## NEWS RELEASE

Wilfrid Laurier University



## Prominent scholar to speak about the state and human rights

## For Immediate ReleaseNovember 11, 2008<br/>98-08Contact:Wendy Webb, Administrative Assistant to the Canada Research Chair in<br/>International Human Rights, (519) 884-0170 ext. 3185 or wwebb@wlu.ca

## Kevin Crowley, Associate Director: News and Editorial Services (519) 884-0710 ext. 3070 or kcrowley@wlu.ca

or

WATERLOO – Dr. Tariq Ramadan, an internationally recognized Muslim scholar in Islamic studies, will visit Wilfrid Laurier University November 26 to deliver a public lecture: *When the Politics of the State Interfere with Human Rights*.

Dr. Ramadan lectures extensively throughout the globe on the ethics of citizenship, social justice and dialogue between civilizations. He was recently named by Time magazine as one of the world's "100 most consequential" people in the scientists and thinkers category for his contribution towards creating an independent European Islam.

"Dr. Ramadan is a prominent scholar whose works on Islam and Europe are extremely well known," said Dr. Rhoda Howard-Hassmann, Canada Research Chair in International Human Rights at Laurier. "The rights of Muslims have to be protected. Dr. Ramadan's lecture promises to promote discussion among people of many different backgrounds."

Dr. Howard-Hassmann is bringing Dr. Ramadan to Laurier as part of the Islam and Human Rights lecture series sponsored through her Canada Research Chair in International Human Rights. Dr. Abdullahi Ahmed An-Na'im spoke at Laurier in October.

Dr. Ramadan's lecture will take place Wednesday, November 26, starting at 7:30 p.m. in the Maureen Forrester Recital Hall. Admission is free and no registration is necessary.

- 30 -