



## Report on the Academy of Self Knowledge's (ASK) Introductory Event in the U.S.

<http://www.askonline.co.za>  
[info@askonline.co.za](mailto:info@askonline.co.za)

On December 11, 2006 the Academy of Self Knowledge (ASK) USA held its first public meeting in America to introduce the teachings and unique approach to gnosis of the Academy of Self Knowledge.

Over 50 people attended, representing a cross-section of the local community, as well as visitors from out of State. Doctors, research scientists, students, psychologists, business consultants, and local Muslims and their leaders were present for the three-hour presentation.

The event, hosted by David Mustafa Ali Sterling, was held at a popular meeting hall called the Eno River Universalist Unitarian Church in Durham, North Carolina, organized by David Mustafa Ali Sterling. Located on a beautiful campus complex, nestled in an evergreen grove; the worship hall provided the perfect ambience for this auspicious event.

We opened the meeting with a short meditation, which immediately embraced the entire room, setting the tone for what became a feast of reflection and shared knowledge.

Aliya B.Haeri, Director of the Academy of Self Knowledge, was the keynote speaker. Her knowledge and heart-full soul touched the hearts and minds of all those present, giving everyone a taste of the immensity and profundity of the human experience. Aliya authentically represents the efficacy of the teachings and inspired approach of the founder of the Academy, Shaykh Fadhlalla Haeri.

After the talk there was a brief question and answer period. The quality of the questions was indicative of the sincerity of all those attending. The inspired participants wanted to know more, and in some cases moved towards a greater commitment seeking enrollment in the ASK course. It was clear to all that a follow up meeting was required.

A workshop was held the following evening in a more intimate forum, a private residence. Participants had the opportunity to have a review of the related topics, and discuss things on a more personal level, looking at the meaning of identity and roles in one's experience of life.

ASK USA has students in Austin and San Antonio, Texas as well as in the Raleigh-Durham area of North Carolina. There are developing plans to form study groups, future facilitator training meetings, and additional introductory meetings to the course in all three locations.