The American Muslim Studies Program (AMSP) at the Prince Alwaleed Bin Talal Center for Muslim-Christian Understanding (ACMCU), Georgetown University, cordially invites you to attend:

A One-Day Conference on

The American Mosque in the 21st Century

Georgetown University --- Copley Lounge
37th & O St., NW – Washington, DC 20057

Thursday, February 19, 2009 – 09:00 AM – 05:00 PM

Since the early twentieth century, the Muslim communities in the USA have been establishing mosques in various parts of the country. With the passage of time, these mosques have assumed new functions and roles. They have been transformed from a place of worship to community centers, to schools, and finally to forums for Muslims’ involvement in public policy issues. They have also become the backbone of the fundraising drives of the American Muslims for local and international projects. In a post 9/11 era, however, the mosques and Islamic centers have received extra attention, and sometime scrutiny, from the law enforcement agencies, media personnel and policy makers. The question is how these mosques and Islamic centers can be equipped to face the new challenges and demands of the 21st century? A group of academics, architects and religious scholars will address these issues.

Cosponsor: Helping Hand for Relief and Development Program

08:45 AM: Registration/Coffee

09:15 AM: Introductory Remarks by John Voll and Zahid Bukhari, Georgetown University

09:30 AM: Panel 1 – Mosque, Community and Society
  • Sulayman Nyang “Mosque and Society”
  • Imam Mohamed Magid ‘Mosques and American Religious Landscape’
  • Ihsan Bagby “Statistical Overview of the American Mosques”
  • Akel Ismail Kahera “Historical Footprints of the American Mosque”
  Chair: Iqbal Unus, Fairfax Institute

11:15 AM: Break

11:30 AM: Keynote Speaker, Muzammil Siddiqi, Islamic Center of Orange County, CA, “American Mosques: Future Trends’

12:30 PM: Break for Lunch and Zuhr Prayer

01:30 PM: Panel 2 – Space, Design and Function
  • Riad Ali “Evolution of the American Mosques: Space and Functionality”
  • Mazen Ayoubi, AIC, “Designing the American Mosques; Balancing Tradition with Modernity”
  • Christopher McCoy, “Mosque and Church in a Neighborhood: A Comparative Perspective”
  • Imam Khalid Griggs, “Urban and Suburban Experiences of American Mosques”
  Chair: Diane Apostolos-Cappadona, Georgetown University

03:15 PM: Panel 3 – Education and Empowerment
  • Altaf Husain, “Developing Women and Youth
  • Friendly Mosques”
  • Aisha al-Adawiya, “Making a Women Friendly Mosque”
  • Imam Amir Mukhtar Faizi, “Educating the Community: Problems and Prospects”
• Louay Safi, “Effective Leadership and Good Governance”
• Imam Johary Abdul Malik “Making Mosques Financially
• Sustainable”

Chair: Imam Yahya Hendi, Georgetown University

05:00 PM: Closing Remarks by Sulayman Nyang, Howard University

Dr. Zahid Bukhari
Dr. Zahid H. Bukhari is currently working as Director, American Muslim Studies Program (AMSP) at the Prince Alwaleed Center for Muslim-Christian Understanding, Georgetown University, Washington, DC. From 1999-2004, he also worked as Director Project MAPS: Muslims in American Public Square, which examined the role and contribution of the Muslim community to the American public life. The Pew Charitable Trusts awarded a grant of $1.25 million for this purpose. Dr. Bukhari is also serving as Executive Director of the Center for Islam and Public Policy (CIPP). Dr. Bukhari’s research interests focused on religion and politics in the United States and South Asia. He has a vast experience in all aspects of survey research. From 1978-1983, he worked as executive director of the Pakistan Institute of Public Opinion (PIPO), Islamabad, a member of Gallup International. He has published and presented papers on Islam and development, Muslim public opinion in the US and other related topics in national and international forums. He is also editor of two volumes of the Project MAPS: Muslims’ Place in the American Public Square: Fears, Hopes and Aspirations and Muslim in America: Engaging Polity and Society in Post 9/11 Era (forthcoming). Dr. Bukhari has a Masters in Economics from the University of Karachi and Ph.D. in Political Science from the University of Connecticut.

Dr. John Voll
John O. Voll is Professor of Islamic History and Associate Director of the Prince Alwaleed Bin Talal Center for Muslim-Christian Understanding at Georgetown University. He is a specialist in modern Islamic history and the author of Islam: Continuity and Change in the Modern World and a number of other books and numerous articles. He is a past president of the Middle East Studies Association and has done research on Islamic movements in sub-Saharan Africa and southeast Asia as well as in the Middle East. At Georgetown University, he teaches survey courses on Islamic and African history as well as advanced courses on Islamic movements and modern Muslim thought.

Dr. Sulayman S. Nyang
Dr. Sulayman S. Nyang is professor and chairman of the African Studies Department at Howard University in Washington, D.C., and co-principal investigator of Project MAPS. A former deputy ambassador and head of chancery of the Gambia Embassy in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, Nyang has served as consultant to several national and international agencies and on the boards of the African Studies Association, the American Council for the Study of Islamic Societies, and the Association of Muslim Social Scientists. [1] He has written extensively on Islamic, African and Middle Eastern affairs. He holds a master’s degree in public administration and a Ph.D. in government from the University of Virginia.

Imam Mohamed Magid
Imam Magid currently serves as the Vice President of the Islamic Society of North America (ISNA) and serves as a member of the National Interfaith Planning Committee for Domestic Violence, and the Federal Bureau of Investigation’s Muslim, Sikh and Arab Advisory Board. Very active in both the interfaith and Islamic community, Imam Magid is the Imam and Executive Director of All Dulles Area Muslim Society (ADAMS) Center in Sterling, Virginia. Under his direction, the Center has grown to be one of the largest Muslim community organizations in the Washington Metropolitan Area. He also occupies the Chairmanship of the Fairfax County Faith Communities in Action, is a Board member of the Fairfax County Partnership for Youth, and a member of the George Mason University Campus Ministry. In May 2006, Fairfax County Human Rights Commission awarded Imam Magid with their Human Rights Award. A Sudanese-born American, Imam Magid is the son of the Grand Mufti of Sudan. At the hand of his father and other notable scholars, Imam Magid studied and graduated in traditional Islamic disciplines, including ‘Shariah’ (Islamic Jurisprudence) and Islamic Spirituality. Currently he resides in Sterling, Virginia with his wife and five daughters.

Dr. Ihsan Bagby
Ihsan Bagby is currently Associate Professor of Islamic Studies at University of Kentucky. He was born in Cleveland, Ohio. He obtained a PhD from University of Michigan in Near Eastern Studies (1986). His research for the last 15 years has focused on Muslims in America. In 2001 he published the results of the first comprehensive study of mosques in America, entitled The Mosque in America: A National Portrait. (available at www.cair-net.org). Based on this 2000 study, Dr. Bagby has published four articles, “Imams and Mosque Organizations in the United States,” in Muslims in the United States, “A Profile of African American Mosques” in Journal of the Interdenominational Theological Center, “Attitudes of Mosque Participants Towards America,” in the book A Nation of Religions: The Politics of Pluralism in Multireligious America, and “The Mosque in the American Public Square,” in Muslims’ Place in the American Public Square. In April 2004 he published the results of his Detroit Mosque Study, entitled A Portrait of Detroit Mosques (available at www.ispu.us). Based on that study he has written a paper “Second Generation Muslim Immigrants in Detroit Mosques.” In 2005 he led a membership and leadership study of 25 mosques, which resulted in an essay, “The American Mosque in Transition: Assimilation, Acculturation and Isolation,” Presently he is working on a book on African American Muslims. He serves on the advisory board of Hartford Seminary’s The Hartford Institute for Religion Research, and is active in many Muslim organizations including Muslim Alliance in North America (MANA), Council of
American-Islamic Relations (CAIR), the Fiqh Council of North America and Islamic Society of North America (ISNA).

Dr. Akel Kahera
Akel Ismail Kahera Ph.D., received his Bachelor of Architecture from Pratt Institute Brooklyn, NY; a Master of Architecture from Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, MA and a Ph.D. from Princeton University. He has previous taught at the University of Texas at Austin and Texas Tech University. Dr. Kahera has been an international architect for two decades with extensive work in Saudi Arabia. He is currently a Professor of Architecture and Community Development at Prairie View A&M University, where he also serves as the Director of the Texas Institute for the Preservation of History and Culture. Dr. Kahera has published over two dozen scholarly articles on Architecture and Urbanism; a forthcoming book Design Criteria for mosques (Architectural Press Oxford UK) and the author of Deconstructing the American Mosque: Space Gender and Aesthetics, University of Texas Press, 2002.

Dr. Iqbal Unus
Iqbal Unus is the Headquarters Director of the International Institute of Islamic Thought (IIIIT), Director of Child Development Foundation (CDF), and Director of IIIT/HAR-USA. He is the former Dean of Students/Registrar at the School of Islamic and Social Sciences (SISS) in Leesburg, Virginia. His volunteer involvement in Islamic work began in North America as the President of the Muslim Students Association of Atlanta, Georgia in 1970. Later, he served successively as Regional Representative, Vice President, and President (in 1975) of the Muslim Students Association

Dr. Muzammil H. Siddiqi
Dr. Muzammil H. Siddiqi born in India in 1943, he received his Islamic education at Darul Uloom Nadwatul Ulama, Lucknow, India. Siddiqi graduated from the Islamic University of Madina in Saudi Arabia in 1965 with a higher degree in Arabic and Islamic Studies. He received an M.A. in Theology from Birmingham University in England and a Ph.D. in Comparative Religion from Harvard University in the USA. Dr. Siddiqi is the Imam and Religious Director of the Islamic Society of Orange County, Garden Grove, California, since 1981 till present. Chairman of the Fiqh Council of North America, from 2004 till present, Adjunct Professor of Islamic Studies at California State University and Chapman University, Chairman of the Shura Council of Southern California (the Council of Mosques and Islamic Organizations in Southern California). Internationally, He is also the member of the Supreme Islamic Council of Egypt and the Supreme Council of Mosques in Makkah, Saudi Arabia and a member of the Executive Board of the International Assembly of the Council of Ulama’ in Makkah. He is a founding member of the Council of 100 of the World Economic Forum based in Switzerland. The Council aims to foster dialogue and better relations between Islam and the West.

Riad Ali
Riad Ali was born in Palestine in 1963 and came to the states in 1982 where he earned his Bachelor of Science degree in Electrical Engineering from Ohio University in 1986. He earned his Masters in Mathematics in 1988 from Ohio University. His second Masters is in Computer Science from Kent State University. He is now a Senior Field Engineer with Ericsson Inc. He is also President of www.MuslimGuide.com, established in 2002 to serve the Muslim community. Mr Ali is married and has five beautiful children.

Mazen Ayoubi, AIA
Mr. Ayoubi is Founder and Principal of AIC, Inc. since 1989 providing Leadership in Business operation and development, Architectural Concepts/design through construction and successful occupancy. Mr. Ayoubi professional experience is extensive and rich with involvement at various levels of project development. As principal to multiple projects he provides leadership, management and interacts with team members and clients. He is responsible for overall management and quality assurance/control and has successfully managed diverse projects that reflect his managerial experience and in-depth knowledge of project development in both Architectural and technical aspects. He has a strong track record with commitment to clients by executing each project on time and within Project budget. His strong academic background with a Masters Degree in Architecture and Urban Design provides a solid foundation in his professional practice to best serve his clients. Commanding experience in domestic US projects as well as Middle East cultural and Project Experience. Mazen is Proficient in verbal/communicational skills in both English and Arabic, and is a proud US citizen.

Christopher B. McCoy, AIA
Chris is an Architect in Lexington, Kentucky. The son of a piano teacher and a trucking company owner, he received a professional degree in architecture from the University of Kentucky in 1990, graduating with distinction. His time at the College of Architecture included travelling abroad to Venice, Italy to study with an internationally distinguished Architect, the late Leonardo Ricci. In 1993, he became the youngest registered architect in the state of Kentucky and coincidently, embraced Islam at the same time. In 1994, he married Aasiya Mohiuddin (also an Architect) and they have 2 young sons. Early in his professional career, while working at various firms, Chris gained considerable experience in religious architecture. In 1997 he founded his own company, McCoy Architects, with the firm’s first project being a mosque in southeast Kentucky. While the firm maintains a diverse and varied scope of work, Islamic architecture continues to be the salient area of focus. He has been involved with Islamic projects throughout Indiana, Ohio, West Virginia, and completed notable mosques throughout Kentucky, including Prestonsburg, Somerset, and Elizabethtown. The firm’s Islamic work has varied from long-term master plans, fundraising documentation, zoning application, and detailed building design including construction observation. He continues to be passionate about Islamic Architecture and is currently working on mosque projects in Kentucky and Ohio. He serves on the advisory board of Hartford Seminary’s The Hartford Institute for Religion Research, and is active in many Muslim organizations including Muslim Alliance in North America (MANA), Council of American-Islamic Relations (CAIR), the Fiqh Council of North America and Islamic Society of North America (ISNA).

Imam Khalid Fattah Griggs
Howard University Political Science/English BA (North Carolina). Shura Member- MANA. Muslim Advisor- Salem College and Wake Forest University Baptist Hospital Director- Mentoring Services- Kennedy
Dr. Diane Apostolos-Cappadona
Diane Apostolos-Cappadona is Adjunct Professor (of Religious Art and Cultural History) in the Prince Alwaleed Bin Talal Center for Muslim-Christian Understanding. A widely published cultural historian specializing in the study of religious art, Dr. Apostolos-Cappadona is currently completing three edited volumes, Sources and Documents in the History of Christian Art; Sources and Documents in 19th-Century Religious Art in America, and Religion and Popular Culture. She was curator of several special exhibitions and the author of the companion catalogues. Previously the Consultant for Art and Religion for The Grove Dictionary of Art and The Encyclopedia of Religion, 2nd edition, and the Advisor for World Iconography for the New Dictionary of the History of Ideas, 2nd edition, she now serves currently as the Area Editor for the Cultural Reception of Art for the Encyclopedia of the Bible and its Reception (2006-20). Her ACMCU courses incorporate her interests in religious art and cultural history, and include Eastern Orthodox Christianity: History and Theology; Islamic Art: Cultural Perceptions, Historical Attitudes; Breaking Codes: Iconoclasm in Christianity and Islam; and Christianity and Islam: Co-existence and Conflict in Medieval Art and Culture.

Dr. Altaf Husain
Dr. Altaf Husain serves as the Executive Assistant for Academic Affairs in the Office of the Provost and Chief Academic Officer at Howard University. His research interests include the integration of immigrant and refugee families, and especially Muslim adolescents, in the United States. He is a double alumnus of Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland, Ohio, having earned his B.Sc. in biomedical engineering and his M.Sc. in Social Work. Dr. Husain is a former two-term national president of the Muslim Students Association, a current executive committee member of the Muslim Alliance in North America, a faculty member of COMPASS, the state of the art management training program of MSA National, and a board member of the Islamic Society of North America and the Peaceful Families Project. He lives in Northern Virginia with his wife Mona and their two sons, Omar and Ahmed.

Aisha H.L. al-Adawiya
Aisha al-Adawiya is the founder and executive director of Women in Islam, an organization of Muslim women which focuses on human rights and social justice. Ms. al-Adawiya organizes and participates in conferences, symposia and other forums on Islam, Gender Equity, Conflict Resolution, and Cross-Cultural Understanding. She also represents Muslim women’s Non-Governmental Organizations at United Nations forums. Ms. Al-Adawiya coordinates Islamic input for the Preservation of the Black Religious Heritage Documentation Project of the Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture. She also serves as a consultant to numerous interfaith organizations and documentary projects on the Muslim American experience. Additionally, she serves on the boards of numerous organizations related to the interests of the global Islamic community. Ms. al-Adawiya is a guest host and producer of Tahir, WBAI Pacifica Radio in New York City.

Dr. Louay M. Safi
Executive Director of ISNA Leadership Development Center (ILDC), Plainfield, Indiana. He is a fellow of the Institute for Social Policy and Understanding and serves on the steering committee of the Muslim-Christian Initiative on the Nuclear Weapons Danger. Author of ten books, including: The Qur’anic Narrative (Praeger 2008), Tensions and Transitions in the Muslim World, (University Press of America, 2003), and Peace and the Limits of War (International Institute of Islamic Thought, 2001). Founding director of the Center for the Study of Islam and Democracy (CSID) (1999-2007), he also served as the Executive Director (1995-97) and Director of Research (1999-2003) of the International Institute of Islamic Thought (IIIT), Editor of the Journal of Islamic Social Sciences (1999-2003), and President of the Association of Muslim Social Scientists (1999-2003). Taught at Wayne State University (Michigan), and served as visiting professor at George Washington (2001-2002) and as associate professor of Political Science at the International Islamic University of Malaysia (1994-99). Participated in numerous national and international forums and conferences, and contributed articles to various academic journals, including the American Journal of Islamic Social Sciences, Islamic Studies, Intellectual Discourse, Middle East Affairs Journal, and Journal of Middle Eastern and South Asian Studies. Appeared on numerous radio and TV programs, including CNN, BBC, Monte Carlo, Fox News, PBS, Middle East TV (MBC), Al-Jazeera TV, Voice of America, Malaysian Television, Syrian TV, and others.

Imam Johari Abdul-Malik
Imam Johari Abdul-Malik is the Director of Outreach at the Dar Al Hijrah Islamic Center and former Muslim Chaplain at Howard University (HU) and is the Head of the National Association of Muslim Chaplains in Higher Education. The imam also serves as the chair of government relations for the Muslim Alliance in North America. He is the director of community outreach for the Dar Al-Hijrah Islamic Center and former President of the Muslim Society of Washington, Inc. In his native Brooklyn community his mother kept the family busy with community activism. In College he became a Black activist, musician, transcendent mediator and vegetarian. In Graduate school Allah showed him the light of Islam. He served as the President of MSA at Howard University and later that University’s and the nations first officially recognized Muslim Chaplain in higher education. Known nationally for his fundraising efforts for masjids, schools and relief and support organizations. Brother Johari is a founding member of the Muslim Advocacy Commission of Washington, D.C. Imam Johari and along with Rev. Graylan Hagler started the Ramadan Feed-the-Needy Program in Washington, DC feeding over 100 hundred homeless women of all faiths nightly during the holy month of Ramadhan. African-American born (mother from Northern Louisiana and father from Barbados, West Indies) and raised in Brooklyn, NY. Educated at Howard University with a BS Chemistry and a MS Genetics and Human Genetics. Completed Clinical Post Graduate Training Program in Bioethics at Georgetown University Kennedy Center for Ethics. Completed PhD course work in Bioethics/Genetics (Degree Pending).

Imam Yahya Hendi
Imam Yahya Hendi is the Muslim chaplain at Georgetown University, the first American University to hire a full-time Muslim chaplain. Imam Hendi is also the Imam of the Islamic Society of Frederick, Frederick, MD and is the Muslim Chaplain at the National Naval Medical Center in Bethesda, MD. Mr. Hendi Academic education in his
undergraduate education was in Islamic Studies and his Master's and PhD education are in comparative religions with interest in Christianity, Judaism, comparative religions and inter-religious dialogue and relations. He has written numerous publications on many topics, including women in Islam, women and gender relations in Islam, the coming of the Messiah, Islam and biomedical ethics and religion and Islam in the United States. A sought-after speaker, Imam Hendi has presented a multitude of interfaith and general lectures in the USA, Asia, Europe, central Asia, Eastern Europe, Australia and the Middle East over the past 10 years and he has been to more than 63 countries and 45 US states for conferences. Imam Hendi appeared on much national and international television and Radio shows as an expert on interfaith dialogue and on Islam and Muslims (i.e. CNN, ABC, Fox, Kuwait TV, Nile TV, Pakistan Channel-II, RAI, MSNBC and Al-jazeera). Imam Yahya Hendi believes that only with love and education can the world be a better place to live in. Imam Hendi speaks about three principles that must guide the world: Politics of Justice; Economics of equity and covenant of community.

- Epicurean Restaurant: Situated on the ground floor of Darnall Hall, offers a variety of dining formats, including hibachi stations, a sushi bar, grill station, a lounge area and a self service eatery and salad bar with more than 100 items.
- Faculty Club Restaurant: Located next door to Hoyas Restaurant, the Faculty Club is a deluxe buffet restaurant. An array of choices is offered every day, including an appetizing salad bar, a variety of meat dishes, fresh seafood and a bountiful selection of desserts.
- Hoyas Restaurant: Located in the South Gallery of the Leavey Center, Hoyas Restaurant features a club-like atmosphere.

Walking Distance
- Tombs: 1226 36th Street NW, (202) 337-6668. Favorite of University faculty, students, and neighbors, Tombs offers a simple, affordable menu of burgers, hearty soups and salads, daily specials and house made desserts.
- Billy Martin’s Tavern: 1264 Wisconsin Ave. NW. (202) 333-7370. This tavern in the heart of Georgetown dates from the end of Prohibition and is one of the tangible links to Washington's Camelot era. John F. Kennedy wooed Jacqueline Bouvier at these wooden tables (the exact spot has an engraved marker) and diplomats, spies and senators have supped here. The menu is traditional American with steaks and crab cakes and clam chowder.
- Paolo’s Ristorante: Wisconsin Ave. NW & N Street, (202) 333-7353. This bustling ristorante has become a corner fixture in this centuries old melting pot amongst politicians, travelers, shoppers and students. Dine outside and watch the world go by, or sit inside and watch your pizza being prepared in our fabulous brick oven, and most of all - enjoy! Located in the heart of Georgetown, Paolo’s serves fine Cal-Italian cuisine full of exciting pizzas and exquisite pastas.
- Bangkok Bistro: 3251 Prospect Street, (202) 337-2424. Asian inspired, Bangkok Bistro offers healthy Thai Cuisine at very reasonable prices. Among the extensive entrees include, but are not limited to, noodle dishes, curries, pad thais, fresh seafoods, and vegetarian options.

Georgetown University
- Hoya Court: Located in the center hall of the Leavey Center, options include Pizza Hut, Subway, KFC, Taco Bell and Aromi d’Italia serving Gelato Italian Ice Cream.

Dining Options for Lunch Break

Zuhr Prayer
1:15 in MSA Prayer room in Copley Basement

omar.noureldin@gmail.com