



Newark's Finest

Hosted by
MASJID AL-HAQQ
• NEWARK •



WORDS MAKE PEOPLE:
*Enhancing Literacy & Culture
for Future Generations*

AWARDS BANQUET

**19TH ANNUAL
A TIME TO BE GRATEFUL**

**SATURDAY,
DECEMBER 9, 2023**

info@muslimjournal.net
muslimjrnl@comcast.net

Hilton Meadowlands
East Rutherford, NJ

www.muslimjournal.net

Funerals • Burials • Janazah Prayers • Pre-Arrangements



Khadija Samad

Manager Lic No.4601

**579 Grove Street
Irvington, NJ 07111**

Tel: 973.399.8400
Fax: 973.399.8405

**215 Grand Street
Trenton, NJ 08611**

Tel: 609.943.2177
Fax: 609.939.0206

www.alfirdousfuneralhome.com

When Pre-Planning Your Funeral, Plan It With Us

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

The Holy Qur'an, Surah 55 Ar-Rahman The Beneficent - Ayat 1-30

1. (Allah) Most Gracious!
2. It is He Who has taught the Qur'an.
3. He has created man:
4. He has taught him speech (and intelligence).
5. The sun and the moon follow courses (exactly) computed;
6. And the herbs and the trees - both (alike) prostrate in adoration.
7. And the Firmament has He raised high, and He has set up the Balance (of Justice),
8. In order that ye may not transgress (due) balance.
9. So establish weight with justice and fall not short in the balance.
10. It is He Who has spread out the earth for (His) creatures:
11. Therein is fruit and date-palms, producing spathes (enclosing dates);
12. Also corn, with (its) leaves and stalk for fodder, and sweet-smelling plants.
13. Then which of the favours of your Lord will ye deny?
14. He created man from sounding clay like unto pottery,
15. And He created Jinns from fire free of smoke:
16. Then which of the favours of your Lord will ye deny?
17. (He is) Lord of the two Easts and Lord of the two Wests:
18. Then which of the favours of your Lord will ye deny?
19. He has let free the two bodies of flowing water, meeting together:
20. Between them is a Barrier which they do not transgress:
21. Then which of the favours of your Lord will ye deny?
22. Out of them come Pearls and Coral:
23. Then which of the favours of your Lord will ye deny?
24. And His are the Ships sailing smoothly through the seas, lofty as mountains:
25. Then which of the favours of your Lord will ye deny?
26. All that is on earth will perish:
27. But will abide (for ever) the Face of thy Lord, - full of Majesty, Bounty and Honour.
28. Then which of the favours of your Lord will ye deny?
29. Of Him seeks (its need) every creature in the heavens and on earth: every day in (new) Splendour doth He (shine)!
30. Then which of the favours of your Lord will ye deny?

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ
عَلَّمَ الْقُرْآنَ
خَلَقَ الْإِنْسَانَ
عَلَّمَهُ الْبَيَانَ
الشَّمْسُ وَالْقَمَرُ بِحُسْبَانٍ
وَالنَّجْمُ وَالشَّجَرُ يَسْجُدَانِ
وَالسَّمَاءَ رَفَعَهَا وَوَضَعَ الْمِيزَانَ
أَلَّا تَطْغَوْا فِي الْمِيزَانِ
وَأَقِيمُوا الْوَزْنَ بِالْقِسْطِ وَلَا تُخْسِرُوا الْمِيزَانَ
وَالْأَرْضَ وَضَعَهَا لِلْأَنَامِ
فِيهَا فَاكِهَةٌ وَالنَّخْلُ ذَاتُ الْأَكْمَامِ
وَالْحَبُّ ذُو الْعَصْفِ وَالرَّيْحَانُ
فِي أَيِّ آيَةٍ رَيْتُمَا تَكْفُرَانِ
خَلَقَ الْإِنْسَانَ مِنْ صَلْصَالٍ كَالْفَخَّارِ
وَخَلَقَ الْجَانَّ مِنْ مَارِجٍ مِنْ لَدُنْ
فِي أَيِّ آيَةٍ رَيْتُمَا تَكْفُرَانِ
رَبُّ الْمَشْرِقَيْنِ وَرَبُّ الْمَغْرِبَيْنِ
فِي أَيِّ آيَةٍ رَيْتُمَا تَكْفُرَانِ
مَرْجَ الْبَحْرَيْنِ يَلْتَقِيَانِ
بَيْنَهُمَا بَرْزَخٌ لَا يَبْغِيَانِ
فِي أَيِّ آيَةٍ رَيْتُمَا تَكْفُرَانِ
يَخْرُجُ مِنْهُمَا اللُّؤْلُؤُ وَالْمَرْجَانُ
فِي أَيِّ آيَةٍ رَيْتُمَا تَكْفُرَانِ
وَلَهُ الْجَوَارِ الْمُنشَآتُ فِي الْبَحْرِ كَالْأَعْلَامِ
فِي أَيِّ آيَةٍ رَيْتُمَا تَكْفُرَانِ
كُلٌّ مِنْ عِنْدِهَا فَاخٍ
وَيَنْفَى وَجْهَ رَبِّكَ ذُو الْجَلَالِ وَالْإِكْرَامِ
فِي أَيِّ آيَةٍ رَيْتُمَا تَكْفُرَانِ
مَنْ فِي السَّمَاوَاتِ وَالْأَرْضِ كُلٌّ يَوْمٌ عِنْدَ رَبِّكَ
فِي أَيِّ آيَةٍ رَيْتُمَا تَكْفُرَانِ



بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

With Allah's Name, The Merciful Benefactor, The Merciful Redeemer

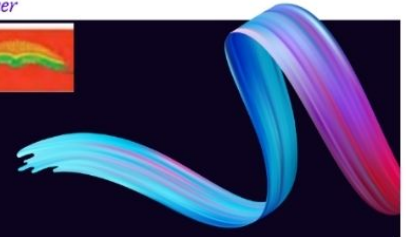


MUSLIM JOURNAL



From the desk of

Ayesha K. Mustafaa



December 2023

Thank
you!

As-Salaam Alaikum Wa Ramatullahi wa Barakatuh!

Dear Believers, without you, there would not be a Muslim Journal. Your dedication to an independent newspaper has spanned 62-plus years --from Muhammad Speaks to Muslim Journal.

As we come together here in the Newark area for another year to celebrate in congregation the 19th Annual "A TIME TO BE GRATEFUL," we take to heart the premise upon which we established this event: **Qur'an 55 - Sura Ar-Rahman, The Beneficent.**

Allah, swt, Highly Glorified is our Creator, also sustains us to our fullness, as related in this sura in a recurring stanza: "Which of the favors of your Lord will you deny?" We freely and openly acknowledge all the favors that we know, and we make sajdah (prostration) because certainly we have been pulled from the brink of fire -- over and over and over again. Thank you, Allah, for saving us from ourselves.

We are a community of Muslims born out of the experiences of abject enslavement, a people torn from our motherland and planted in a foreign place to be emptied of all knowledge of ourselves, and 400-plus years later, as the late Hon. Elijah Muhammed and Sis. Clara Muhammed proclaimed, "TO BE LOST NO MORE." s Imam W. Deen Mohammed taught, we are a "new people" with a new opportunity to build upon the essence of human-ness that Allah preserved in us. We've toiled and struggled to be that example of redemption and restoration. As Al Hajj Malik Shabazz (Malcolm X) is a model, the African Islamic gene could not be dissipated and has shown itself to be enough to restore our dignity and rightful place in social leadership --a beacon to all downtrodden of what the "Mercy of Allah" looks like. And as exemplified in the person of the great champion Muhammad Ali, holding on to faith against all odds, even at the cost of personal gains.

It has been my honor to have worked most of my adult life at the helm of Muslim Journal, and it is my honor to be onboard to see it make a generational transition to those who would also honor its legacy --a legacy of more hard work and sacrifices. This community has in its own right a dedicated news medium to serve not only its constituents, but to spread the word: a news agent, a preservation of history, an advocate on behalf of the voiceless. This, indeed, is an honorable work and I thank you all.

Ayesha K. Mustafaa
Editor
muslimjrnl@comcast.net



بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ



With Allah's Name, The Merciful Benefactor, The Merciful Redeemer

Masjid Al-Haqq

687 Springfield Avenue, Newark, N.J. 07103

973-373-0344

malhaqqinc@optimum.net

Resident Imam

Abdul Kareem Muhammad

Board of Trustees

Zeotha Hameed
Rashad El-Amin
Clarence Mujahid Ali
Omar Hameed
Kareemah Muhammad
Baseemah Muhammad
Sakinah Sabur
Sabreen Muhammad

"The parable of those who spend their substance in the way of Allah is that of a grain of corn: it groweth seven ears, and each ear hath a hundred grains. Allah giveth manifold increase to whom He pleaseth, and Allah careth for all and He knoweth all things."

Holy Qur'an Sura 2, Ayah 261

As Salaamu Alaikum

Dear Believers, People, Guests, and Friends

We sincerely Welcome You to the Muslim Journal's A Time To Be Grateful 19th Annual Conference 2023, hosted by Masjid Al-Haqq of Newark, at the Hilton Hotel, Meadowlands, NJ.

We should all be proud to be a part of the history and legacy of such a prestigious institution, Muslim Journal – formally Muhammad Speaks, as we Celebrate Sixty Plus (60+) Years of Muslim American Journalism Excellence.

Your support is vital to Muslim Journal History and Culture. It is the longest running Muslim American publication, particularly of the indigenous African America Muslim history.

Muslim Journal has deep roots and history in Newark which has the largest circulation. Its content covers national and international human interest, current events and other important news. Now Newark is the official corporate office headquarters for this legacy newspaper.

Its Masthead Message: "Bringing Humanity Together in Moral Excellence with Truth and Understanding." And our theme this year is: "WORDS MAKE PEOPLE: *Enhancing Literacy and Culture for Future Generations.*" We pray Allah will Bless our Conference with Positive, Innovative Concepts, Ideas, and Vision for our future life.

Muslim Journal sincerely thanks everyone for your consistent and generous support – past, present, and future. Your unwavering support keeping in mind for generations to come will leave something for our children to inherit.

The continuation of Muslim Journal's critical work depends on Your Support and Commitment. We thank Allah for Managing Editor, Ayesha K. Mustafaa, and her Staff, the newly formed Muslim Journal Board of Directors, Planning Committee, Conference Call Committee, and Volunteers. Thank you all for Your Sacrifice and Service.

Finally, we thank all the Imams, Masajid, Businesses, Believers, and Organizations for their Contribution and Collaboration to the Success of this Conference and the Muslim Journal Mission.

We Cannot Stop Now!

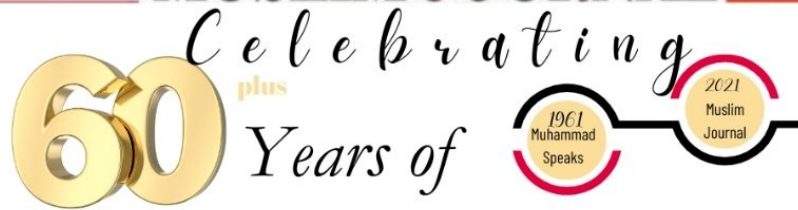
Abdul K. Muhammad

Imam Abdul Kareem Muhammad

Masjid Al-Haqq Resident Imam & Muslim Journal Board President

"Striving For Personal & Community Excellence!"

Welcome to Muslim Journal!



Muslim American JOURNALISM

Muslim Journal is in its 48th year of continuous weekly publication, standing upon the legacy of those in the struggle to sustain an informed reading public. The first African American newspapers were the *Freedom's Journal* published by editors John B. Russwurm and Samuel E. Cornish in 1827, and the directive newspaper, *The North Star*, published by the ex-slave and renowned abolitionist Frederick Douglass in 1847.

In this same tradition to advocate and inform from one's own perspective, **Muslim Journal** brings forth the mantle passed on by Al Hajji Malcolm X Shabazz, as he represented the Hon. Elijah Muhammad in the creation of the historic *Muhammad Speaks* newspaper. Now echoing the progressive Muslim American voice established by the late Imam W. Deen Mohammed, son of Elijah Muhammad and mentor to Malcolm, **Muslim Journal** stands as an independent newsgathering and dissemination outlet.

Muslim Journal addresses the misinformation about Muslims, historically, at home and abroad. Its masthead reads: "Bringing humanity together with truth and understanding." Its working mantras: "Fill the Void" and "See The Full Picture!" As advocated by Imam W. Deen Mohammed, **Muslim Journal** is a free press uninhibited by the government yet operating within the protections of the U.S. Constitution's Bill of Rights. Imam Mohammed said, "While we have the freedom of choices, always choose the BEST among choices...."

The Muslim population of the U.S. is more accurately projected to be around 12 million; it is a diverse ethnic group representing many national origins – including the indigenous Muslims who have roots going back to the African Transatlantic slave trade and within it, the Muslims transported to the Americas throughout that unfortunate era.

Muslim Journal pledges to be representative to all Muslims. The Muslim American is a politically active constituency with four of its adherents winning re-elections to the U.S. Congress (albeit with a majority non-Muslim voting population) – first Keith Ellison representing Minnesota and then Andre Carson representing Indiana; followed by Ilhan Omar also of Minnesota and Rashida Tlaib of Michigan.

Muslim Journal is a member newspaper in the National Newspaper Publishers Association (NNPA), a network of over 200 African American-owned newspapers in the U.S. The NNPA's target market audience has buying power of \$572.1 billion; this coupled with the buying power of 12 million Muslim Americans puts **Muslim Journal** in the midst of two giant consumer streams.

Muslim Journal is circulated via paid subscribers and a network of vendors in 100 cities and towns throughout the U.S. Its subscribers, along with U.S. citizens, encompass the Caribbean and Bermuda, and countries like Saudi Arabia, Malaysia, Nigeria, Ghana, Senegal and South Africa. Among them are individuals and institution representatives, embassies, congressional offices, libraries, prison institutions, military institutions and schools.

Muslim Journal celebrates with Muslims and non-Muslims its Annual "A Time To Be Grateful" (ATTBG) Awards Dinner within the season of thankfulness and spiritual awareness, a timeframe between Thanksgiving and Christmas. After starting in Chicago as host city for its first five years, the annual celebration moved on to various cities, including Southampton, Bermuda (2013). In 2022, it returned to the Nation's Capital, Washington, D.C., with its 18th celebration and the theme: "Share Freedom Space: Created Equal with Inalienable Rights."

This ATTBG celebration had as its first keynote Imam W. Deen Mohammed and has honored great legacies, for example, the likes of Muhammad Ali and the Muhammad Ali Center; Muslim institutions of learning – Clara Muhammad Elementary and W. Deen Mohammed High School of Atlanta; in Bermuda, the Civil Rights Freedom Riders' legend Diane Nash; and in Memphis the Civil Rights heroes.

Former President Jimmy Carter was asked by one in the audience of a major immigrant-based Muslim organization, how should they address discrimination. His reply, "Study the African American." Thusly, as Imam Mohammed proclaimed, "We cannot stop now."

Visit the **Muslim Journal** at www.MuslimJournal.net and subscribe for an online access subscription or printed/mailed subscription. Request advertising rates via email – advertise@muslimjournal.net (or the salesperson who contacted you). For editorial, email info@muslimjournal.net. For the Muslim Journal business office, email financemjnw@gmail.com. Call 973-373-0344 or 773-952-8177.

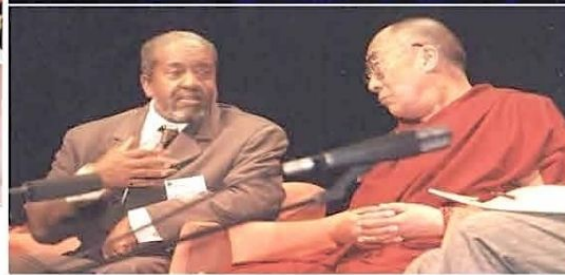
As-Salaam-Alaikum/Peace be unto you, Ayesha K. Mustafaa, Managing Editor, editor@muslimjournal.net.



Imam Mohammed with Blessed Chiara Lubich and Cardinal Keeler.



Distinguished Leadership





With Allah's Name, The Merciful Benefactor,
The Merciful Redeemer

WILLIAMSBURG CHARTER FOUNDATION
"FIRST LIBERTY" SUMMIT June 25, 1986
STATEMENT OF W. DEEN MOHAMMED

Precious souls of Americans of the past and present, here I greet you as Muslims greet each other, As Salaamu Alaikum, which means Peace Be Unto You. The following is given as an expression of Muslims deep seated support for the Freedom of Religion:

The Founding Fathers' classic treatment of man's worth and American Law in its constitutional role of championing the safety of man's common and vital life and liberty are no doubt concerns held in sacred regard by the international community of Muslims.

Moreover, that the Qur'an and Prophet Muhammed represent for Muslims the living and enduring sources of our support for Freedom of Religion is common knowledge with Muslims of all nationalities.

Therefore, it is in the spirit of man's historical classic and universal attention to human life and Freedom of Religion that we humbly join Williamsburg Charter Foundation Ceremony.

With the many races and religions of America, we cherish for all others as for ourselves Freedom of Religion, the "First Liberty".

Imam in the Society of Muslim Americans

W. Deen Mohammed
son of Elijah (Poole) Mohammed
and Clara (Evans) Mohammed

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ



MUSLIM JOURNAL



<http://MuslimJournal.Webexone.com>

Vol. 34, No. 2, October 10, 2008

BRINGING HUMANITY TOGETHER IN MORAL EXCELLENCE WITH TRUTH AND UNDERSTANDING

\$2.00 - \$3.00 outside U.S.

Long Live Mohammed... Long Live Mohammed ... **TO LEAD IS TO SERVE**



Imam W. Deen Mohammed began his leadership of the Nation of Islam by serving those who had served his father, the Hon. Elijah Muhammad.



Photo Essay of the Early Years pages 17-19



W. Deen Mohammed served humanity by debunking myths and refocusing our attention on "man means mind" and "words make people."



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515

DONALD M. PAYNE, JR.
TENTH DISTRICT
NEW JERSEY

Congressional Proclamation

Hon. Donald M. Payne, Jr.

*United States House of Representatives
Tenth District, New Jersey*

Whereas, *Congressman Donald M. Payne, Jr. honors the Muslim Journal as the successor of the renowned Muhammad Speaks weekly newspaper established in 1961 and as we gather on December 9, 2023 to celebrate its 62 year history in journalism with the 19th Annual "A Time to Be Grateful Awards Dinner and weekend conference; and*

Whereas, *This award recognizes that the Muslim Journal has now established its corporate home in the great City of Newark. The Muslim Journal encompasses a history of 62 years of journalism excellence and dedication to be a champion newspaper; and*

Whereas, *we wish them continued success in all their journalistic endeavors.*

Now therefore, be it resolved *that on behalf of the residents of the Tenth Congressional District of New Jersey the undersigned Member of the United States Congress, the Honorable Donald M. Payne, Jr., hereby commends The Muslim Journal for being an invaluable asset to our community.*



Donald M. Payne, Jr.
Member of Congress
Tenth District, New Jersey



MUSLIM JOURNAL
December 9, 2023

WHEREAS: **MUSLIM JOURNAL** was established in 1961 as “**Muhammad Speaks**” by the legendary activist **Al Hajj Malik Shabazz (Malcolm X)** for the **Honorable Elijah Muhammad**, to be a voice for the Muslim African-American community, addressing issues that affect them and giving that community a powerful voice. It changed its name in 1975; and

WHEREAS: **MUSLIM JOURNAL** continues today, selling 1,000 newspapers per week in the New York area, enabling its workers develop business skills and support businesses where the newspaper is distributed. The newspaper has made its corporate headquarters here in Newark, recognizing our city’s importance as a center of African-American life, education, business, and culture; and

WHEREAS: **MUSLIM JOURNAL** is holding its 19th annual “A Time To Be Grateful” Awards Dinner and weekend conference in Newark to show gratitude for life and liberty, themed “Words Make People, Enhancing Literacy and Culture for Future Generations,” and to re-commit to the well-being of humanity and reflect on blessings that sustain us; and

WHEREAS: **MUSLIM JOURNAL** is one of our region’s outstanding media outlets. It has given voice to and support for our African-American Muslim community for more than 60 decades. It sets the community’s agenda, and defines Newark and Proud of It; and

WHEREAS: As Mayor of Newark, I salute **MUSLIM JOURNAL**, as it holds its 19th annual “A Time To Be Grateful” Awards Dinner and weekend, thank them for their service to our city and community, and wish the **MUSLIM JOURNAL** family joy and success for the future.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, RAS J. BARAKA, MAYOR OF THE CITY OF NEWARK, NEW JERSEY,
do hereby recognize:

MUSLIM JOURNAL

and I urge all residents, employees, and visitors in the City of Newark to join me in this special tribute to **MUSLIM JOURNAL**.

SIGNED: _____


RAS J. BARAKA, MAYOR



With Allah's Name, The Merciful Benefactor, The Merciful Redeemer

A Time To Be Grateful Awards Ceremony

Saturday, December 9, 2023

Program Agenda

Ceremonial Hosts

Aneesah Dawan and Kaleem Shabazz

Welcome & Introduction.

Opening Prayer..... Kaleem Shabazz

Black National Anthem.....Salima Rah

Quranic Recitation.....Surah Ar-Rahman.....Aneesah Dawan & Nadirah Saleem

Opening Remarks.....Imam Abdul Kareem Muhammad & Ayesha K. Mustafaa

Proclamation and Awardee Presentation.....Congressman Donald Payne Jr.

Awardees Presentations – Part I

Jimmy Small, Dr. Mohammed Ali Chaudry, Joan Najeeullah,
Yusuf and Zubaydah Madyun, Edward Na'eem Syed, Winard Harper

Dinner and Entertainment Performance by Ebony Khan & Salima Rah

Proclamation and Awardee Presentation.....Guest Speaker Honorable Mayor Ras J. Baraka

Awardees Presentations – Part 2

Akbar Salaam, Brenda Sharif, Angela Shadah, George Sabir,
Khalid Sanchez Muhammad, Sadiqah Huda Mekki, BaSeemah and David Hassan

Muslim Journal Subscription Drive Video Presentation

Keynote Speaker..... Dr. Yusuf Salaam

Closing Remarks.....Imam Bashir Ali, Ayesha K. Mustafaa,

Imam Abdul Kareem Muhammad

Closing Du'a.....Imam Abdul Kareem Muhammad



Aneesah Dawan

Ceremonial Host

Aneesah Dawan was born to Muslim parents, but accepted Al-Islam for herself at the age of 13. She is a native of Little Rock, Arkansas and graduate of the Historic Little Rock Central High School. Aneesah's post-secondary education has been focused in the areas of Philosophy & Religious Studies at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock and Criminal Justice at the University of Houston-Downtown.

In addition to her undergraduate work, Aneesah studied Arabic and Islamic Studies at Abu Nour University in Damascus, Syria, obtaining a 2-year Arabic language certification. Aneesah's earlier Islamic and Arabic education came from various Imams and teachers in the United States under the leadership of Imam W. D. Mohammed, which included great Arabic scholars such as Imam Darnell Karim of Chicago, Illinois. Her most influential studies in Arabic and the science of tajweed came under the tutelage of Imam Qasim Ahmed while residing in Houston, Texas.

Professionally, Aneesah has worked in the field of business and finance as a project manager at a historically black college and university. More recently, Aneesah has focused her attention to increasing home ownership among underserved populations as a mortgage loan officer, providing homeownership and financial education for individuals with low to moderate income.

Aneesah serves in leadership capacities locally and nationally. She currently serves as the Assistant Director at the Islamic Learning Institute and a member of its Advisory Shuraa. Aneesah also serves as the Director of Government Shuraa at the Islamic Center for Human Excellence in Little Rock, Arkansas, a board member and youth facilitator for Kamp Khalil, Inc., and lecturer for Study Al-Islam National Broadcast. Aneesah has utilized her knowledge of Quran, the life of Muhammed the Prophet (saw), and the tafsir of Imam W. D. Mohammed to provide leadership training courses in Little Rock, Arkansas and Memphis, Tennessee. Aneesah has lectured at various Islamic and Interfaith conferences representing women in Al-Islam and focusing on areas such as tajweed and tafsir. Her purpose is to provide a clear and sound understanding of Quran and the life of Prophet Muhammed (saw) while stressing the importance of the feminine voice to the benefit of mankind.

Kaleem Shabazz

Ceremonial Host

Kaleem Shabazz is a longtime resident of Atlantic City, New Jersey. A graduate of Rutgers University, Councilmember Shabazz is a product of local schools and a proud graduate of Atlantic City High School.

First elected in 2015, as Third Ward Councilmember for the City of Atlantic City, he was re-elected in 2019. Councilmember Shabazz also serves as Vice President of City Council and Co-Chair of the City Council's Planning and Development Committee.

A longtime civil rights advocate, Mr. Shabazz is also an adjunct professor at Stockton University. He is President of the Atlantic City Branch of the NAACP and serves as President of Bridge of Faith; Advocacy Committee Chair and Board Member for the Atlantic County Coalition for a Safe Community; and member of the Coalition for Good Government. Mr. Shabazz is the recipient of many distinguished awards, including the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Award; the Father Thom Schivago Humanitarian Award (from Beth El Synagogue); the Community Service Award from the Mainland NAACP; and the Community Service Award from the Fellowship of Churches. Councilmember Shabazz says one of his "proudest moments" was speaking at the United Nations in efforts to successfully stop a South African-based casino from coming to Atlantic City during the time of apartheid.

Councilmember Shabazz has been married to his beautiful wife, Yolanda, for more than forty years. They have one daughter, Anjail, and two grandsons, Emanuel and Emil. Mr. Shabazz is a self-proclaimed "nerd" who is an avid reader of the New York Times, Star Ledger, the Philadelphia Inquirer and the Press of Atlantic City on Sunday mornings during breakfast or brunch.





Nadirah Saleem

Reciter

Nadirah is presently an 11th grade student at Boundbrook High School in Boundbrook, New Jersey. She resides in Plainfield, NJ and attends Masjidullah, Plainfield. Nadirah is very active in the Masjid and is involved in countless extracurricular activities.

She is the daughter of Jamal and Chadia Salaam and the granddaughter of Imam Earnest Shakir and the late Quadriyyah Shakir.

This young sister understands the importance of being well rounded and balanced as she works diligently at becoming a productive citizen in today society. On many Saturdays, you can find Nadirah volunteering at Masjidullah's weekly soup kitchen, serving the needy in the community.

Nadirah has a gift for speaking as is evidenced in her eight-year membership in the New Jersey Orators, a non-profit organization that teaches the art of public speaking to children ages 7-18. She has received numerous awards for her oratorical skills from her participation in various state competitions.

Nadirah showcases a stellar academic record and was recently inducted into the National Arts Honor Society.

In addition to carrying a full high school schedule, Nadirah takes the time to attend Masjidullah's weekend school. Here she studies a wide range of subjects including the history of Al-Islam, the Qur'an, Arabia, and Home Economics.

Nadirah says that her parents continuously stress the need for her to give back to the community which is the impetus for her involvement in organizations such as Hope for Health and Hygiene, the Food Bank of New Jersey and the Girl Scouts.

Realizing that relaxation is also a major part of teenage life, Nadirah enjoys singing, double-dutch, dancing, swimming(nicknamed "fish") and participating in talent shows.

Nadirah has a deep love for the religion of Al-Islam and is truly grateful for the blessings bestowed on her by Almighty God, Allah (swt).

Guest Speaker



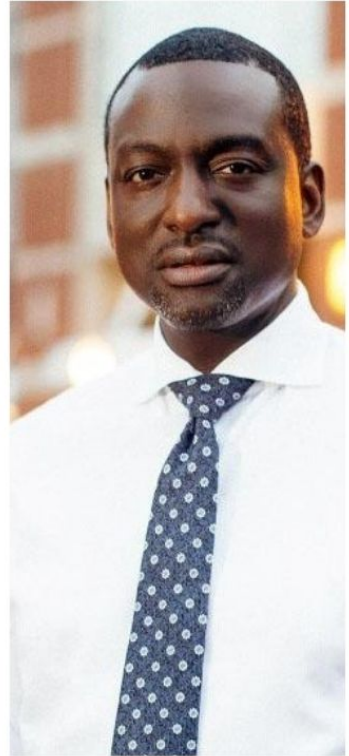
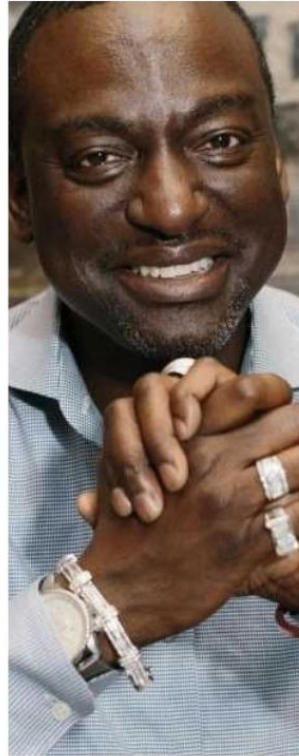
BRIAN

- HOST PASTOR

GUEST SPEAKER

**Honorable Mayor
Ras J. Baraka**

Keynote Speaker



Dr. Yusef Salaam

Exonerated 5

In 1989, at just fifteen years young, Yusef Salaam was tried and convicted in the “Central Park jogger” case along with four other Black and Latino young men. After almost 13 years, 7 of those behind bars for a crime he did not commit, Yusef’s case was overturned and he was set free.

His life was forever changed by this experience, and since his release he has advocated for criminal justice reform, prison reform and the abolition of juvenile solitary confinement and capital punishment. Yusef has shared his story and stance on current issues on CNN, MSNBC, REVOLT TV, NPR Atlanta, FOX and more. He authored his memoir *Better, Not Bitter* and is the co-author of *Punching the Air*. He received an Honorary Doctorate in Humanities and is the recipient of a Lifetime Achievement Award.

He won the New York City Council seat on November 7, 2023. He represents a central Harlem district on the City Council.

Yusef and his wife, Sanovia, are the proud parents of ten children.

Featured Artists



Ebony Khan

There is one name you must add to your vocabulary and to your collection of female singers. She hails from the Nation's Capital of Washington, DC. She has been in the entertainment business for over thirty years. She is Miss Ebony Khan, a universal singer/songwriter. Ebony's voice is like that of a songbird that soothes the ears, heart, mind and soul. Her rich vibrant and powerhouse of a voice is what you have been missing.

Ebony has opened up for many artists such as Mos Def, Kindred, The Family Soul and Common. She also shared the stage at the Essence Music Festival in New Orleans with the likes of (the late) Tina Marie, Fantasia Burina, John Legend, Mary J. Blidge, Mint Condition and Destiny's Child. She has also been compared to the great Phyllis Hyman.



Salima Rah

Brooklyn born, Salima Rah delivers a fusion of genres and sounds with a blend of soothing Jazz vocals, hypnotic rap flow, and lyrics of integrity. Her decade long collaborative recording and performing journey has been the antidote for Salimasound Productions, and the release of her upcoming live studio project "From Brooklyn to Brazil"



AYESHA K. MUSTAFAA

Managing Editor, Muslim Journal

Ayesha K. Mustafaa is a graduate of Bucknell University, Lewisburg, Penn., where she earned a BA Degree/Double Major in Psychology and Political Science, and a Master's in Journalism from Columbia College-Chicago. In 1974, she converted to Al-Islam, coming from a Mississippi family of Civil Rights activists of the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. era.

She joined the community of Muslims affiliated with Imam W. Deen Mohammed in late 1974, through the Atlanta, Ga., Community. She moved to Chicago in mid-1975 and worked throughout the national offices of that Muslim community, becoming Muslim Journal editor in 1989.

After moving to Chicago, for a brief period she worked out of the historic Federal Street Muhammad Speaks plant that overlooked the Dan Ryan Expressway. She is Muslim Journal's third woman editor in its near 48-year history and the longest tenured editor.

Most significant among the work she performed in the Chicago Muslim community began with transcribing Imam Mohammed's lectures used to create the Imams Kits that trained former Nation of Islam Ministers and Captains for the role of Imams.

Other duties were: Prison Dawah or Islamic teachings to incarcerated populations; administrative duties in offices of historic Stony Island Muhammad Mosque No. 2 and Sis. Clara Muhammad School of Chicago, the Muslim Women Development Class, and one of the head instructress for Muslim Sisters trained by Imam W. Deen Mohammed to teach Al-Islam.

Ayesha also traveled as part of delegations led by Imam W. Deen Mohammed, several to Saudi Arabia to Riyadh, Jeddah and Mecca; to Jerusalem and the Palestinian territories of Gaza and West Bank. Most notable was the meeting between Imam Mohammed and Palestinian Authority President Yasser Arafat.

She made Hajj in 1977 with the then largest Muslim group from the U.S.A. led by Imam Mohammed. She has made Umrah (lesser Hajj) several times. She was a presenter at the 3-day International Media Conference, hosted by the interfaith based Focolare Movement's NetOne Media Group held in Rome, Italy, in 2004, with 800 participants from over 20 countries.

She was an advisory member of the Lutheran College Christian – Muslim Peace Engagement in Chicago with Dr. Harold Vogelaar and a frequent speaker at interfaith settings and to school/college audiences. Ayesha also was one of the inaugural hosts of the seven daily one-hour talk radio shows – every Friday, 6 p.m. to 7 p.m., for Radio Islam (continuously live streamed at www.radioislam.com), produced by Sound Vision Foundation.

Moving to Jackson, Mississippi, in 2011, she has worked as editor of The Mississippi Link weekly newspaper, now serving as one of its contributing writers. In 2015, she joined the faculty of the HBCU, Tougaloo College, in its Mass Communications Department as instructor teaching courses like Investigative Reporting and “The Race Beat.”

In 2020, she was selected as a board member of the International Museum of Muslim Cultures (IMMC) in Jackson and as a member of the advisory board of the online news platform Mississippi Free Press. In December 2022, she joined the African Diaspora Connect delegation of 47 people, traveling to Senegal, organized by Special Envoy for Sierra Leone, Ambassador Waleed Shamsid-Deen, culminating with the ribbon cutting of a new business office opening in Dakar for the U.S.-based National Muslim Business Conference.

The U.S. Council of Muslim Organization (USCMO) awarded Ayesha among its 2022 “National Muslim Woman Achievement” Awardees. USCMO also invited her to be inaugural chair of its newly formed Muslim Women's Conference of 2023. A street in New Medinah, Miss., was named in her honor in 2011. She was named the Muslim Woman of the Year 1994 by the Community of Imam W. Deen Mohammed.



Imam Abdul Kareem Muhammad

President, Muslim Journal Board of
Directors, Newark, NJ

Imam Abdul Kareem Muhammad is an active, well known, and respected leader in the Muslim Community. He serves as the Resident Imam of Masjid Al-Haqq, Newark, NJ, and is President of the Muslim Journal Board of Directors. He is a graduate of Saint Augustine's University, Raleigh, NC, where he earned a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Education.

As is true with many African American Muslims, Imam Muhammad's journey in Islam began in the Nation of Islam. There he served as the Dean of Brothers, a teacher, Vice Principal, and Principal of Muhammad University of Islam and Clara Muhammad School System. He also served as one of the Nation's ministers.

After making the transition to mainstream Islam in 1975, the Imam became a supporter and faithful follower of Imam W. Deen Muhammad (raa). Imam W. Deen Muhammad stressed the need to improve our community life. Imam Kareem understood in order to establish the kind of community Imam W. Deen Muhammad was promoting, he had to get involved in the wider community. He developed partnerships with local organizations and banks, serving on numerous boards as he cultivated and advanced relationships with other community leaders.

Serving as an Advisory Board member, Imam Abdul Kareem was instrumental in establishing the historic and landmark partnership between the Council of Imams and Industrial Bank, previously City National Bank. Additionally, he is the Co-Founder of K & A Associates Enterprises LLC and New Africa Economic Development Group, LLC. Imam Abdul Kareem Muhammad was the first Muslim appointed to the position of Chaplaincy Supervisor for the State of N.J. Department of Corrections. He continues to work diligently in the community serving as the Recording Secretary for the Councils of Imams and the Halal Certification Agency. He is a member of the Mayor's Office of Clergy Affairs and Alliances, and Secretary for the Northeast Sectional Imams.

Imam Kareem is the recipient of countless awards and citations. He resides in Newark, NJ with his wife of forty years, Kareemah Muhammad. They are the proud parents of three children, Rafiah Muhammad, Tamisha Muhammad-Davis and Abdul K Muhammad Jr. (deceased).





2023 AWARDEES & CATEGORIES

African-Connect Diaspora Award

BaSeemah and David Hasan,
National Muslim Business Council

Al Hajj Malik Shabazz Award

Yusuf & Zubaydah Madyun

Excellence in Cultural Heritage Award

Winard Harper

Excellence in Interfaith Award

Dr. Mohammad Ali Chaudry

Generation Next Leadership Award

Khalid Sanchez Muhammad

Generation Next Leadership Award

Sadiqah Huda Mekki

Imam W. D. Muhammad Literacy

Service Award

Honorable Mayor Ras J. Baraka

Lifetime Community Volunteerism

Award

Hajjah Angela Shadad

Monte I. Fateen Sr. Award

Edward Na'eem Syed

Mubammad Ali Public Service Award

Congressman Donald Payne Jr.

Muslim Business Excellence Award

George Sabir

Muslim Business Legacy Award

Akbar Salaam

Muslim Women Heritage Award

Hajjah Brenda Sharif, International President
of The International League of Muslim Women

Political Activism Award

Jimmy Small

ATTBG Torchbearer Award

Hajjah Joan Najeeullah

Political Activism Award

Awarded to an individual who gives a
voice to the voiceless

Jimmy Small



Bro. Jimmy Small can best be described as an active member of the Muslim community and the Universal community-at-large. The Islamic phrase that is his driving force behind this narrative is: "I want for my brother the same thing I want for myself." This is demonstrated through his multi-faceted roles in politics, the military as an educator, community involvement and as a parent.

Bro. Jimmy's political career and involvement is extensive and is known for several "firsts" in the city of East Orange, New Jersey. He was a school board member and later became president. In this role, he successfully convinced his colleagues to add Muslim holidays to the school calendar. He served as a two term Councilman and later Council President, a Library Board Trustee and has worked with a diverse group of Muslims to establish the New Jersey Muslim Heritage Month.

He also spearheaded the Muslim League of Voters and four other organizations to form the "New Jersey Voices for Progress" and is now the President of the Muslim of Voters New Jersey. He is also a local representative for the American Coalition for Good Government.

Bro. Jimmy serves as the Democratic Ward Chairperson, where he ensures that elections are effectively held in his ward, as well as other activities throughout the year. He has worked on many political campaigns leading New Jersey to have the most Muslim elected and appointed officials in the nation.

He is a veteran of the United States Navy and Reserves and served his country for 17 years. He is currently the corresponding secretary for the Muslim American Veterans Association Post 5 out of Newark, NJ.

Throughout his career as an educator, he established and/or coached several feats that assisted the educational and social needs of his students. These included "Brothers of Science and Success" and the "Sisters in Science" mentoring programs. He coached for Robotics as part of the First Lego League and was debate coach with his students in the Jersey Urban Debate League.

Bro. Jimmy's community involvement continues to be vast and impressive. He serves as the President of the Terrace Block Association and has helped to establish the first Muslim student organization at Rutgers-Newark. He is a current Board Member of the East Orange/Orange CDC – an organization that strives to help citizens in need of rent assistance, utility bills, food, and clothing. He also works with the American Muslims for Hunger Relief to feed the needy in conjunction with Masjid Muhammad-Newark on a monthly basis.

His "parent involvement" has been immense over the years, where he always was actively involved in his children's educational journey. He served as class parent at Sister Clara Muhammad School in Newark, PTA President at the Islamic School of New Jersey and was Elmwood School PTA President in East Orange. He also was an Inaugural President of the East Orange Campus High School PTA.

Bro. Jimmy is a loving father and devoted husband. He has been married to his wife, Denise, for over 50 years. They have two children, five grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Muhammad Ali Public Service Award

To an individual who has dedicated their life for social justice
and humanitarianism for the global community

CONGRESSMAN DONALD PAYNE JR.

U.S. Representative Donald M. Payne, Jr. is a Democratic congressman representing New Jersey's 10th Congressional District, which covers portions of Essex, Hudson, and Union counties. A Newark, New Jersey native, he has served the people of the 10th Congressional District since 2012. Rep. Payne, Jr. is a tireless fighter for New Jersey families, working to create jobs and grow the economy, protect and invest in our children, and ensure the health and safety of our communities.

In 2021, Rep. Payne, Jr. was voted to be Chairman of the Subcommittee on Railroads, Pipelines and Hazardous Materials in the powerful House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure. The Committee has jurisdiction over national infrastructure and all modes of transportation, including aviation and mass transit.

In 2017, Rep. Payne, Jr. fought for a \$900 million appropriation to fund the Gateway Project, a multi-year, multi-billion-dollar project to rebuild transportation infrastructure between New Jersey and New York. He has continued to fight for Gateway and transportation infrastructure projects that benefit the American People.

He led the Build America series of convenings to bring together government, industry leaders, small businesses, and women- and minority-owned businesses to increase diversity in federal government contracting projects.

As a member of the House Committee on Homeland Security's Subcommittee on Emergency Preparedness, Response, and Recovery, Rep. Payne, Jr. has built a record of achievement in a divided Congress. He introduced two bills that were signed into Public Law by President Barack Obama, including the Department of Homeland Security Interoperable Communications Act of 2015, which ensures that DHS personnel can reliably communicate during emergencies.

Rep. Payne, Jr. also introduced a bill to secure public areas of transportation facilities, such as airports. His bill was incorporated into the FAA Reauthorization Act and signed into law in October of 2018. He is a strong supporter of the Affordable Care Act, which provides thousands of New Jerseyans with access to high-quality, affordable health care.

He has been a strong advocate for investing in and protecting the health of our children and introduced the TEST for Lead Act to protect children from lead-contaminated drinking water in schools. Also Rep. Payne, Jr. is a vocal advocate for cancer prevention, introducing the National Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month Resolution to raise awareness about the need for regular cancer screenings.

In the wake of Hurricane Maria's devastation in Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands, Rep. Payne, Jr. repeatedly took to the House floor to advocate for better federal emergency response. He is a leader on gun violence prevention and introduced the Safer Neighborhoods Gun Buyback Act of 2019, which aims to incentivize people to trade in their firearms for prepaid cards.

Rep. Payne, Jr. began his long career in public service when he founded Newark South Ward Junior Democrats, becoming its first president. He also served as an adviser to the YMCA Youth in Government program. He attended Kean College (now Kean University), where he studied Graphic Arts. He lives in Newark with his wife Beatrice and their triplets: Donald III, Jack, and Yvonne.



Excellence in Interfaith Award

Awarded to an individual who continues the
legacy of interfaith relations as established by
Imam W. Deen Mohammed

Dr. Mohammad Ali Chaudry, Phd.



Dr. Chaudry grew up in Pakistan and graduated from the London School of Economics in 1967 and received his post-doctorate degree (Ph.D.) from Tufts university in 1972.

Dr. Chaudry led a successful 30-year business and financial planning career at AT&T where he served as the Chief Financial Officer of the Public Relations Division. Additionally, Dr. Chaudry served as Director of the MBA Program at Seton Hall University and was full-time faculty in the Continuous Education Division of Rutgers University where he also designed and taught a non-credit course on Understanding Islam and Muslims.

Dr. Chaudry has lived in Basking Ridge, New Jersey for 46 years. He served six years on the Bernards Township Board of Education (1990-1995) and two 3-year terms on the governing body of the town—the Bernards Township Committee (2002-2007). He also served as Mayor of Bernards Township in 2004, becoming the first Pakistani-born Muslim to become a mayor of any city in the United States. Dr. Chaudry is Founder and President of the Islamic Society of Basking Ridge where he led the effort to establish a beautiful mosque, overcoming significant opposition and a legal battle with the Planning Board of the township.

Dr. Chaudry serves on many non-profit boards and actively participates in interfaith initiatives that include the Interfaith Community Action Network and the NJ Interfaith Coalition, which he co-founded. He initiated the “Pledge to Stand Up for the Other” campaign to challenge bigotry. In February 2021, Dr. Chaudry also received the New Jersey Governor’s Jefferson Award—an honor that recognizes those who achieve measurable community impact and represent outstanding acts of public service, without the expectation of recognition or compensation.

ATTBG Torchbearer Award

Awarded to an individual who preserves the standards and legacy of “A Time To Be Grateful” and Muslim Journal for future generations



Hajjah Joan Najeeullah

Sis. Joan Najeeullah is a native of Newark, N.J., who became a practicing Muslim in her high school years. She holds a BA in Computer Science from Kean University. She is married to Mahdee Najeeullah, and they share three children, Waladeen, Kamal and Aisha, whom she is so thankful to Allah (swt) for their professional successes and their overall goodwill.

Giving gratitude to Allah (swt), Joan enjoys the “Maryam Quran Reading Line,” a small group of dedicated sisters reading Quran daily. She is an activist, spending her time engaged in community and civic activities, interacting with Muslims and non-Muslims.

Sis. Joan is engaged in various civic organizations: a member of the Somerset County Democrats Black Caucus, New Jersey Muslim Voter for Progress, and Muslim League of Voters. She also serves on the Board of the non-profit organization People Helping People in Need, which includes planning and organizing youth activities and job coaching for individuals with disabilities.

Sis. Joan is a long-standing member of Masjidullah-Plainfield, NJ, and has served as the chair of its Youth Committee, planning events. And she enjoys collaborating with the sisters of Masjidullah. She loves spending special time with family, her trusted companions “Sisters in Harmony” and the community of Imam W.D. Mohammad (RA) at Masjid events.

She retired from work with the State of NJ and is an entrepreneur of her own business, Najee Products and Services, LLC, which includes Event Planning, Business Consultant and Product Marketing. She has a passion for coordinating events and public relations.

She embraced the opportunity to work with Muslim Journal’s Managing Editor Ayesha K. Mustafaa and Imam Abdul Kareem Muhammad, President of Muslim Journal Board of Directors, in preserving the legacy of the historic weekly publication.

Sis. Joan has served as the National Chair of A Time To Be Grateful (ATTBG) Annual Fundraiser events for over 14 years. She now serves as a newly appointed member of Muslim Journal’s Executive Board as its Special Events Coordinator.

She says this work has been an impactful life changing experience.

Al Hajj Malik Shabazz Award

Awarded to individuals who champion the Power of the Press

Yusuf & Zubaydah Madyun



There is truly an “A Time To Be Grateful” couple who epitomizes the concepts of this celebration. The lives of Zubaydah and Yusuf Madyun also are bonded in the history of Muhammad Speaks, the newspaper Malcolm X (Al Hajj Malik Shabazz) started in 1961, and the precursor to Muslim Journal.

The timeline of Muhammad Speaks to Muslim Journal now marks 62 years, and 54 years of it encompasses the lives of believers Yusuf and Zubaydah, as they navigated an unrelenting storm. Bro. Yusuf describes their lives as “slightly weather-beaten,” but they were “solidly bonded in a state of righteous matrimony.”

Their lives and struggles are reflective of the same type struggles in the life of Malcolm. In October of 1969, Sis. Zubaydah began working for the newspaper at the Muhammad Speaks news plant on Federal Street in Chicago, Ill. She came to work at the same time her husband, Bro. Yusuf, was sitting on death row.

Sis. Zubaydah recalls, “This was when I received a direct correspondence from the Hon. Elijah Muhammad offering assistance for Yusuf during his time of confinement.” Her employment at Muhammad Speaks was at the behest of its founder.

From the years at Muhammad Speaks, Sis. Zubaydah was there to witness the incoming leadership of Imam W. Deen Mohammed in 1975 – indeed help had come. The Imam cleaned the path for the Muslims to become “believers.” And in that transition too Muhammad Speaks succeeded to be Muslim Journal.

The status of Bro. Yusuf on death row was well known. Bro. Yusuf says, “Muslim Journal protected Zubaydah, while she awaited the return of her husband.” Without this “shroud of religious protection,” Yusuf believes their marriage may not have survived his lengthy incarceration. While incarcerated, Bro. Yusuf is credited with teaching countless inmates how to read.

When he was released in August 2020, he narrated their journey: “From Muhammad Speaks to Muslim Journal, October 1969 – August 2020. A sum of 51 Years!” He wrote, “It is an odyssey that in many ways defied belief but maintained an indisputable fact: Allah is God. How else could Zubaydah sustain herself for 53 years, nine months and several hours – waiting for her husband through 40 painful parole denials?”

Sis. Zubaydah says, “During this odyssey, my husband and I received many blessings sent by Allah through a host of Believers, which sustained us both – too numerous to be specific, from Imams, prison chaplains, masjid, organizations, Muslim Journal subscribers – some sending flowers and gifts, letters of support and well-wishes.

“I was especially honored to receive the support of Imam W. Deen Mohammed because of the faith I had in my husband. Our faith in Allah and my faith in my husband proved wholly justified.”

Sis. Zubaydah says her many years at Muslim Journal also “earned her a wealth of social and political experiences” and acquaintances with fellow human beings throughout the earth, engaged in all walks of life.”

Monte I. Fateen Sr. Award

Awarded to an individual who promotes Muslim Journal, contributing to its growth, sustainability and its legacy

Edward Na'eem Syed

Born Edward Womack Jr. to Edward and Lillie Mae Womack in Greenville, Alabama, Bro. Edward Na'eem Syed began his struggle at the tender age of 8 years old, as he marched in the Civil Rights Movement with the Freedom Fighters who were sent to his town by the world-renowned Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

In 1963, his parents soon after relocated to Passaic, NJ, with his six brothers and sisters. In 1971, he joined the graduating class at Passaic High School. While a student there, he showcased his passion for football and baseball. Throughout this time, he exhibited his great work ethic starting with his very own paper route.

In 1973 after receiving his letter of acceptance into the Nation of Islam, Bro. Syed became Edward 2X at Temple 76 in Paterson, NJ. He was quickly appointed "Squad Leader" to be the driving force in Muhammad Speaks, Bilalian News and Muslim Journal (a continuous publication with various name changes). These publications were placed at various public businesses, such as barber shops and local movie theatres.

Bro. Na'eem served as Chairperson and Community Organizer of C.R.A.I.D. (Committee to Remove All Images of Divine). He hosted a Radio and TV talk show and had the honor of interviewing Imam W. Deen Mohammed at the Meadowlands Arena, which is currently home of the New York Giants, for the "Sacred Life Connections." He served as the American Muslim Mission Collective Purchasing (A.M.M.C.O.P.) Chairperson and Fundraising Chairperson for Sister Clara Muhammad Schools. He later helped organize one of the largest A.M.M.C.O.P. collective purchasing events, which was held at East Orange High School in East Orange, NJ.

In 1988, Bro. Syed relocated to Fayetteville, NC, with his family. While in Fayetteville, he hosted a Cable TV program titled "Your Community in Focus." He was appointed Chairperson of the NC Muslim Business Council, which organized and hosted a Imam Mohammed's Collective Purchasing Collective (C.P.C.) Investment Conference in 1998. He also served as Chairperson and President of the NC New Africa Distribution for C.P.C., at which time he was appointed C.P.C. Manager by Imam W.D. Mohammed.

Na'eem Syed wears many hats, including being a member of the NAACP. He is currently working with his active Masjid, Omar Ibn Sayyid, the most historic masjid in Fayetteville. He held the title as former Sectional Dawah Coordinator for the Mid-Atlantic Region. And he was granted the honor of being the Muslim Journal Representative, as well as Pioneer Committee Chairperson.

He is presently an anchor for The National Radio Broadcast of Imam W.D. Mohammed. He also serves as Security Director at Masjid Omar Ibn Sayyid.

Bro. Syed retired from a 40-year career in the Car Sales/Finance Business, with 30 years attributed to The Hendrick Automotive Group. He has been married to his wife, Sis. Haneefah, for 45 years and blessed with six adult children.

"Whatever good, (O man!) Happens to thee, is from Allah; But whatever evil happens to thee, is from thy (own) soul. And we have sent thee as a Messenger to (instruct) mankind. And enough is Allah for a witness." (Holy Qur'an 4:79)



Excellence in Cultural Heritage Award

Awarded to an individual who preserves the
value of positive cultural expressions

Winard Harper



A child prodigy, Winard Harper was born in Baltimore, Md., in 1962. Although his parents were not musicians, they were full of encouragement as they noticed him beating on cans when he was 3 or 4 years old. At 5 years old, Winard would sometimes sit in and play his drums in his older brother's rock n roll band, after the family moved to Washington, D.C.

In 1981, Winard had put together the forerunner of his future band – The Harper Brothers Band – a D.C. Jazz Quintet. In 1983, Winard received a scholarship for the University of Hartford. Soon, though, New York was calling.

Harper's first major gig was with Dexter Gordon in 1982 and shortly thereafter with Johnny Griffin. It wasn't long before his drumming skills captured the attention of Betty Carter. He spent four years as drummer with Ms. Carter's band, also working as a sideman to such jazz legends as Ray Bryant, Abdullah Ibrahim, Pharoah Sanders and Clifford Jordan.

Simultaneously, he kept his own band working on his days off. “With Betty, I learned consistency and persistence,” Harper recalls. “Working with her prepared me to become a bandleader; I learned a lot about the business from her.” By 1988, Winard's hard work and dedication to jazz paid dividends with a Harper Brother record deal from PolyGram.

At 27, Winard was already playing like a veteran, a virtuoso on the cymbals as well as the drums. In the early 1990's, Winard changed direction in which he was inspired by the leadership of notable musicians Dr. Billy Taylor and Billy Higgins. Harper notes that a lot of the concepts he experimented with his band was inspired by the two men.

Winard went on to record several albums featuring collaborations with an ever-surprising range of jazz greats. While building a strong sextet, he attributes his success to the inspiration from these mentors, whom he later called “friends.”

Constantly in reverence of his predecessors while remaining innovative in his own right, Harper has been among the celebrated drummers in jazz for many years. He is a virtuoso on the drum set and the balafon, the West African equivalent of the marimba. He is a sought-after collaborator at home and abroad.

The band leader of his quartet, his quintet and his exciting band, the “Jeli Posse,” Winard is a regular with the legendary New York clubs. He is also an educator of future jazz professionals through his kids program.

He is the event's organizer of the weekly Fish Fry Jazz Jam and the Sunday “Meet the Artist” Series at Moore's Lounge in Jersey City – an event dedicated to bringing Jazz to the community from which it originated.

Imam W. Deen Mohammed Literacy Award

Awarded to an individual who recognizes the power of words to “make people”

Honorable Mayor Ras J. Baraka



The Hon. Ras J. Baraka is the 40th Mayor of the City of Newark. He is a native of Newark whose family has lived in the City for more than 80 years. Mayor Baraka’s progressive approach to governing has won him accolades from grassroots organizations to the White House. Mayor Baraka has defied expectations since taking office in 2014 with forward-thinking agenda that: reduced crime to its lowest levels in five decades, addressed affordability while maintaining steady growth, lowered unemployment, returned local control of schools after more than two decades, and replaced all 23, 000 known lead service lines in less than three years at no cost to residents. The Mayor’s futurist agenda has included the implementation of a groundbreaking partnership called “Hire. Buy. Live. Newark,” a program that marks the first time that any US city has sought to transform its economy by combining employment, procurement, and residential strategies.

As part of his commitment to strengthen Newark’s position in the expanded technology space, the City launched LinkNWK (pronounced Link Newark). This communications network of sidewalk kiosks provides Newark residents and visitors with free, gigabit WI-FI, mobile device charging, phone calls to anywhere in the U.S., access to municipal services, maps and directions, and real-time local information on city streets at no cost to taxpayers or users.

Additionally, broadband and WI-FI have been extended to city parks and recreation centers, and the City seeks to ensure that every resident has access to free or very low-cost broadband to bridge the digital divide.

Mayor Baraka is recognized nationally as a thought leader in the space of urban revitalization, and his commitment to reducing crime in Newark, reimagining public safety, tackling the city’s housing crisis, and developing innovative and community-driven approaches to eliminating income inequality has solidified his status as one of the country’s most progressive elected officials.

While serving as the Mayor of Newark, he also presides as the President of NJ Urban Mayors Association; Executive Board Member for NJ League of Municipalities; Co-Chair, National League of Cities Reimagining Public Safety Task Force; U.S. Conference of Mayors - Vice Chair for Ports, Transportation and Communications Committee; and Member, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Local Government Advisory Committee.

Mayor Baraka was educated in the Newark Public Schools. He received a Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science and History from Howard University in Washington, D.D., and a Master’s Degree in Education Supervision from St. Peter’s University in Jersey City.

His father, the late Amiri Baraka, was a legendary poet and playwright. His mother, Amina Baraka, is, herself, a renowned poet. Doting husband and father, Mayor Baraka is a published author who recently released the audible memoir, “The Book of Baraka.”

The Mayor is well-regarded in the entertainment industry for his appearance on the Grammy-award winning album, “The Miseducation of Lauryn Hill” in his authentic role as an educator and for his EP “What We Want.”

Muslim Business Legacy Award

Awarded to an individual who who builds sustainable community growth and development

Akbar T. Salaam



Akbar T. Abdus Salaam wears many hats in the Newark, New Jersey, Muslim community. These titles include but is not limited to: pioneer, entrepreneur, community organizer, and a social activist – just to name a few. He is also the owner and operator of the Unity Brand Halal Beef Sausage Company, an establishment that has been a landmark in Newark for over 55 years and is where he has made his home for the past 75 years.

Under the banner of his business, Bro. Akbar utilized his passion and commitment to public service and community development as a vehicle to provide Social Service resources to those in need and underserved. For over 30 years, the Unity Brand Halal Beef Sausage cultivated a productive working relationship with Volunteers of America.

In this role, he provides job training for these residents, mentorship and offers tools to attain marketable skills that prepares them to become productive members of society. Akbar also works with Newark high school students, with the same opportunity.

Bro. Akbar has received many accolades and honors for his dedication and commitment to the community at large. He was featured in the Newark Star-Ledger highlighting his role as a supporter and activist in the renaissance of Newark and was honored by the Board of Chosen Freeholders, sponsored by Bilal Beasley, for the African American History Month Celebration in 2013.

Over the years, Akbar received several “Businessman of the Year” awards where he was acknowledged and honored by the late Imam W.D. Mohammed and The Mosque Cares. Additionally, he was presented with the Excellence in Business and Community Service Award which was presented by the Senate and General Assembly of the State of New Jersey and the Newark Municipal Council.

Bro. Akbar has established a remarkable presence in the community he serves. He has several additional achievements, honors and affiliations under his belt that deserve mentioning and are phenomenal feats. These include his role as the Juneteenth Convener, Director of the New Jersey Halal Certifying and Regulatory Board, President of the New Jersey Muslim Association, consultant for the New Jersey Council of Imams, and his continuous annual sponsorship for the New Africa Family Day Event.

He is also a member of the World Peace Project, Muslim League of Voters of New Jersey, New Africa Economic Community and Development Fund and is a Member of the Newark Athlete Hall of Fame. However, Bro. Akbar considers his top accomplishment and most remarkable honorable mention as his completion of Hajj – the Islamic Pilgrimage – in 1991.

Bro. Akbar provides more than quality Halal meat to his customers. He demonstrates the importance of extending the appropriate “customer’s service etiquette” by being an example. He assisted in the development of the “Manner and Condition” for slaughtering and processing Halal meats and poultry with the State of New Jersey and USDA. This contributed to the creation of standard procedures for the current Halal industry throughout America.

Akbar Salaam is committed to his community. He takes every opportunity to give back by consistently dedicating his time, experience, and expertise to uplift and empower future generations. Akbar is an incredible and extraordinary role model to the community.

Muslim Women Heritage Award

Awarded to the premier Muslim Women's
Organization's Nationwide Chapters

Hajjah Brenda W. Sharif

International President

The International League of Muslim Women, Inc.



Al-Hajjah Brenda W. Sharif accepted Al-Islam as a student of Imam W. Deen Mohammed 45 years ago in Memphis, TN. As a high school student, Brenda embraced her school motto "SERVIAM" (meaning "I WILL SERVE"), which provided an excellent and life-long segue of an adult life of service to the local and national communities.

Bringing her Master level skills in Public Health and Wellness, of care and concern for the least among the Memphis community, she continues to assist in affecting change for families considered to live in "food insecure" areas by managing the first Halal food pantry affiliated with an urban Food Bank in the U.S.

Under the encouragement of Sis. Sahirah Muhammad Alim, one of the original founders of THE INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE OF MUSLIM WOMEN, Inc. (TILMW), she along with the support of five other Memphis sisters established TILMW Memphis Chapter.

The influence of the language of Imam Mohammed and the understanding of "Serviam" developed into the concept of "Servant Leadership." This is what led to her election as President of Memphis TILMW, encouraging community outreach, support for women, children and families through empowerment, workshops/programs, and the promotion of true sisterhood throughout the cross-cultural diaspora of Muslim and non-Muslim women in Memphis.

Her clear, fair, and inclusive leadership approach led to her election in 2018 as the International President of The International League of Muslim Women, Inc. (TILMW).

Modeling the importance and value of focused Muslim female leadership, her administration welcomed new chapters, reestablished and strengthened "legacy" chapters through upholding the platform: "2020 Vision, Cultivating a Culture of Mastery!"

Members of The International League of Muslim Women, Inc. aspire to develop the untapped excellence within themselves for their individual betterment and the entire organization through its newest platform: "A.I.M"-ACTIVATE YOUR INHERENT MASTERY!

Her commitment to the Mission, Vision and Values of The International League of Muslim Women, Inc. is True and Real. Her motivators: "Serviam" and "Servant Leadership." The Quran is her living guide.

Brenda is married to Imam Rashad Sharif; they have five fantastic children and ten grandchildren.

Lifetime Community Volunteerism Award

Awarded to an individual uplifting the Value of Life for the Collective



Hajjah Angela Saborah Shadad

Hajjah Angela Saborah Shadad is a wife, mother, resolute Muslim, and community servant. Affectionately known in the ummah as “Angie,” Hajjah Angela is a native of Newark, New Jersey, where her faith journey began at Mt. Calvary Missionary Baptist Church as Angela Watson. She is an alumna of South Side High School, Essex County College and Lincoln University – yielding her a Master’s Degree in Social Services.

At the age of 21, Angela converted from Christianity to Al-Islam. Upon entering the Nation of Islam (NOI), she was given the name Angela 3X. As “Hajjah” – one who has completed the rites of Hajj to Mecca, Angela was convinced Allah (SWT) had something good in store for her and that her life would change for the better. Hajjah Angela has always maintained the belief that declaring her Shahadah (declaration of Muslim faith) brought her closer to Allah (SWT), and she could not have made a better decision. Angie’s mother witnessed the positive change and gave her blessing.

Up on completing college, Angela’s career was in social service positions. She was employed by the Division of Child Protection & Permanency (DCPP), helping mothers to regain custody of their children.

A Domestic Violence Advocate educating people about the cycle of abuse, she spent twenty years in an Emergency Resident Program working with the homeless population.

Simultaneously, she volunteers her time with the Muslim community. Most notably, for the past ten years Angie has served as chairperson of The Unified Eid Committee of New Jersey. She attributes its success to the wonderful, dedicated member participation year after year.

Sis. Angela passion is to serve. She is confident that this is what Allah put into her heart, mind, body and soul. She is a testament to the fact that prayer works. She believes and lives by keeping Allah first. She says remaining mindful of the importance of being kind and helping one another while securing the ties of kinship and valuing friendships is key.

After completing Hajj with seven other beautiful sisters, Angie chose the name Hajjah Angela Saborah Shadad. Today, Hajjah Angela Shadad is the wife of Edward Wiseman and mother of her five wonderful children who followed her passion of serving humanity. She is forever thankful to Allah (SWT) for the myriad of blessings he continues to bestow upon her, her family and community.

Muslim Business Excellence Award

Awarded to an individual that exemplifies business excellence in the quality of product and customer relations

George Sabir



George Sabir is a long-standing member of the Muslim community of Newark, NJ. His parents, Renelda and Joseph Sabir Finney, joined the Nation of Islam in 1965 under the leadership of the Hon. Elijah Muhammad. George moved to Newark in 1970 and attended the University of Islam. He worked at one of the first Steak-N-Take Restaurants in the Newark area, owned by his brother Earle Bilal and Herbert Musa. It was this experience that prepared him for a life of entrepreneurship in the food industry.

By 1975, George graduated from University of Islam and would later become the owner of the Steak-N-Take where he got his start. From a young age, George has been driven by the Hon. Elijah Muhammad's teaching of "Do For Self" and Imam Waarith Deen Mohammed's imperative to establishing a business that could sustain family and community life.

George met his wife Maryam in 1975 and is the proud father of three daughters – Zakiyyah, Hadiyah and Fatimah, and his stepson, Artemas. He is also a grandfather to Malcolm, Malik and Mahibah.

Bro. Sabir is passionate about helping the African American Muslim community move forward and has committed to using business as the means to do so. His first solo venture was the Steak-N-Take he opened in Downtown Newark. Many of the lessons he learned there as his first job prepared him for the business that he leads today.

Today, George is affectionately known as "The Fish Man" and runs the Steak-N-Take Fish truck in the heart of Newark on Bergen Street. He's had the honor of serving local customers all across Newark – including Newark City Hall, Newark Police Department, several Fire Departments – and travelers from as far as Atlanta, Georgia, all parts of Texas and California, who are enthusiastic about tasting his cuisine. George's personal success in business was never his end goal. He carries a heart that wants to see the community progress and has often helped other community members establish their own businesses.

George Sabir has come full circle, as he is in the final stages of opening a restaurant in Newark two blocks away from the restaurant where he first developed a love for food and service. He attributes his success to the mercy of Allah and the promise that "Mankind will get nothing but what he strives for, and what he strives for will soon come into sight." (Qur'an)

Generation Next Leadership Award

Awarded to a young adult who demonstrates leadership qualities and appreciation for the longevity of Muslim American Pioneer efforts

Khalid Sanchez-Muhammad



The 29-year-old Khalid Sanchez Muhammad is an Afro-Latino Businessman and Imam from Newark, NJ. He is a Rutgers University Alumni with his Bachelor's in Political Science and Minor in Arabic.

He is a father of five and husband to Ameena Pasha. His involvement in the community consists of membership in The Unified Eid Committee of New Jersey, Chairperson of Young Adults Committee for A Time To Be Grateful, and Youth Outreach Liaison for Masjid Muhammad (Newark).

He comes from a family of leaders, pioneers, and trailblazers, like his mother, Hameenah Muhammad and grandparents Imam Akbar and Sis. Malika Muhammad. Likewise, Khalid is a community organizer and activist.

Khalid also owns and operates multiple businesses. He is founder of Good Deeds, a nonprofit organization based out of Newark, and owner of Tite Services, a branding company specializing in minority business solutions.

Good Deeds targets an underserved demographic in Newark and East Orange through a range of programs and activities to stimulate growth in youth and success in adults, regardless of faith and ethnicity.

Areas of service range on a wide scale from things like feedings, field days, Islamic classes, and informative workshops.

Tite Services provides practical tools and resources that are offered alongside flexible brand strategies, helping individuals and small businesses thrive in a digital era.

His other business ventures include Juju's Juice Box, Believers Brand Co., and more.

Generation Next Leadership Award

Awarded to a young adult who demonstrates leadership qualities and appreciation for the longevity of Muslim American Pioneer efforts

Sadiqah Huda Mekki

Sadiqah Huda Mekki, a 24-year-old from Newark, New Jersey, is the daughter of Ishaq and Wakeelah Mekki. She is a second generation Muslimah and the youngest of four. She has two sisters and one brother. She is affectionately called “Babygirl.”

Sadiqah attends Masjid Warith ud Deen located in Irvington, NJ, under the leadership of Imam Wayhud Deen Shareef. She has learned many things while attending the masjid. Her dream is for more youth to stand together to make a change in the community.

She is currently in her second semester of nursing school and looks forward to pursuing her carrier working in the Trauma Unit or in Neurology. Sadiqah also served on the International League of Muslim Women and Unified Eid Committee under the leadership of Hajja Angela Shadad.

Sadiqah has faced multiple challenges and struggled with the passing of her father, Ishaq Mekki (AS). Her mother and father are her world, she says, adding, “A piece of me went missing when my dad returned to Allah.”

Sadiqah was raised in the community by a community. And she relates, “I am from a community where young people say, ‘they don’t play about me.’” As a Muslim first and a young adult second, she aspires to always do her best. She desires the same for her Ummah.

Currently, Sadiqah is working on the surgical part of her degree and hopes to give back to the community with her learned skills. She also will be able to give better care for her mother, as her mother has shown to her.

This is her first year on the Planning Committee of A Time To Be Grateful for 2023 as the co-chair of the Young Adult Events Committee. She is also the secretary of the Unified Eid Committee.

She says, “It is a joy and blessing to be of service in the Islamic community.” Sadiqah was taught to keep the legacy of her parents alive.



African Connect Diaspora Award

Awarded to the advancement of the

National Muslim Business Council

David K. and BaSeemah Calhoun Hasan



On December 2022, Bro. David K. Hasan, President of the National Muslim Business Council (NMBC), and his wife and business partner, Sis. BaSeemah Calhoun Hasan, fulfilled a decades long dream to open a NMBC office in Africa.

We give tribute to Bro. David K. Hasan, as he was overjoyed with this realization of his greatest work. And as he returned to the United States, our brother joined the ancestors, passing from this life in January 2023.

One of the key organizers of the 2022 NMBC Business Conference and African Diaspora Connect delegation of 47 Muslim African Americans from the U.S.A. to Senegal, West Africa, Sis. BaSeemah and the NMBC team continue nurturing and preserving the vision that Bro. David held to the final days of his life.

Bro David K. Hasan: Bro. David was an entrepreneur and businessman for over 50 years, during which he has built a remarkable business reputation. He has managed, owned and operated several businesses, non-profit organizations, and companies where he received several honors and awards for outstanding business achievements.

Along with his business endeavors and accomplishments, he was at the helm of the Grassroots Seafood and Chicken restaurant, owned several daycare centers and was the sole proprietor of Dave & Sons Cleaning & Contracting, LLC

Bro. David served as President and CEO of the National Muslim Business Council (NMBC), (NMBC), an organization established to focus on Muslim and non-Muslim cohorts bringing forth business economic development strategies. He and his wife and partner, BaSeemah, conducted several NMBC conferences over several decades to build a network where businesses could collaborate and share informational resources to build a business network.

The goal of nonprofit organization based in America now has a satellite office in Dakar, Senegal, West Africa, opening in December 2022. Sis. BaSeemah continues to maintain a solid business relationship to maintain the U.S.A. and West African initials with the goal to open the door of opportunities for the business community of Imam W. Deen Mohammed and others.

Bro. David participated in many endeavors that have received high accolades within the business world. In his role as a member of the Small Business Council of former President Barack Obama, he was instrumental in the opening of the Muhammad Ali Center in Louisville, Kentucky.

David Hasan was also appointed by the Governor of North Carolina to the Business Round Table and served on many boards, including the Board of Directors for the Chamber of Commerce and the Advisory Board for Early Childhood Education for Fayetteville Technical Community College.

He also served as the Vice Chair of the Cumberland County Joint Planning Board in Fayetteville, N.C. In May 2018, Bro. Hasan helped establish the W. D. Mohammed Islamic Center in Greensboro, N.C.

Along with his business endeavors and accomplishments, he was at the helm of the Grassroots Seafood and Chicken restaurant, owned several daycare centers and was the sole proprietor of Dave & Sons Cleaning & Contracting, LLC

Bro. David served as President and CEO of the National Muslim Business Council (NMBC), (NMBC), an organization established to focus on Muslim and non-Muslim cohorts bringing forth business economic development strategies. He and his wife and partner, BaSeemah, conducted several NMBC conferences over several decades to build a network where businesses could collaborate and share informational resources to build a business network.

The goal of nonprofit organization based in America now has a satellite office in Dakar, Senegal, West Africa, opening in December 2022. Sis. BaSeemah continues to maintain a solid business relationship to maintain the U.S.A. and West African initials with the goal to open the door of opportunities for the business community of Imam W. Deen Mohammed and others.

Bro. David participated in many endeavors that have received high accolades within the business world. In his role as a member of the Small Business Council of former President Barack Obama, he was instrumental in the opening of the Muhammad Ali Center in Louisville, Kentucky.

David Hasan was also appointed by the Governor of North Carolina to the Business Round Table and served on many boards, including the Board of Directors for the Chamber of Commerce and the Advisory Board for Early Childhood Education for Fayetteville Technical Community College.

He also served as the Vice Chair of the Cumberland County Joint Planning Board in Fayetteville, N.C. In May 2018, Bro. Hasan helped establish the W. D. Mohammed Islamic Center in Greensboro, N.C.

He led the community in building one of the first mosques in Fayetteville, an endeavor that included constructing an original edifice from the ground up. This initiative led to the completion of Masjid Omar ibn Sayyid, an Islamic worship center named after an esteemed West African Muslim Scholar who escaped from slavery in South Carolina. Omar ibn Sayyid was later caught and imprisoned in Fayetteville.

Omar Ibn Sayyid has been a historical monument in the Muslim community for over 35 years.

Barbara BaSeemah Calhoun-Hasan: Sis. BaSeemah, as she is affectionately known, is the NMBC Executive Director and Director of the International Business Center. She is widow of the late NMBC President, Mr. David K. Hasan (RA).

A student of Imam W.D. Mohammed (RA), she joined David K. Hasan – a believer who was selected by Imam W.D. Mohammed to form a group to plan and organize a “Do for Self” Economic Development strategy/mission in the U.S.A. and to ultimately connect to the continent of Africa. “Bro. David’s Mission completed, Mashallah!

Sis. BaSeemah is the former Steering Committee Chair, Organizer and Administrator of Operations of NMBC throughout many cities across the USA and across the seas to West Africa, joining Muslim and non-Muslim members in numerous locations, around the country. Included are the West African countries of Sierra Leone and Senegal.

In 2021, inspired by a letter delivered to Honorable Secretary, Dr. Julius Sandy, to be given to the President of Sierra Leone “on behalf of the NMBC President David K. Hasan,” Sis. BaSeemah was also invited to join the Delegation from the United States to meet His Excellency, the President of the Republic of Sierra Leone, Julius Maada Bio.

In his letter to the President, Bro. Hasan stated, “We continue to move forward in our relationship with the African countries.” His initiatives reflected the 2015 NMBC Business Conference and Expo in Houston, Texas, when Ambassador Permanent Representative Du Senegal, His Excellency Fode Seck was the NMBC Awards Banquet Keynote Speaker.

She also traveled to the Launch of LoBDA Programme of Events, an historical moment, meeting with the Paramount Chief of the Panguma Chiefdom in Lower Bambara District, in a village in Eastern Sierra Leone; the original name Panquiima – Women Society. Within the Lower Bambara District, the Mende Village Community accepted Sis. BaSeemah into the village and awarded her the tribal name “Nyaiwah” – “Elderly Leader Woman in Community.”

Sis. BaSeemah is a mother, widow, experienced educator and entrepreneur with over 45 years of combined experience in government, corporate, health and beauty aid industries and non-profits. She is known for her exceptional organizational and management skills and has been in multiple positions of leadership as a business consultant on different advisory boards.

After obtaining her degrees from Cuyahoga Community College, the prestigious Cleveland State University, she used her education in Urban Development for her volunteer work and community involvement in nonprofit organizations and outreach programs.

She was a former executive assistant to the Mayor, a Human Resource Director, and a Civil Service Secretary. She taught at Remington College. She was owner of Van Aken Consulting, New International Products, LLC, BaSeemah Connections, and former President of the Bilal Business Interest Group, LLC (BBIG), an investment group in Ohio.

She has volunteered as a board member for the Mary S. Harper Geriatric-Psychiatry Center, in Tuscaloosa, Ala., and on the Advisory Board of the Cleveland Heights Vocational Center of Ohio. She continues as the NMBC Executive Director/International Director CEO, MBL Management, LLC offices in North Carolina and Ohio.

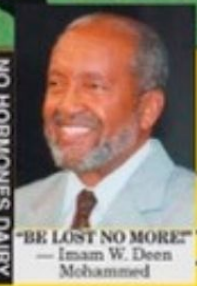
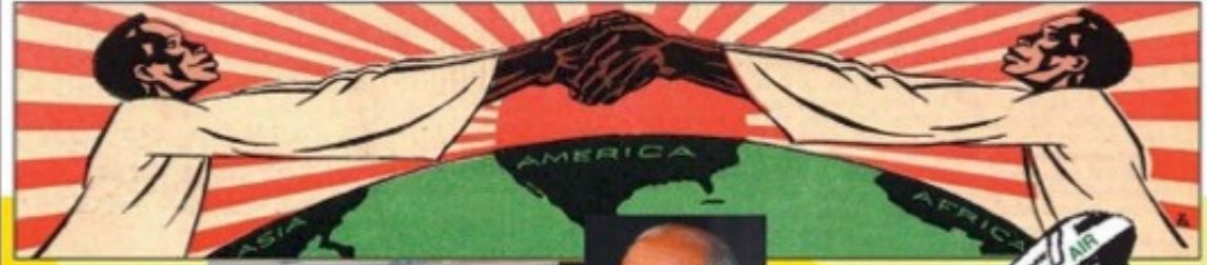


New Africa! Can You See It ?

22 plus Years of Visionary Leadership of Imam W. Deen Mohammed



لا اله الا الله عز وجل

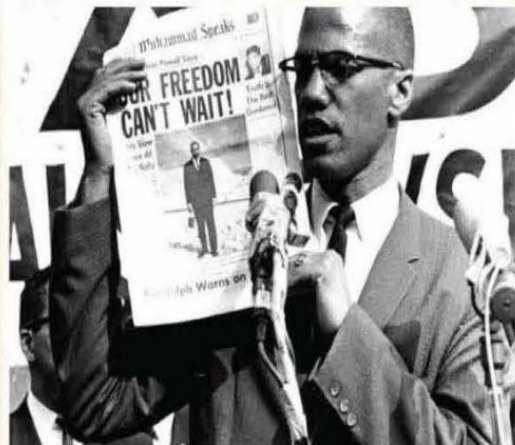
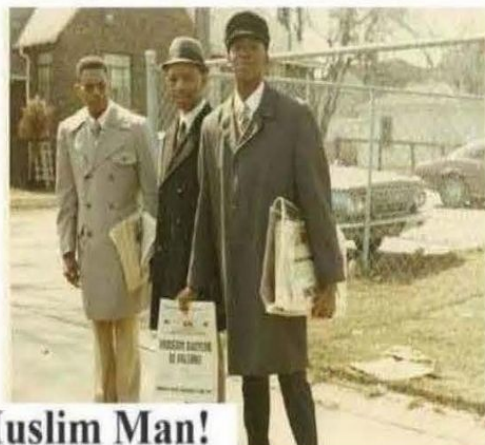
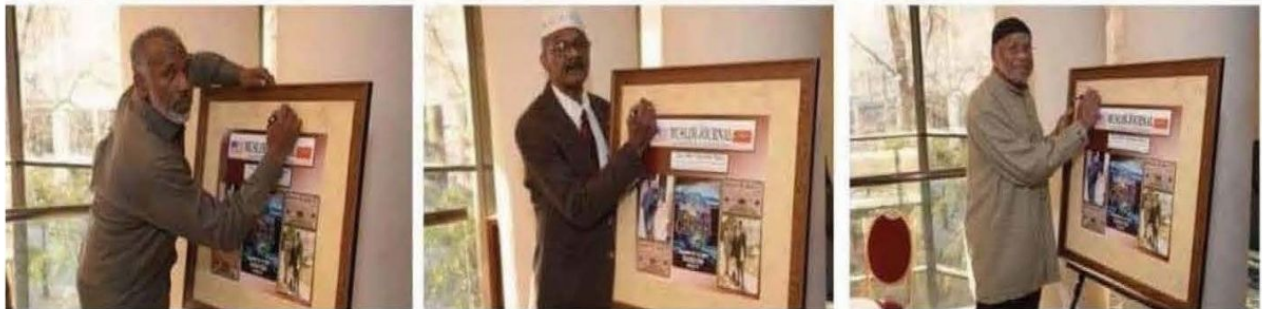


OUR HALAL FARM



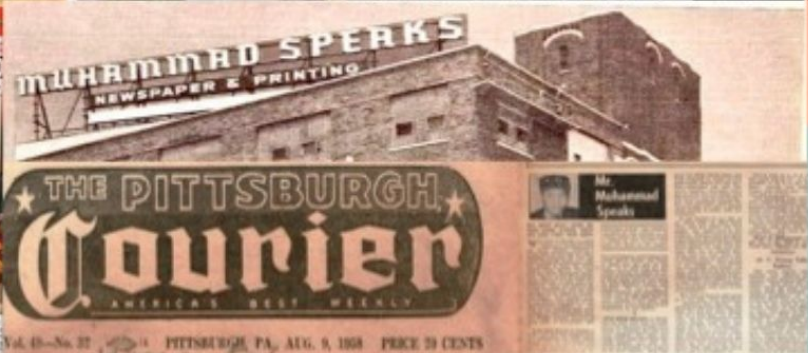
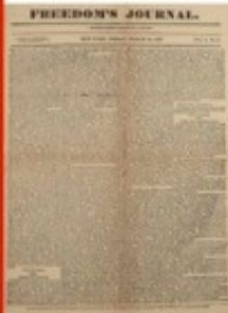
Gratitude Reflective Throughout Roads Travel in the Promised Land

A Free Press for Muslims from the Muhammad Speaks to the Muslim Journal

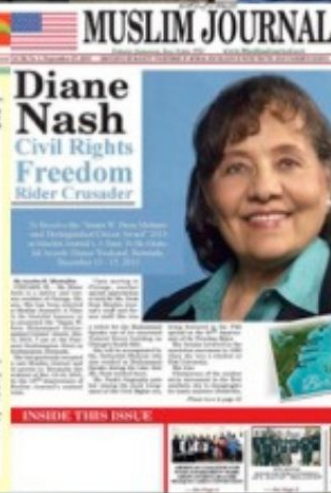
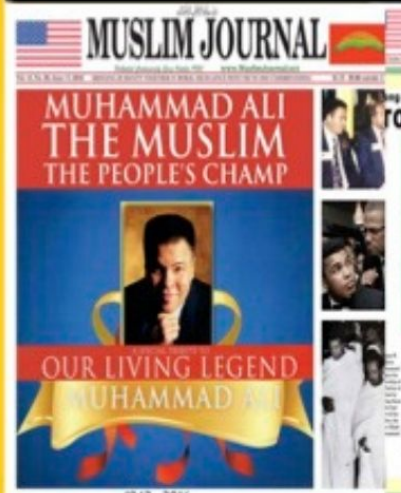


The 300+ Muslim Man!

FREEDOM OF AFRICAN AMERICAN PRESS

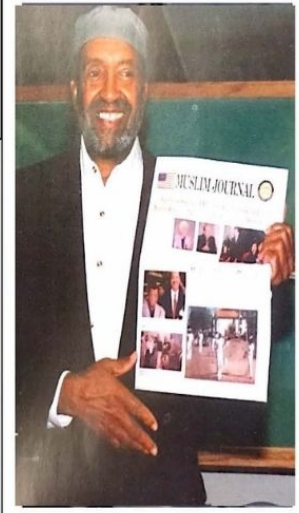


Subscribe to Muslim Journal





www.MuslimJournal.net
 Facebook / Twitter
 Instagram / YouTube



MUSLIM JOURNAL

For less than a cup of coffee "a week"

Your purchase of a single paper or subscription will keep a historic newspaper alive and well!

Quality News at your fingertips
Subscribe Today!

1 YEAR SUBSCRIPTION ONLY \$70

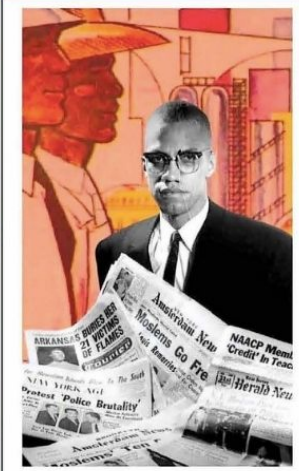
1 Month ~~or~~ 6 Months
\$12 ONLINE ONLY \$43

Subscribe online at www.MuslimJournal.net
 or by calling (773) 952-8177

Who owns SOCIAL MEDIA?! NOT US!
 Keep your newspaper ready and fully supported to continue WHEN SOCIAL MEDIA FAILS!

Fake news infiltrates social media
 DEFEND "the truth" with a trusted news source!

www.MuslimJournal.net



**** 2-YEAR SUBSCRIPTION also available \$135 - BEST SAVINGS! ****

INSIDE U.S.	FOREIGN/OUTSIDE U.S.	COMPARE THE SAVINGS SUBSCRIPTION PRICE Versus WEEKLY SINGLE ISSUE SALES!
6 Month Subscriber/26 issues \$43.00	6 Month Subscriber/26 issues \$50.00	
1-Year Subscriber/52 issues \$70.00	1-Year Subscriber/52 issues \$95.00	
2-Year Subscriber/104 issues \$135.00	2-Year Subscriber/104 issues \$165.00	

// SIGN ME UP FOR AN ONLINE SUBSCRIPTION; USE EMAIL ADDRESS BELOW:

(Check if Address Changed Renewal)

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

Ph. #: () _____

Email: _____

Now Accepting CREDIT CARDS

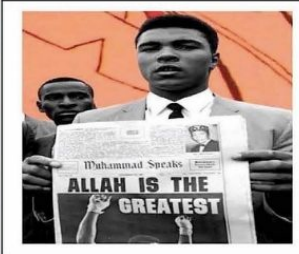
Type of Card _____ Acct. No. _____

Expiration date _____ CCV: _____

Signature: _____

Make Checks payable to MUSLIM JOURNAL and mail to:
Muslim Journal Circulation Department
 P. O. Box 19263, Chicago, IL 60619
 PH: (773)-952-8177 FAX: (773)-966-7681
 Please Allow 2 to 4 Weeks for Delivery!
 Accepting Mastercard, Visa on-line at www.muslimjournal.net

MOVING?
 Enter New ADDRESS
 in Order Form on the Left. ENTER OLD
 Address or Mailing Label HERE.



"The Perfect Eidul Fitr Gifts!"

MUSLIM JOURNAL PRODUCTS OFFERED VIA
 "ALIMARTS.COM"

Online Orders AVAILABLE! Go to WEBSITE*: alimarts.com

~ or email: balim@alimarts.com

* FOR ONLINE ORDERS OF PRODUCTS, PLACE YOUR ONLINE ORDER WITH
 A DEBIT/CREDIT CARD (outside USA, online only)

*Email BALIM@ALIMARTS.COM to verify quantity & shipping cost.
 Larger orders qualify for reduced shipping rate.

Or Mail-in ORDERS, send to: ALIM ARTS, Attn: B. Alim
 PO Box 251594, West Bloomfield, MI 48325

Purchaser Information (outside USA, online only):

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP: _____

PH #/ EMAIL: _____

**MAIL-IN ORDERS: SEND ENTIRE PRODUCT
 SELECTION FORM WITH ORDER & PAYMENT:**

**Make Ch/M.O. Payable to ALIM ARTS
 (SEND EMAIL FOR SPECIAL REQUESTS:
BALIM@ALIMARTS.COM)**



MUSLIM FLAG

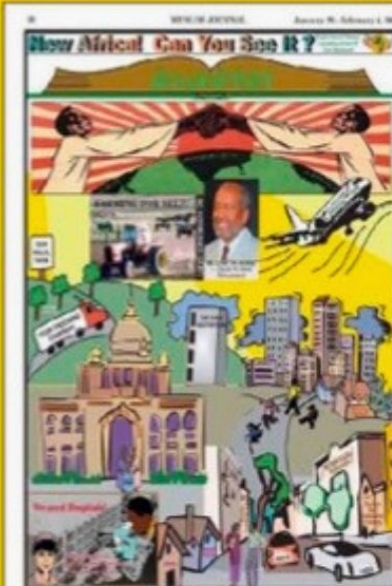
INDICATE BELOW "HOW MANY" OF PRODUCT(S):

● Double-weight Matte Paper for Muslim Flag:
 Flag 18x24 \$17.50; 24x36 \$22.50

● Double-weight Matte
 POSTER for New Africa
 Poster 18x24 \$17.50
 24x36 \$22.50

● MUSLIM JOURNAL CUPS - \$15.00 per cup
 *SHIP: \$11.50 x ___ (Sx#FLAG/POSTER); \$12.50 x ___ (Sx#CUP)

● TOTAL \$\$ ENCLOSED (ITEMS + POSTAGE): \$ _____



NEW AFRICA POSTER



154971084



154971084

History of Muslim American-Flag
New Flag for the Nation of Islam
 Entered from March 10, 1976, issue of
 Muslim Journal, Volume 18, Number 1
 by Imam B. Abdur-Rahman

The new flag is made of red, white and green with a yellow sunburst in the center. The red represents the blood of the Prophet and the white represents the purity of the message. The green represents the earth and the yellow represents the sun. The sunburst in the center represents the rising sun of Islam and the promise of a bright future for the Nation of Islam.

COMPLIMENTARY FLAG HISTORY

* Basheer Alim
 Provides Products for
 MUSLIM JOURNAL
 FUNDRAISER!



SUBSCRIBE!
 WWW.
 MUSLIM
 JOURNAL.
 NET

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ



*And remember
your Lord
proclaimed
"I shall give
you more if
you are grateful..."*

Holy Qur'an 14:7

Congratulations to Editor Ayesha K. Mustafaa and the
MUSLIM JOURNAL staff on the

19th Annual

A TIME TO BE GRATEFUL

Conference 2023

Shukron to
Imam Abdul Kareem Muhammad
and the Masjid Al-Haqq team
for the commendable work done
hosting this event

From Imam Faheem Shuaibe
& the Masjidul Waritheen Community in Oakland, California

Living the Legacy of the Leadership of Imam W. D. Mohammed, Rahim Allahu Alaihi, May Allah's Mercy be upon him.



Sanriq Styles

... where fashionable people get dressed

Congratulations to Muslim Journal for 19th ATTBG Convention

Sanriq.com

Special Discount For ATTBG

*Visit our website for new collection of
Garments, Jackets, tops , pants, skirts ,
scarves and much more..*

*Use Code ATTBG to get 25% Discount on
total purchase.*

The sale expires on Dec 23, 2023

P: (404) 435-8346 E: sanriqstylz@gmail.com



SANRIQ TOURS: Jet-set in Style!

After a very popular tour to Turkey, Dubai, Thailand, Singapore, Malaysia and Egypt , the Sanriq Tours 2024 line-up will include Spain, Morocco and Europe



Spain and Morocco in April

Europe in October

Call us at (678) 7990901 or email us at tariq@sanriq-tours.com

or visit us at sanriq-tours.com!

education

economics

COMMUNITY LIFE



Reflections on the Initiatives
of a Leader

BARI MUHAMMED



Community Life is a thought-provoking piece of work inspired by the high thinking, God-consciousness and visionary insight of W.D. Mohammed. A man whom I will always call my leader. This work represents twelve years of working directly with the Imam to help promote community life among the African American people. So, despite or regardless of the gallant effort of a few leaders during our sojourn here in America, we have yet to achieve and sustain a successful community life. The closest we came to that elusive goal was during the reconstruction era, after the civil war and slavery. This work is dedicated to one day establishing community life among the African American people. A day when we will manage our own lives and control our own destiny in our communities and neighborhoods. And as we pursue the management and control of our community's resources, we will at the same time respect the community building aspirations of other ethnic groups. And G-D willing be successful in our own efforts in establishing community life.

>>> FREEDOM = RESPONSIBILITY <<<



TO ORDER CALL 240-422-6013
bari_nadw@icloud.com



It All Begins With HIFAATH! Take The Journey!

HIFAATH is a board game and a strategy for learning the foundational principles and practices of Al-Islam.

With a purchase of 5 games or more, enter the code word **Bilalian** at the time of check-out to receive a 39% discount

(Some assembly required)

BUY NOW FOR \$32.95



With Allah's Name, The Merciful Benefactor, The Merciful Redeemer

Masjid Freehaven

OF HISTORIC LAWNSIDE, NJ
EXTENDS

Congratulations!

TO

Muslim Journal

FOR 19 YEARS OF
"A TIME TO BE GRATEFUL"

JOIN US!

• JUMU'AH PRAYER • SIS. CLARA MUHAMMAD SUNDAY SCHOOL
• WEEKLY COMMUNITY FOOD BANK • NEW SHAHADAH CLASS

WWW.MASJIDFREEHAVEN.ORG

856-546-1500
280 ASHLAND AVE,
LAWNSIDE, NJ
08045

C O N G R A T U L A T I O N S

MUSLIM

**60 plus years of
Muslim American
Journalism**

JOURNAL & AWARDEES

**Masjidullah Plainfield supports the
19th Annual "A Time To Be Grateful" Awards
Ceremony - 2023**



321 Grant Avenue
Plainfield, NJ 07060
(908) 561-6797

**CONNECT
WITH US**

www.masjidullah-plainfield.org
www.facebook.com/masjidullahplainfield

CONGRATULATIONS

MUSLIM JOURNAL and Sis Ayesha K Mustafaa

*On the 19th Annual
A Time To Be Grateful Conference
Words Make People:*

Enhancing Literacy and Culture for Future Generations

Hosted by Masjid Al-Haqq December 7 – 10, 2023

UNITY BRAND HALAL PRODUCTS

PLAN 1 \$80.99	PLAN 2 \$114.99	PLAN 3 \$229.99	PLAN 4 \$344.99
2 lbs. steak	3 lbs short ribs	4 lbs. short ribs	5 lbs. stew beef
2 chickens	3 lbs. steak	3 lbs. T-bonesteak	5 lbs. ground beef
2 lbs.cube steak	3 lbs. cube steak	3 lbs. cube steak	4 lbs. chuck roast
2 lbs. ground beef	3 lbs. ground beef	4 lbs. chuck roast	4 lbs. round roast
2 lb. stew beef	3 lbs. stew beef	4 lbs. ground beef	4 lbs. steak
2 lbs. chicken legs	3 lbs. sausage	5 lbs. stew beef	4 lbs. T-bone steak
2 lbs. sausage	3 lbs. roast	3 chickens	4 lbs. sirloin steak
2 lbs. beef patties	3 lbs. dozen eggs	3 dozen eggs	4 chickens
1 lbs. sausage patties	2 lbs. beef patties	3 lbs. margarine	4 lbs. short ribs
	2 lbs. sausage patties	3 lbs. sausage	4 lbs. sausage
	2 chickens	3 lbs. chuck steak	4 lbs. assorted lamb
	3 lbs. neck bones or	3 lbs. beef patties	4 lbs. beef patties
	1 pack of beef bacon	2 lbs. sausage patties	4 lbs. cube steak
		1 pack beef bacon	3 lbs. sausage patties
		2 lbs. lamb chops	5 lbs. chicken legs
		3 lbs. steak	
		2 lbs. lamb stew	



All Plans Assorted

ONLY 2 CHANGES PER PLAN

ADD ONS FOR THE HALAL FOOD PLANS

Franks, breakfast sausages, bologna, salami, bacon, chicken, lamb, sausage patties, cube steak, french fries, beef patties, smoked sausages, beef ribs, spare ribs, lamb sausages etc,

Halal poultry Food Plans A, B & C

PLAN A \$45.99	PLAN B \$90.99	PLAN C \$129.99
1 lbs. ground Turkey or chicken	2 lbs. turkey chops or chicken cutlets	3 lbs. chicken breasts
2 lbs. chicken wings	2 whole chickens	3 lbs. turkey chops or chicken cutlets
1 chicken	2 chicken or turkey sausage	2 lbs. ground chicken
1 turkey or chicken sausage	2 lbs. ground turkey or chicken	3 lbs. ground turkey
1 turkey bacon	2 lbs. chicken legs	2 turkey sausage
2 lbs. turkey chops or chicken cutlets	2 lbs. chicken wings	2 chicken sausage
1 lbs. chicken or turkey stew	1 pkg turkey bacon	3 whole chickens
	1 pkg turkey franks	3 dozen eggs
	2 lbs. turkey or chicken stew	3 lbs. chicken or turkey stew
	2 lbs. turkey or chicken patties	3 lbs. chicken or turkey patties
		2 pkgs turkey franks
		2 pkgs turkey bacon
		2 pkgs chicken franks
		3 lbs. chicken legs
		3 lbs. chicken wings

973-624-4847

All Plans Assorted

ADD ONS FOR THE HALAL POULTRY FOOD PLANS

Turkey Bacon Turkey bologna Turkey salami Turkey breast Turkey pastrami Turkey ham
Smoked turkey legs Smoked turkey wings Fresh turkey wings Fresh turkey legs

African-American Beef, Turkey & chicken sausage

Ground Chicken, Ground Turkey, Chicken Legs, Chicken Wings, Chicen Franks, Chicken Stew, Turkey Stew, Chicken Nuggets , Chicken Patties, Turkey Patties, Chicken Franks,

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

With Allah's Name, The Merciful Benefactor, The Merciful Redeemer

CONGRATULATIONS

to

MUSLIM JOURNAL

and also to

Ayesha K. Mustafaa, Managing Editor and Staff

For Your

***Dedication, Commitment, and Steadfastness
In preserving this Historic Institution and Legacy***

Presented at the 19th Annual

A Time To Be Grateful Conference

December 7-10, 2023

MASJID AL-HAQQ

687 Springfield Ave., Newark, NJ 07103

973-373-0344

malhaqqinc@optimum.net

Resident Imam – Abdul Kareem Muhammad

We Cannot Stop Now

Alhamdulillah! for the 60+ Years Legacy of Muslim Journal in American History

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

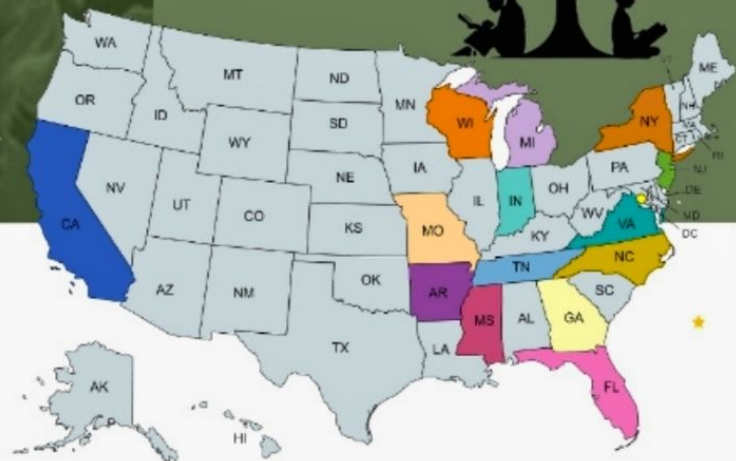
With Allah's Name the Merciful Benefactor, the Merciful Redeemer

CLARA MOHAMMED SCHOOLS NETWORK

Building a Legacy of Educating Our Own with Excellence

"Education is the number one priority"

Imam W. Deen Mohammed (ra)



About Us

The Clara Mohammed (Muhammad) Schools Network is a collaboration of Sis. Clara Mohammed (Muhammad) schools from around the U.S. and abroad. We work for the growth and development of Islamic educators and our educational institutions within the association of Imam W. Deen Mohammed.

Mission Statement

To facilitate collaboration and best practices for the growth and development of the Sister Clara Mohammed School system in alignment with the Qur'an, the Sunnah of the Prophet Muhammad (saws) and the insights of Imam W. Deen Mohammed (ra).

CMS NETWORK - MEMBER SCHOOLS

- Al-Ikhtlas Training Academy (Detroit, Michigan)
- Clara Muhammad School of Queens (Queens, New York)
- Clara Muhammad School of Masjid Muhsin Khalifah and Elijah Muhammad JHS (Brooklyn, New York)
- Clara Mohammed School (Newark, New Jersey)
- New Africa Ummah Online
- Clara Muhammad School of Nashville (Nashville, Tennessee)
- New Medinah School (Summit, Mississippi)
- Clara Muhammad School (Miami, Florida)
- Clara Muhammad Weekend School (Indianapolis, Indiana)
- Mohammed Schools of Atlanta (Atlanta, Georgia)
- Haja's House Global Learning Center (Decatur, Georgia)
- Clara Muhammad School, Inc. (Milwaukee, Wisconsin)
- Clara Mohammed Learning Center (Fayetteville, North Carolina)
- Masjid Ash-Shaheed Strong End School (Charlotte, North Carolina)
- Sister Clara Mohammed School (Little Rock, Arkansas)
- Clara Mohammed School Weekend Academy (St. Louis, Missouri)
- Iskan Academy (Los Angeles, California)
- Masjid Muhammad Youth Weekend School (Washington, DC)
- Clara Mohammed School Bermuda (Hamilton, Bermuda)

Send Money with Zelle®

CLARA MOHAMMED SCHOOLS NETWORK, INC.

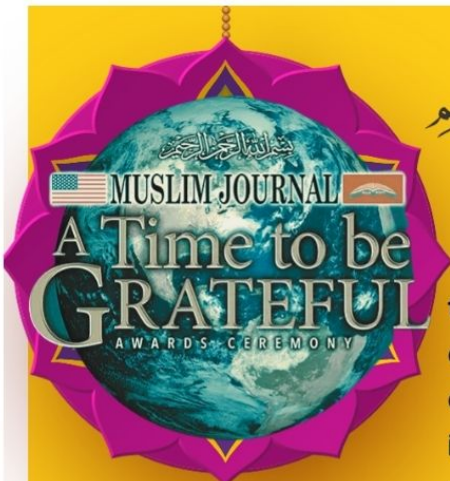


Zelle®

For more information about becoming a member of the Clara Mohammed Schools Network, send your email requests to Dr. Patricia Salahuddin at cmsnetwork76@gmail.com. Please include your name, school, and contact information.



@ ClaraMohammedSchoolsNetwork
@ CMSchools_Network



بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

Congratulations

to 'A Time to Be Grateful' on your many years of celebrating the spirit of gratitude with our community. May this organization continue to inspire and bring joy to the hearts of those you serve.

Elegant Sisters With Glamorous Gratitude

Amira Wazeer

Brenda Rasheed

Mary Clemons

Daaiyah Muhammad

Haniyyah Abdul Aziz

Jameelah Jihad

Mahasin Salaam

Lisa Harris

Nayyinah Musaddiq

Glenda Abdur-Rahman

Melinda Pruitt