowered to carry forward the spiritual legacy of **Gausul Azam Shah Sufi Hazrat Syed Ahmad Ullah Maizbhandari (KA)** in building compassionate, just, and peaceful communities. Expected Collectively, these outcomes aim to establish a lasting legacy by transforming Sufi wisdom into practical contributions that promote social harmony, ethical values, and global well-being.

Target Participants

The 8th International Sufi Conference 2026 invites a broad and diverse group of participants who are interested in Tasawwuf, spiritual philosophy, interfaith dialogue, and peacebuilding. The conference aims to bring together individuals from academic, spiritual, social, and cultural backgrounds to encourage meaningful exchange and collaboration. Key participants include:

1. **Scholars and Academics**– Researchers, professors, and faculty members from fields such as Islamic Studies, Religious Studies, Philosophy, Sociology, Peace and Conflict Studies, and related disciplines.
2. **Young Researchers and Graduate Students**– Master's and PhD students, early-career academics, and emerging scholars focusing on Sufism, the Maizbandari Tariqa, and similar areas of study.
3. **Sufi Practitioners and Spiritual Leaders**– Murshids, murids, and representatives of various Sufi orders, khanqahs, zawiyas, and darbars, particularly those associated with the Maizbandari tradition.
4. **Interfaith and Peacebuilding Advocates**– Individuals involved in dialogue initiatives, conflict resolution, and programs that promote tolerance, coexistence, and social harmony.
5. **NGO and Civil Society Representatives**– Professionals and activists engaged in social development, human rights, ethical education, and initiatives connected to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).
6. **Cultural and Literary Personalities**– Poets, writers, artists, and musicians, especially those inspired by Sufi traditions and cultural expressions such as qawwali and sama.
7. **Spiritual Seekers and the General Public**– Individuals interested in spiritual development, divine love, compassion, and contributing to a more peaceful and inclusive society.

The conference invites participants from **South Asia, the Middle East, Europe, Africa, North America, Southeast Asia, and other parts of the world**, fostering a truly international platform for meaningful dialogue and exchange of ideas inspired by the universal teachings of **Tasawwuf**.

Conference Themes



- A. Tasawwuf and Social Harmony.
- B. History, Development and Social Impact of Sufism.
- C. Sufi Music, Spiritual Arts and Folk Culture.
- D. World Peace, Social Justice, Equality and Empathy.
- E. Tasawwuf and Conflict Resolution.

Theme A: Tasawwuf and Social Harmony

Sub themes:

- A1. Tasawwuf and humanity, compassion, love, tolerance and moral excellence.
- A2. Khidmat-e-khalq, social welfare, human service and spiritual responsibility.
- A3. Sufism and religious pluralism in South Asia.
- A4. Sufi ethics, moral discernment, character formation and spiritual virtues.
- A5. Women and Sufism, spiritual roles, ethical leadership and historical contributions.

Theme B: History, Development & Social Impact of Sufism

Sub themes:

- B1. Arrival and Expansion of Sufism: Early Orders, Khanqah Culture and Institution.
- B2. Social Impact of Sufi Shrines, Khanqahs and Other Sufi Institutions.
- B3. Propagation of Education by Khanqahs and Other Institutions in South Asia.
- B4. Prominent Sufi Orders in South Asia .
- B5. Development of Sufi Literature and Philosophy .

Theme C: Sufi Music, Spiritual Arts & Folk Culture

Sub themes:

- C1. Origin and development of Sufi songs and Raqs (Dance).
- C2. Origin and development of (the use of) musical Instruments.
- C3. Practice of Sufi Cultural in Mazar (*Ziyarat, Milad Mahfil, Sama Mahfil, Urs Manat, Hadia & Tabarruk etc.*)
- C4. Impact of Sufi Karamat: Social, Religious, Scientific .
- C5. Comparative Study of Sufi Music and others Folk music .

Theme D: World Peace, Social Justice, Equality and Empathy

Sub themes:

- D1. Sufism, World Peace and Communal Harmony in 21st century .
- D2. Challenges of world Peace and path of solution through *Tasawwuf*.
- D3. Importance of Social Justice, Equality and Empathy to established peaceful Co-existence.
- D4. Prevent estimism through practicing Sufi principles .
- D5. Sufi concepts of justice and ethics.