This talk will focus on the present difficulties of implementing human rights due to the conceptual and structural limitations of state-centric traditional international law. Without a re-imagining of international law, we can’t even know what to struggle for, let alone have the ability to achieve desired outcomes. A more inclusive view of religious and cultural resources may provide the rationale and motivation for a re-imagining of international law to enact a new people-centric politics of human rights in the 21st century. Dr. An-Na’im incorporates in his discussion the recent International Criminal Court warrant against Sudan’s President Omar El Bashir as an example of this emerging new politics, and examines its religious and cultural rationales.

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