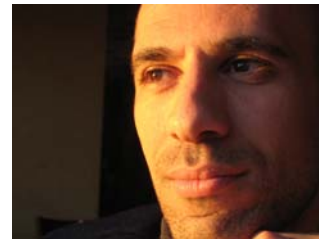


*The Netherlands Institute for Academic Studies in Damascus (NIASD)
has the pleasure to invite you to the programme:*

“Cultural Diversity in Dutch Literature”

Tuesday the 15th of July 2008, 19:00h at the NIASD

By **Abdelkader Benali**, who was born in Morocco and grew up in the Netherlands. He is a writer of novels, theaterplays, poetry and essays. With his first and second book, *Wedding by the Sea* and *The Long-Awaited*, Benali won several prizes such as the prestigious Dutch Libris Literature Prize. Benali is currently working on a new novel on the theme of identity and living between cultures, called *The Voice of my Mother*.



And **Sjoerd-Jeroen Moenandar**, who studied literary theory and Scandinavian languages and culture in the Netherlands and Sweden. He is currently teaching philosophy of the arts and sociology of the arts at the department of Arts, Culture and Media of Groningen University. He has published on literature and society as well as on the role of the arts in the articulation of cultural differences. He is currently working on a PhD thesis about the representation of meetings with Muslims in Dutch literature.

ESMOREIT



Language: English
*Location: NIASD, Farabi
Sreet 85, East Mezzeh (near
the Greek Embassy)*
*Information: Telephone: 011-
61249790, Email:
assistant@niasd.org*

Programme:

19:00h – 19:30h: Sjoerd-Jeroen Moenandar - Introduction about Dutch authors of Muslim origin. Moenandar reflects on the articulation of cultural differences between Islam and the Western world in Dutch literature. Does it matter if an author is of a Muslim background?

19:30h – 20:00h: Sjoerd-Jeroen Moenandar - Love affairs between Muslims and non-Muslims in Dutch literature throughout the ages.

20:00h – 20:15h: Break, Drinks and Snacks.

20:15h – 20:45h: Abdelkader Benali - Finding a new language in Dutch literature. Benali will speak about his relationship to literature, growing up in the Netherlands and finding a new language for describing the experience of a second generation immigrant in the Netherlands.

20:45h – 21:15h: Sjoerd-Jeroen Moenandar - Analysis of the work of Abdelkader Benali.

21:15h – 21:45h: Abdelkader Benali - Reaction on the analysis of Sjoerd-Jeroen Moenandar.

21:45h – 23:00h: Drinks and Snacks