

## **Dr. Hisham H. Ahmed**

Hisham H. Ahmed, Ph.D. is Chair of the Academic Senate and Chair of the Politics Department at Saint Mary's College of California, where he teaches International Relations, Middle East Politics, Politics of the Developing Countries, the United Nations, and Dynamics of Terrorism, among other courses.

Born in the Deheisheh Refugee Camp near Bethlehem, Palestine, in 1963, Dr. Ahmed obtained his BA degree in political science from Illinois State University in 1985. He obtained his MA and Ph.D. degrees also in political science at the University of California, Santa Barbara, in 1986 and 1988, respectively.

He taught political science at Florida International University in Miami, Florida, 1989-91, and at the University of North Dakota, 1991-93. In 1993-94, he was a Fulbright scholar in Palestine, where he wrote his book *From Religious Salvation to Political Transformation: The Rise of Hamas in Palestinian Society*. In 1994-96, Ahmed was a Fellow of the Institute of Current World Affairs. From 1994-2006 he taught political science at Bir Zeit University as well as at other different universities and colleges in Palestine.

Dr. Ahmed is the author of other studies dealing with the Middle East, Islamic movements, and American foreign policy, such as "Palestinian Resistance and 'Suicide Bombing': Causes and Consequences," "The Evolution of Hamas in Palestinian Society: Domestic, Regional and International Determinants," and *Ibrahim Abu-Lughod: Resistance, Exile and Return*. Ahmed has been active in different professional organizations. In the early 1990s, he was elected as the Vice-President of the AAUG, Arab-American University Graduates.

Ahmed is frequently called upon by the local and international media for analyses of various political issues pertaining to the Palestinian-Israeli conflict.