



CONFERENCE SERIES

« Exchange to Better Understand »



PRESS RELEASE

Attijariwafa bank Foundation deciphers changes in ethical, moral and spiritual values

Thursday, May 16, 2019 - Attijariwafa bank Foundation organized, on May 16, 2019, in Casablanca, in its art Actua space, a new edition of its conference series « Exchange to better Understand » under the theme: « What are the ethical and moral values for a changing Morocco ? »

On the occasion of the holy month of Ramadan, this 49th edition dealt with the issue of living together and the essential values that govern our society.

In a welcome address on behalf of Mr. Mohamed El Kettani, CEO of Attijariwafa bank Group, Ms. Mouna Kably, Head of the Publishing & Debates Division of Attijariwafa Bank Foundation, recalled: « One of the major challenges that will arise to us in the coming years, is to reconcile the requirements of modernity and the respect for our moral and ethical values. To preserve this harmony, two essential questions are essential to us: What are the foundations of living together in our society? On which moral and ethical values do we want to build the Morocco of tomorrow and cement our social fabric ? »

To answer this two-fold question, the Foundation has called upon three renowned intellectuals, Mr. Faouzi Skali, Anthropologist and Writer; Mr. Mamoun Lahbabi, Writer and Mr. Mohamed Chouika, Professor of Philosophy and Writer. Under the chair of Mr. Abdelhak Najib, Writer and Journalist, the panelists recalled the place of values in our society, in the light of current changes, emphasizing the importance of the fundamental values that make up the Moroccan identity. They also emphasized the attachment to secular values and the desire to open up to the world that has always characterized the Moroccan society.

Thus, Mr. Faouzi Skali has analyzed the impact of technological changes on our society which encourages us to rethink our ethics. « The world is constantly changing. Therefore, we must constantly readjust this notion of ethics. Today, one of the ethical issues that arises is related to the evolution of democracy that is beginning to lose its meaning everywhere in the world.



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Indeed, what does democracy mean when algorithms govern us? Where is our personal choice? With regard to values that would contribute to making living-together better, Mr. Skali emphasized the importance of self-knowledge, the quest for wisdom and spirituality to counter this new form of slavery that emerges from modern societies and curb the exacerbation of the ego and materialism.

In a verbal poetic joust, Mr. Mamoun Lahbabi, meanwhile, insisted on the vanity that upsets the rules of living together, and on the urgency of accepting each other to build the links beyond our differences. « Living together is a chance. Do we live to condemn each other? Each day has enough trouble of its own, should there be added hatred? The human race is a choir where everyone sings their own notes. We are born to live together. You and I are the condition of each other, we exist in reciprocity. For the novelist, it is urgent to respect the quest for happiness. « To love oneself is not a luxury. There is no other way to live together. The absence of otherness breeds hatred, wars and conflict. So, each of us must be the apostle of difference. »

Finally, after defining the notion of « value », Mr. Mohammed Chouika stressed the need for Arab societies to rethink their values in the face of changes linked to globalization and technology. According to the philosopher, the role of the family is as important as the respect for the aspirations of the new generations. « Education does not start in school but in the family. The school is failing because the family is in crisis. We must, therefore, create a society based on new values and able to adapt to global changes. For that, we need to understand these young people who are inspired by their peers around the world and are breaking with the traditional lifestyles imposed by nuclear families.

« Through this conference-debate, Attijariwafa bank Foundation once again confirms its desire to deal with current economic and social issues and to promote constructive exchanges concerning the future of our country.

Press contact - Attijariwafa bank

Ms. Ouafaâ Ghaouat

Press Relations Officer - Institutional Communication

Phone : +212 522 54 53 57

Mobile : +212 647 47 32 90

Email : O.Ghaouat@attijariwafa.com