

EDITORIAL BOARD

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ICMG News Bulletin

Islamic Center of Middle Georgia
Serving the Creator through the service of His Creation

Oct-Nov-Dec 2013 edition
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حديث شريف
(ما بين بيتي ومسجدي روضة
من رياض الجنة)

Hadith of the Prophet:
(whatever distance
exist between my
house and my masjid
(mosque) is part of the
Jannah (Paradise).



قرآن كريم
(لمسجد أسس على التقوى من
أول يوم أحق أن تقوم فيه
رجال يحبون أن يتطهروا والله
يحب المطهرين) التوبة 108

Holy Qur'an
(certainly a mosque
founded on the Taqwa
"God consciousness"
from the first day is more
deserving that you should
stand in.



In this picture Mayor Robert Reichert of Macon GA with Imam Adam Fofana and his wife Aminata Fofana during the Rosa Park rededication in downtown Macon GA

BEING PART OF HISTORY IN MACON GEORGIA

History was made in Macon Georgia Sunday December 1, 2013 and The Islamic Center of middle Georgia was part of its proceeding. The event brought together people of central Georgia from diverse background including elected officials, religious leaders and many ordinary people, black, white and others. It was about rededication of ROSA PARKS SQUARE in downtown Macon, the event was organized by the office of the Mayor of Macon (Mayor Robert Reichert) and his team. The event reminded us about those days of segregation in America and difficulties in racial relationship between Americans and how far this nation has come in its continuing endeavors from segregation to the election of first black President.

As an Imam the event reminded me about those core values in Islam that call for justice equality and freedom for all human kind regardless of their color of skin, ethnicity or religious affiliation. In the holy Qur'an Allah (S.W.T) says: (Oh Mankind we have created you from a single pair male and female and made you into nations and tribes that you may know each other surely the noblest among you in the sight of Allah (God) are those with Taqwa (God consciousness) surely Allah is knowing and aware). Let us stand up for freedom, justice, and equality for all, let do it together as one nation that is eternally indivisibles.

Imam Adam Fofana (ICMG)

Who is Rosa Parks?

Rosa Louise McCauley Parks (February 4, 1913 – October 24, 2005) was an African-American civil rights activist, whom the United States Congress called "the first lady of civil rights" and "the mother of the freedom movement".^[1] Her birthday, February 4, and the day she was arrested, December 1, have both become Rosa Parks Day, commemorated in the U.S. states of California and Ohio.

On December 1, 1955, in Montgomery, Alabama, Parks refused to obey bus driver James F. Blake's order that she give up her seat in the colored section to a white passenger, after the white section was filled. Parks was not the first person to resist bus segregation. Others had taken similar steps in the twentieth century, including Irene Morgan in 1946, Sarah Louise Keys in 1955, and the members of the *Browder v. Gayle* lawsuit (Claudette Colvin, Aurelia Browder, Susie McDonald, and Mary Louise Smith) arrested months before Parks. NAACP organizers believed that Parks was the best candidate for seeing through a court challenge after her arrest for civil disobedience in violating Alabama segregation laws though eventually her case became bogged down in the state courts.

Parks' act of defiance and the Montgomery Bus Boycott became important symbols of the modern Civil Rights Movement. She became an international icon of resistance to racial segregation. She organized and collaborated with civil rights leaders, including Edgar Nixon, president of the local chapter of the NAACP; and Martin Luther King, Jr., a new minister in town who gained national prominence in the civil rights movement.

At the time, Parks was secretary of the Montgomery chapter of the NAACP. She had recently attended the Highlander Folk School, a Tennessee center for training activists for workers' rights and racial equality. She acted as a private citizen "tired of giving in". Although widely honored in later years, she also suffered for her act; she was fired from her job as a seamstress in a local department store.

Eventually, she moved to Detroit, where she briefly found similar work. From 1965 to 1988 she served as secretary and receptionist to John Conyers, an African-American U.S. Representative. After retirement, Parks wrote her autobiography, and lived a largely private life in Detroit. In her final years, she suffered from dementia.



Rosa Parks in 1955 with MARTIN LUTHER KING Jr in background.

Parks received national recognition, including the NAACP's 1979 Spingarn Medal, the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the Congressional Gold Medal, and a posthumous statue in the United States Capitol's National Statuary Hall. Upon her death in 2005, she was the first woman and second non-U.S. government official to lie in honor at the Capitol Rotunda.

In the last sermon of our beloved Prophet (S.A.W) which is also known as (Hijjatul Wada'a) farewell pilgrimage the Prophet (S.A.W) particularly emphasized the issue of equality among all

the races, when he said: (Oh people you are all created from Adam and Adam was created from clay nor Arab is better than non-Arab, and nor non-Arab is better than an Arab. Nor black is better than white and nor white is better than black you are all equal in the Aye of God as the teethes of the comp, the only distinction among you is in your righteousness). To see a progress being made in implementation of this diving teaching of Allah (God the almighty) is a joy for a true believer in Allah, and I'm grateful to be witness to that both in Macon GA and in United State of America. IMAM ADAM

ROSA PARKS SQUARE

Luncheon & Re-Dedication Service

Greeting and Welcome Occasion	Mayor Robert Monica Smith
Musical Selections	Central High School Chorus (Isaac Gibson, Director) Gail Smith
Invocation	Buffet
Lunch Served	Council Woman Elaine Lucas
Introduction of Speaker	Dr. Kirby Godsey
Keynote Address	Lift Every Voice Audience
Inspirational Song:	Street line –Percussion
Procession	Band
Reconvene at Monument	Jarred Hammet
Responsive Reading	Adam Fofana Darrie Schlesinger

of ROSA PARKS in term of Blacks and Whites relation, this betterment was created because of the sacrifices Rosa Parks and her generation made, therefore, this generation must work together and make sacrifices that will ensure tomorrow that is better than today, Dr. Godsey acknowledges the existence of poverty, unemployment, lack of opportunity, that we need to fight to ensure the absolute equality among all the Americans. After the keynote speech the event proceed to park outside the auditorium accompany by drum, as we arrived in the park the following NOTE were recited by group of clergies and Imam Adam Fofana of ICMG recited the last portion of it, the following is the beginning and ending of the note.

As we gather on this December 1st, some fifty-eight years after a singular display of courage that led to a significant arrest, we give thanks for all of those who exhibited courage, disciplined resolve and quiet tenaciousness, undergirded by faith and principles.

Sovereign Lord, your promises are sure. Your expectations of us and codes for a healthy and vibrant society are clearly posted. You call us to follow you without tiring. You call us to weave a rich tapestry using the pieces of our lives, all of our lives, our very different lives. Rosa Parks, a seamstress, lived in a time when society seemed to be both falling apart and coming together.

People: There are times when it seems like the fabric of society is unraveling.

At that very same time may be a time of openness to a newer, better common life.

Imam Adam Fofana delivered the following:



Unveiling of New Monument & sign	Rhonda Mallory
Benediction	Mayor Reichert Rabbi Schlesinger

The event started in the city auditorium at 1:40 pm as the MC introduced the Mayor and the Mayor came and welcome the guests and gives brief description of the event, this was follow by beautiful entertainment and the lunch simultaneously. After the performance the keynote speaker Dr. Kirby Godsey was introduced by the MC and he deliver a very powerful speech, in his speech Dr. Godsey pointed out that as we (Americans) live the life of today which is better than the time



Imam Adam Fofana, Rabbi Schlesinger and his Wife Darrie Schlesinger



Imam Adam with Rev. Jarred Hammet

In this space, may there be benches upon which to rest... for those who fought in Viet Nam and those who fought a different war for peace and democracy here on the home-front. In this space, may there be shade from the strong sun of a summer's day. In this space, may there be places to sit, space for children to play, places to ponder the past, and imagine a more generous and glorious future.

People: In this space, may we all sit together, children of the holy God. Amen.

Imam W. Deen Mohammad leadership Conference



On the 1st 2nd and 3rd of November 2013 the ICMG hosted the W. D. Mohammad 5th Annual Leadership Conference and the participants came from as far as Tennessee, Florida and some other surrounding cities in Georgia.

The conference started with the Jummah Prayer Lead by Imam Adam Fofana who emphasized in his Khutbah on the importance of brotherhood and sisterhood the bond that sticks together the Muhajiroon and the Ansaar (the immigrants and the indigenous) in early Islam at the time of prophet Mohammad (S.A.W) and should stick together the Muslims of our time especially American Muslims where half of them are immigrants and the other half indigenous. This was followed by the dawah program led by Eddie Muhammad the main organizer of the event.

The second day of the conference was dedicated to explore the legacy of W. D. Muhammad on economic and social development, this was a whole day event from 8am to 8pm.

The third day of the conference was planned to have W.D. Mohammed II from Chicago however he could not make so the organizer asked Imam Furqan from Masjid al-Muminun Atlanta to replace him and this took place in the Galleria Mall Centerville GA.

Warith Deen Mohammed (born **Wallace D. Muhammad**; October 30, 1933 – September 9, 2008), also known as "W. Deen Mohammed" or "Imam W. Deen Muhammad", was a progressive African American Muslim leader, theologian, philosopher, Muslim revivalist and Islamic thinker (1975–2008) who disbanded the original Nation of Islam in 1976 and transformed it into an orthodox mainstream Islamic movement, the World Community of Al-Islam in the West which later became the American Society of Muslims.^{[1][2][3]} He was a son of Elijah Muhammad, the leader of the Nation of Islam from 1933 to 1975.

He became the national leader (*Supreme Minister*) of the Nation of Islam in 1975 after his father's death.^[6] **As a result of his personal studies and thinking, he had led the vast majority of the members of the original NOI to mainstream, traditional Sunni Islam by 1978.** With this merger, he oversaw the largest mass conversion to Islam in the history of the United States of America.^[8] He rejected the previous deification of Wallace Fard Muhammad, accepted whites as fellow-worshippers, forged closer ties with mainstream Muslim communities, and introduced the Five Pillars of Islam into his group's theology. Splinter groups resisting these changes formed after Elijah Muhammad's death, particularly under Louis Farrakhan, who revived the name Nation of Islam for his organization.

NEW SHAHADAH AT ICMG



In this picture at left a young American lady by the name (Stafeny ...) took shahadah at ICMG on she is receiving some sisterhood love from her new Muslim friend in Islam:

- 1- Sister Aminah Fofana R
- 2- Aliyah L

Asking her about her reason for choosing Islam she reply (I have always wanted

أشهد أن لا إله إلا الله وأشهد أن محمدا رسول الله Welcome our new Muslim Sister to Islam

We would like to welcome you to the fold of Islam, the religion which you have chosen. We ask Allah the Almighty to help you remain steadfast in following the teachings of Islam.

Every day we hear about people who embrace Islam, but after few weeks we lose them. So we want to assist new Muslims in their endeavors of learning Islam and what it means to be a Good Muslim. Allah gave this favor to the whole of humanity. Therefore any one can become a Muslim no matter what his/her race, language or color is. No matter whether they are single, married, divorced or a child.

All sins committed before coming to Islam are forgiven. No matter how bad they were. They are forgiven. One who converts to Islam is totally reborn and starts with a clean record, this meaning is what our beloved prophet refer to in his statement: **الإسلام يجب ما قبله** (قبله)

Which means: converting to Islam and taking Shahadah erases any sins a person has committed before becoming a Muslim.

Sharing his experience as new Muslim

In the picture below Br. Evan who accept Islam two months earlier before sister Zaharah is sharing new experience in the new faith, it was very interesting hearing from him his path that took him to Islam especially the final moment when he has to make this crucial decision. Since becoming a Muslim Br. Evan attends ICMG as much as he can and he and other converts attend Monday evening class that is dedicated to people who want to learn more about the religion of Islam whether new to the faith or are in process to understand more.

This picture was taking during sharing moment with Evan



LOCAL COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES CONTINUE TO BENEFIT FROM ICMG SERVICES



Imam Adam Fofana of ICMG and Dr. Brock Bingaman Assistant Professor of Religious Studies at Wesleyan College with world religions class fall 2013 this picture was taken after Imam Adam presented about Islam

There is growing interest from local institutions of higher learning to know more about Islam and Muslims in America. This phenomenon is not strange because after 9/11 which I consider as mother of all the evils in the 21st century people deserve to know more about and distinguish between the religion which followers are more than 1.5 billion human being or 1/4 of humanity and the propaganda of the religious extremist who are trying to promote their ideologies around the world, one of the best way to combat this propaganda is through educating general public about the true teaching of Islam.

As one of the participant in senior class after attending the presentation on Islam wrote to me:

“Dear Imam Fofana:

I was privileged to hear your recent address to the class on Islam sponsored by the Wesleyan Academy for lifelong learning. I very much enjoyed hearing about Islam from someone who knows the religion intimately.

Your account of the woman who challenged Congressman Mark D. Siljander was particularly interesting. He had made unfounded statements about Islam, and she suggested that he read the Qur’an. He did so and changed his attitude about Islam completely.

..... I believe your message that Christians and Muslims can and should respect each other’s beliefs is a very important one. Many American have a knee-jerk reaction to an event such as the killing of thousands in the destruction of the World Trade Center. They curse all Muslims, believing that all are equally guilty of that kind of crime. We need better understanding among Christians for those Muslims who are horrified by such actions. And we need to better understand Muslims in today’s world, in the context of Middle East peace, the status of women in the Muslim world , extremism, and jihad”.



In this picture Imam Adam with participant of life long learning class after his presentation to the class about Islam and Muslims.

PROMOTING RELIGIOUS TOLERANCE THROUGH INTERFAITH DIALOGUE



Imam Adam Fofana of ICMG, with the Craig T. McMahan Mercer University Minister and Dean of Chapel, Rabbi Larry Schlesinger, and Prof. Scott Nash discussing at lunch the Mercer interfaith dialogue

وَلَا تُجَادِلُوا أَهْلَ الْكِتَابِ إِلَّا بِالَّتِي هِيَ أَحْسَنُ إِلَّا الَّذِينَ ظَلَمُوا مِنْهُمْ
 وَقُولُوا ءَامَنَّا بِالَّذِي أُنزِلَ إِلَيْنَا وَأُنزِلَ إِلَيْكُمْ وَإِلَهُنَا وَإِلَهُكُمْ وَاحِدٌ
 وَنَحْنُ لَهُ مُسْلِمُونَ

And argue not with the People of the Scripture unless it be in (a way) that is better, save with such of them as do wrong; and say: We believe in that which hath been revealed unto us and revealed unto you; our God and your God is One, and unto Him we surrender.

out peace among the religions. There will be no peace among the religions without dialogue among the religions" was formulated by Dr Hans Küng, a Professor of Ecumenical Theology and President of the Foundation for a Global Ethic.

INTERFAITH:

The term **interfaith dialogue** refers to cooperative, constructive and positive interaction between people of different religious traditions (i.e., "faiths") and/or spiritual or humanistic beliefs, at both the individual and institutional levels. It is distinct from syncretism or alternative religion, in that dialogue often involves promoting understanding between different religions to increase acceptance of others, rather than to synthesize new beliefs. Throughout the world there are local, regional, national and international interfaith initiatives; many are formally or informally linked and constitute larger networks or federations. The often quoted ^[1] *"There will be no peace among the nations with-*



Nothing like meeting student from your region in overseas, Imam Adam with Liberian students on scholarship at Mercer

AHMAD SHABIR 6 YEARS OLD FINISHED READING THE WHOLE ENTIRE QUR'AN

7 Reasons to Read the Glorious Qur'an

Inimitable

It dares you to disprove it. How? It says that humans cannot write a book like this even if they pooled all their resources together and got help also from the spirits. The Qur'an said this issue fourteen hundred years ago and yet no one has been able to disprove it. Billions of books have been written-but not another one like the Qur'an.

2. Incorruptible

It is the only religious sacred writing that has been in circulation for such a long time and yet remains as pure as it was in the beginning. The Qur'an was kept intact.

Nothing was added to it; nothing was changed in it; and nothing was taken away from it ever since its revelation was completed 1400 years ago.

3. Unsurpassable

The Qur'an is God's final revelation to humankind.

God revealed the Torah to Moses, the Psalms to David, the Gospel to Jesus, and finally the Qur'an to Muhammad. Peace be upon Moses, David, Jesus and Muhammad. No other book will come from God to surpass His final revelation.

4. Indisputable

The Qur'an withstands the test of time and scrutiny. No one can dispute the truth of this book. It speaks about past history and turns out right. It speaks about the future in prophecies and it turns out right. It mentions details of physical phenomena which were not known to people at the time; yet later scientific dis-

coveries prove that the Qur'an was right all along. Every other book needs to be revised to accord with modern knowledge. The Qur'an alone is never contradicted by a newly discovered scientific fact.

5. Your Roadmap for Life and Afterlife

The Qur'an is the best guidebook on how to structure your life. No other book presents such a comprehensive system involving all aspects of human life. The Qur'an also points out the way to secure everlasting happiness in the afterlife. It is your roadmap showing how to get to Paradise.

6. God's Gift of Guidance

God has not left you alone. You were made for a reason. God tells you why he made you, what he demands from you and what he has in store for you. If

you operate a machine contrary to its manufacturer's specification you will ruin that machine.

What about you? Do you have an owner's manual for yourself? The Qur'an is from your Maker. It is a gift for you to make sure you function for success, lest



In this picture a young Ahmed Shabbir his brother Zureiz, his Father Amer, his Grandfather, and Imam Adam and his children Sekou Abraham and Hawa after the (Ameen) ceremony at Islamic Center of Middle Georgia

you fail to function.

It is a healing from God. It satisfies the soul, and cleans the heart. It removes doubts and brings peace.

7. Your Calling Card to Communicate with your Lord

Humans are social creatures. We love to communicate with other intelligent life. The Qur'an tells us how to communicate with the source of all intelligence and the source of all life. The Qur'an tells us who God is, by what name we should address Him, and the way in which to communicate with Him.

Are these not seven sufficient reasons for reading the Qur'an?



12/11/2013 In this picture: Group of clergies, academicians, and ENGOs leaders attended State of Georgia dedication to the legacy of Nelson Mandela – the former president of South Africa and the leader of anti-apathies regime in South Africa. The event was attended by many important people in Atlanta including Martin L. King Jr. son and daughter, Mr. Andrew Young – GA Former Representative. In this picture, Macon Delegate with Dean Carter of portrait of Nelson Mandela in Dean’s Office.

Youth activity at ICMG.

Al hamdu le Allah, ICMG is being able to provide youth activity on a monthly basis. Brother Ahmed Saleem and Brother Sami Ahmed have traveled from Atlanta to Warner Robins to contribute to the success of this program. What is unique about this program is that it includes two trips to Atlanta and Florida and met with youth from other communities. This picture was taken after the Youth Conference at ICMG on Saturday November 16th, 2013.



Friday 12/6/2013 Community Dinner. Being very important for Muslims in our community to inform themselves about their rights as Muslims and Americans, ICMG Action Committee through Mohamed Al Shroof, had invited two well known muslim lawyers – Mr. Ibrahim Awad and Mr. Mohamed Mohamed – from Muslim Advocates in Atlanta. Muslim Advocates is a national legal advocacy & educational organization working on the frontlines of civil rights to guarantee freedom and justice of Americans of all faith. The topic addressed to our community members was “Got Rights” including a video that explains a crucial information about how to protect ourselves and our families when approached by law enforcement.

In these two pictures, Mr. Ibrahim Awad and Mr. Mohamed Mohamed were talking about the Muslims’ rights in America. We do appreciate this effort from the Action Committee represented by Dr. Al Shroof. Sure all the community members had been benefited from this valuable information that they really need to know. Mr. Mohamed had emailed us appreciating the hospitality and very engaged audience. He also send a link to the video they played before, so ore people can benefit from it. The link is:

<http://www.muslimadvocates.org/gotrights>



THE BLESSING OF HAVING A CHILD ACCORDING TO THE ISLAMIC TRADITION

SYLLAH FAMILY WELCOME NEW BABY BOY

In this picture Imam Adam is performing Islamic tradition of calling (Azan) and (Iqamah) in the right and left ear of the newborn baby and offering prayers while the baby same to be relaxing and enjoying the moment.

This tradition is very important for newborn to start his journey in this world with name and the power of God Allah (s.w.t) the almighty. Another important tradition is the offering of the Aqiqah by the parents of the baby now let explain little bit about what is the aqiqah:

Definition: The word *aqiqah* comes from the this to the child's first haircut, while others say vide meat for the meal.

Muslim parents do not traditionally hold a "baby tive is the *aqiqah*, which is held after the child is After the birth of a child, Muslim parents often home or a community center. The aqiqah is an and welcome him or her to the community. There it is a "sunnah muakadah" a tradition strongly The aqiqah is always hosted by the parents or provide a community meal, the family slaughters given away to the poor, and the rest is served in a neighbors. Many guests bring gifts for the new The aqiqah is traditionally held on the seventh until later when the family can afford to do it. shower, which in many cultures is held before the In addition to prayers and well-wishes for the first cut or shaved, and its weight in gold or silver when the baby's name is officially announced. ing ceremony, although there is no official procedure or ceremony involved.



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Arabic word 'aq which means to cut. Some attribute that it refers to the slaughtering of the animal to pro- shower" prior to the child's birth. The Islamic alterna- born. host the *aqiqah*, or welcoming celebration, at their optional event designed to celebrate the child's birth is no religious consequence for not holding an aqiqah; recommended but is not required. extended family of the newborn child. In order to one or two sheep or goats. One third of the meat is large community meal with relatives, friends, and baby and the parents. day after the child's birth, but may also be postponed The aqiqah is the Islamic alternative to the baby child's birth. baby, the aqiqah is also a time when the child's hair is given as a donation to the poor. This event is also For this reason, it is sometimes referred to as a nam-



ICMG CHILDREN SERVICES

What is means for your child to start his/her life in the masjid where they can hear the azan directly They see people praying and the learn quickly how b they first song the sing is Allah name The first book they read is alqur'an You don't have to worry about the type of food the are eating is it halal or non halal. When you are busy you can ask one of your friend to bring your child with him/her home. These and many more is what ICMG children services provide for the community.

ICMG works hand in hand with other local Islamic organization



In this picture Doctor Al-Shroof post with two representatives from ICNA (Islamic Circle of North America)

Two representatives from ICNA visited ICMG to promote for ICNA annual convention in Atlanta GA Saturday 12/7/2013. The preparation for the convention started with Br. Naeem Baig - the National Ameer of ICNA (Islamic Circle of North America). The Ameer invited local Muslim leaders from Atlanta and surrounding areas for a "Leadership Luncheon" at Mughal's Banquet Hall, Norcross,

GA. In that Luncheon, this platform provides participants from different communities to get to know each other. An estimate of more than 100 Imam and community leader attended the event. It was a great opportunity for the participants also to learn from each other experiences in running their community mosque. One of the most important message that this meeting attended was improve the level of cooperation among the Massajid and Islamic centers. A sister from Atlanta Masjid of al-Islam pointed out that indigenous communities find it difficult to see immigrant Muslims sending their children to well established Islamic school such as Mohamed school in Atlanta where the minimum qualification of the teacher is Master degree .



Imam Adama with Manzoor Khalid one of the leader in Masjid AL-Mu'uminin in Atlanta GA. This masjid is predominantly Somalian therefore many people know it as Somali mosque.

This photo was taken after Imam Adam deliver a Khutbah about Forgiveness and reconciliation.

As I mentioned early the ICNA leadership luncheon was an opportunity for some community leaders to meet for the first time, this photo here was one of those occasion for me, I had a chance to meet and talk to the leader of predominant Somali community Masjid al-mu'uminin Brother Manzoor Khalid , I have hear a lot about Somali mosque and even attended and participated in one of their fundraising but I did get the chance to see the masjid till this time when Brother Manzoor invited me to deliver a Friday khutbah during the ICNA convention. I choose the topic of forgiveness and reconciliation as we all know what is going on in Somalia for the past 20 years. After the Khutbah a young man approach me crying and he said Imam you don't know how much you have change my life today with this sermon I was on mission to hurt somebody but your khutbah has change me completely.

**CONGRATULATION MAYOR TOMS ON YOUR ELECTION AS NEW MAYOR OF WARNER ROBINS
AND THANK YOU MAYOR SHAHEEN FOR YOUR SERVICE AND FRINDSHIP**



Imam Adam Fofana with (Mayor Randy Toms). This picture was taking before Mr. Randy Toms was elected as the Mayor of International city “Warner Robins” home to “Robins Air Force Base”, Mr. Toms reach out to Muslim community asking for support and prayers

(Early Bird catch the worm)

When Warner Robins Mayoral campaign keck off Mr. Toms Randy (Mayor) was the first candidate to reach out to the Muslims community asking for support and prayers, many candidates came after him but it was the “Early Bird that cached the worm”.

An Angelic touch during the visit:

Mayor Toms shared his experience during this visit is his own word: “ I was sitting there and I was very nervous because this was my first visit to a Muslim community and to the mosque and I came as a surprise I did not make any appointment with the Imam so I kind like nervous **all over sudden a little girl came and jump and sat on my lap and start playing with me** as a father and grand father I said to my self this must be an angelic touch, I’m actually in one of the houses of God, I’m actually at home, all my nervousness disappear and I start to enjoy the moment like every body.

This visit was highly appreciated by Muslim community, as minority living in this international city we really appreciate our elected official and neighbors who consider us as part of this colorful multi racial, and multi religious international city.

Mayor Randy Toms

Randy Toms was born and raised in Warner Robins, Georgia where he serves as an active minister. He is a 1979 graduate of Northside High School and earned his Associates Degree from Georgia Military College while working as a fireman with the Warner Robins fire department. During his twenty-seven year tenure as a fireman, Randy worked with the Muscular Dystrophy Association for twenty years and emceed the televised event for ten years. In addition to serving his community, he is also a veteran of the United States Air Force. Under the supervision of Judge Edward Lukemire, Randy also worked as bailiff with Houston County Superior Court for fifteen years. As a native of Warner Robins, Georgia, Randy decided he wanted to serve his city in higher capacity. Therefore, he ran for and was elected Mayor of Warner Robins in December 2013. He was officially sworn in as mayor of the “International City” on January 2014. Mayor Toms is the author of a book entitled “Just A

Fireman” He has been married to his wife Jane for thirty one years. They have two children and three grandchildren.



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