7th Annual National Shura & In-Service Training for Chaplains & Imams & Other Service Providers to the Muslim Community

Sat, March 25, 2017

(Jumada al-Akhir 26, 1438) 8am - 6pm
Yale Divinity School, 409 Prospect Street, New Haven CT, 06511

Theme - "Service to Humanity 2.0: Best Practices"

Najah Bazzy RN
Zaman International

& Dr. Rami Nashashibi
Inner City Muslim Action Network (IMAN)

AMC Spring Members' Retreat at Yale Divinity School - *LIMITED SPACE*
AMC Members ONLY:
3/25/17 SAT. 6pm - 9pm & 3/26/17 Sun. 9am -12noon FEE - $30
Sign up at https://www.eventbrite.com/e/amic-spring-members-retreat-tickets-32338285683

Contact: registrar.isf@gmail.com / 203-376-7189

Sat Conference organized by Association of Muslim Chaplains (AMC)
http://associationofmuslimchaplains.com/ and
Islamic Seminary Foundation (ISF) supported by
Muslim Endorsement Council of Connecticut (MECC) https://mecct.org/

Staffing: Masjid Al-Islam volunteers and other volunteers
Conference Chair: Chaplain Omer Bajwa, Coordinator of Muslim Life, Yale University

Co-Chair: Chaplain Shazeeda Khan, President – MECC

Co-Chair: Imam Dr. Salahuddin Muhammad, President – AMC

Conference Dean: Prof. Jimmy Jones, President – ISF

Dean’s Assistants: Ayub McMillan, Salman Ahmad (IT), Ubaid Govan

Associate Dean: Chaplain Matiniah Yahya M.Ed

Associate Dean’s Assistants: Mariam Khan, Patricia Nunn RN

Track A Dean: Chaplain Raqeeb Abdul Jabbar

Track B Dean: Chaplain Mustafa Boz MA

Track C Dean: Aqil Hashim LCSW

Research and Strategic Planning Dean: Bonita McGee MA

Conference Operations Coordinator: Abdullah Franklin

Auxiliary Services Coordinator: Abdul Sabur Gonzalez

Food Services Coordinators: Michelle Bekkali RN

Food Services Assistants: Aisha Patel, Layla McMillan

Registrar: Nasiha Adkins BS

Assistant Registrars: Mariam Kanaan, Chamali Antoine BSN, Sumayyah Blatche, Jamilla Marr BSN, Anisa Joyner M.Ed

Goals

1. Convene annual meeting of the Association of Muslim Chaplains (AMC).

2. Convene annual meeting and training for endorsees of the Muslim Endorsement Council of CT (MECC).

3. Provide practical, interactive in-service training for Imams, Chaplains and other service providers to Muslim community.

4. Get feedback from interested stakeholders regarding curriculum development for the effective education and training of Chaplains, Imams and other service providers to the Muslim community.

5. Provide informational updates on Muslim chaplaincy endorsement (MECC) and Muslim American Islamic seminary development (ISF).

Donations: Make all IRS—Tax-deductible checks payable to Islamic Seminary Foundation

PO Box 8484
New Haven, CT 06531 USA

Email: registrar.isf@gmail.com

Phone: (203) 376-7189

Tax ID # 45-3207248
Conference theme: “Service to Humanity 2.0 : Best Practices”
(This year’s theme is a follow-up to last year’s very successful conference theme, “Leadership in Service to Humanity.”
The intent is to focus on more practical ways of serving humanity effectively.)
Saturday, March 25, 2017

8:00am Registration in lobby and Continental Breakfast in Common Room
8:30am Opening Plenary - Niebuhr Hall - Moderator – Ch. Omer Bajwa
Opening Du’a/Q’ur’an Recitation- Imam Abdul Hannan, Masjid Al Islam
Welcome – YDS Associate Dean Nicholas Lewis
Welcome – CT State Senator Gary D. Winfield
Welcome – Yale University Chaplain Sharon Kugler
Greetings – On behalf of US Bureau of Prisons (BOP) Chief of Chaplains Heidi Kugler - Ch. Mustafa Boz
Association of Muslim Chaplains (AMC) - President Imam Dr. Salahuddin Muhammad
Muslim Endorsement Council of CT (MECC) - Board Member Imam Kashif Abdul Karim
Association for Clinical Pastoral Education (ACPE) – President – Elect Rev. Dr. Amy Greene
Conf. Theme – “Service to Humanity 2.0: Best Practices” – Islamic Relief USA Prog. Mgr Naeem Muhammad
Islamic Seminary Foundation – President Prof. Jimmy Jones

Room Hosts (Assigned to room throughout the 3 parallel sessions)
S200 – Khaliah Abdul-Karim JD, S223 – Brandy Chambers, S202 – Kadiatu Turay

9:30am Session I: Parallel Sessions
A. Building Diverse Allies in Post-Presidential Election America, Panelist Ch. Adeel Zeb
   Moderator- Imam Dr. Salahuddin Muhammad S200
B. Off the Campus, Into the Community: University Chaplains Guiding Students to Service,
   Panelists - Ch. Maryam Sharrieff MTS & Ch. Nisa Muhammad / Moderator – Ch. Seher Siddiqee S223
C. Meet the Authors: Journal of Islamic Faith and Practice, Panelists - Prof. Zainab Alwani
   “An Analytical Reading of the Methodology of the Qur’an’s Structural Unity (al-wahda al-binā’iyya li-l-Qura’an)” & Prof. Ihsan Bagby -
   "Getting Masjid Governance Right: Exploring the Organizational Structures of Masjids"
   Moderator – Dr. Iqbal Unus S202

11:00am Break

11:15am Session II: Parallel Sessions
A. Compassionate Leadership & Radical Self-Reflection in Times of Crisis and Upheaval,
   Panelist - Ch. Kameelah Mu’Min Rashad M.Ed / Moderator - Ch. Shareda Hosein MA S202
B. Meet the Author: Caregiving to Muslims: A Guide for Chaplains, Counselors, Healthcare and Social Workers
   Panelist – Imam Dr. Muhammad Hatim / Moderator – Dr. Khadijah Matin S223
C. Service to Humanity: From Training to Field Work Panelists – Rev. Dr. Amy Greene, Hamadi Bengabsia, & Naeem Muhammad / Moderator - Bonita McGee MA S200

12:45pm Dhur Salat (Prayer) - Commuter Room / Lunch - Common Room
1:15pm AMC Annual Meeting - Niebuhr Hall Imam Dr. Salahuddin Muhammad, Presiding
1:30pm Education - Networking Bazaar - Common Room
2:30 pm Session III: Parallel Sessions
A. Council on American Islamic Relations (CAIR) Know Your Rights Workshop, Panelist - Lena Masri, Esq.
   Moderator - Clifton Graves Jr., JD S200
B. Prophetic Paradigm for Human Services, Panelists - Imam Sabur Abdul-Salaam, Tammy Elmansouf MA & Dr. Shadee Elmasry / Moderator - Munir Shaikh MA S223
C. Meet the Author: Revelation: A Story of Muhammad (pbuh), Panelist - Meraj Mohiuddin MD
   Moderator – Dr. Iqbal Unus S202

4:00 pm Break – Common Room / Asr Salat (Prayer) - Commuter Room
4:30 pm Session IV - Plenary - Service to Humanity 2.0: Best Practices Niebuhr Hall
Moderator – Prof. Jimmy Jones
Speakers - Najah Bazzi RN & Dr. Rami Nashashibi (via Skype)
Closing comments - Prof. Jimmy Jones
6:00 pm Closing du’a- Prof. Ihsan Bagby
BIOGRAPHIES

CONFERENCE LEADERSHIP BIOS

Raqueeb Abduljabbar, Track A Dean
Chaplain Raqueeb Abduljabbar was the Imam at Masjid Umm Barakah in Richmond VA until year before last. Raised Muslim in Brooklyn NY in a family that was part of the historic State Street Mosque (NYC), he was influenced by Imam Hisham Jaber. Imam Raqueeb served in the US Coast Guard (1980-1986) where he received a Honorable Discharge and a background in computer science and consumer electronics. He earned a BS in Electronics shortly after his discharge. Chaplain Abduljabbar was instrumental in the establishment of: the first hearing impaired MSA in the US at Gallaudet College; the Masjid Al Islam Musella in Columbia SC; and a successful radio and TV program called ‘Islamic Perspective’ (1996 - 1997). While in Columbia he also worked as a volunteer Muslim prison chaplain for the State of SC. Formerly VP of AMC Military Chaplains, he is currently AMC’s VP for Corrections Chaplains. Imam Raqueeb now works for the California Dept. of Corrections at Corcoran State Prison. Raqueeb has studied Islam in Senegal Madina Bye, Australia and Malaysia where he earned a Bachelors in Islamic Studies. Chaplain Raqueeb presently is working on his Masters at Fresno Pacific College in Family and Marital Counseling and holding the position of Imam at Masjid Ibrahim in Sacramento.

Sabur Abdul-Salaam
Sabur Abdul-Salaam has spent the last 30 years as a New York State Correctional Facility, Federal Correctional Institution and New York State Psychiatric Facility Muslim Chaplain. He has also worked as the program coordinator for an ex-offender mentoring program, published a series of articles (The Islamic Corner) and published the book Spiritual Journey Of An American Muslim and the Anthology Who Speaks For The Muslims In America.

Omer Bajwa, Conference Chair
Chaplain Omer Bajwa MS is Yale University’s Coordinator of Muslim Life. He earned his Graduate Certificate in Islamic Chaplaincy from Hartford Seminary and has been engaged in religious service, social activism and educational outreach for over a decade. Before coming to Yale, he served as the Interim Muslim Chaplain at Cornell University (2007-2008). He received his MS in Near Eastern Studies from Columbia University. He also has an MS in Communications from Cornell and a BA in English Literature and Rhetoric from Binghamton University. Chaplain Bajwa is a former VP of Education Chaplaincy for AMC and a founding board member of ISF.

Mustafa Boz, Track B Dean
Chaplain Mustafa Boz holds a Master’s in Islamic Studies and Christian-Muslim Relations, and a Graduate Certificate in Islamic Chaplaincy from the Hartford Seminary. His formal religious education began in a Turkish Islamic School where he memorized the Qur’an, and became a hafiz. Later he obtained his Bachelor’s in Islamic Studies from Ankara University. Mustafa worked for five years with the Connecticut State Prison System providing chaplaincy services and now serves as a Muslim Chaplain for the Federal Correctional Institution in Milan, Michigan. Mustafa is also passionate about interfaith and community work. While in Connecticut, he was actively involved with the Muslim Coalition of Connecticut (MCCT). New to the Michigan metro-Detroit area, he is working to establish relations with the local communities. He is also a former VP of Corrections for AMC.

Aqil Hashim, Track C Dean
Aqil Hashim LCSW accepted Islam during the month of Ramadan in 1988. He had graduated from Bryant University in 1984 with a BS in Business Administration. In 1990, he made a career change and entered the field of addiction services working as a rehabilitation counselor. It was at this time that he decided to return to school and enrolled at the UConn School of Social Work ultimately graduating with a MSW. Subsequently, he earned his licensure with the CT Department of Public Health as a Licensed Clinical Social Worker (LCSW). He continues to work in human services while assuming board member responsibilities with different organizations. He is the former VP of Masjid Al-Islam Board of Directors, the Secretary of MECC and the President of the Connecticut School of Survival, a martial arts organization located in New Haven CT.

Jimmy Jones, Conference Dean
Prof. Jimmy (James) Jones DMin is former Chair of the Department of World Religions and the African Studies Program at Manhattanville College (Purchase NY) where he is a full Professor and advisor to the MSA. Prof. Jones has been a volunteer prison chaplain with the CT Department of Correction since 1980 and has served as a community based mentor with the Yale New Haven Hospital Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) program. He is former Chair of the board of Masjid Al-Islam (New Haven CT) and has consulted, trained, taught and lectured extensively in the US and abroad. Dr. Jones is the President of ISF, advisor to MECC and AMC and is secretary of the national board of the Council on American Islamic Relations (CAIR). A marriage counselor for more than two decades, he holds a MA in Religion from Yale Divinity School and a DMin from Hartford Seminary. He is the President of the Malik Human Services Institute and is also a member of the Association of Professional Chaplains (APC). He is currently working on a book focused on the intersectionality between Islamophobia and racism.
Shazeeda Khan, Conference Co-Chair
Chaplain Shazeeda Khan has volunteered at the US Federal Correctional Institution in Danbury CT since 2005 serving Muslim women. In addition, she serves as the Director of Islamic Education for the Baitul Mukarran Masjid of Greater Danbury. Since 2000, Chaplain Khan has served on the board of the Association of Religious Communities (ARC), an interfaith community service organization. She is currently President and one of the founding board members of MECC. Aside from her community work in the state of Connecticut, she also serves as Secretary-Treasurer of ISF, a national organization dedicated to the establishment of a world-class Islamic seminary in the US.

Bonita R. McGee, Research and Strategic Planning Dean
Bonita R. McGee MA, Vice President of the ISF, serves on the board of the Islamic Social Services Association-USA (ISSA-USA), a national organization addressing social issues and promoting social work and related fields in the Muslim community. She also provides trainings and assessments for communities in need of addressing the issue of domestic violence. Bonita McGee is also a board member and co-founder of the Muslim Family Services of Ohio, a social service organization serving the Muslim community in Greater Columbus and surrounding areas. Bonita received an undergraduate degree from The Ohio State University and a Master’s in Islamic Sciences from the Cordoba University Graduate School of Islamic and Social Sciences under the leadership of the recently deceased Dr. Taha Al-Alwani (RA).

Salahuddin M. Muhammad
Imam Salahuddin M. Muhammad DMin worked 28 years as chaplain before retiring from Fishkill Correctional Facility in Beacon NY. He also retired as Senior Imam of Masjid Al Ikhlas after 26 years of service in Newburgh NY. Additionally, Dr. Muhammad is also a retired contract chaplain having served 17 years at Bard College, Annandale-on-Hudson NY. He is currently: the President of the Alumni Council and Executive Board member of Hartford Seminary; President of AMC; Associate Imam of As Salaam Islamic Center in Raleigh NC; adjunct professor and advisor for the Muslim Student Union (MSU) at Wake Tech Community College, Raleigh NC. Imam Muhammad is a member of Muslims For Social Justice (MSJ), and a member of the Muslim Public Affairs Council (MPAC). He is also author of Bridging the Divide between Immigrants and African American Muslims by Using the Concept of Tawheed as the Catalyst.

Matiniah Yahya, Associate Conference Dean
Chaplain Matiniah Yahya MEd is a community chaplain, Master Disaster Chaplain (Islamic Relief) and former full time Chaplaincy Resident at Yale-New Haven Hospital’s Association for Clinical Pastoral Education (ACPE) training program (completing a total of 4 units of CPE). In addition, she is a veteran educator with a wide range of teaching, training and consulting experiences in the US and the Middle East. Chaplain Yahya has been a volunteer spiritual and prison chaplain as well as a Muslim marriage and family counselor for more than a decade. Currently VP of the board of MECC, Matiniah Yahya holds a BS in Human Services from Southern New Hampshire University and a Master’s in Education from Wheelock College. She is VP for Community Chaplaincy and Education Chair for AMC. She is also Vice-President of the newly established Malik Human Services Institute.

PLENARY KEYNOTE SPEAKERS’ BIOS

Najah Bazzi
Najah Bazzi, RN, is a nationally recognized health care consultant, humanitarian, and interfaith leader. She is CEO of Diversity Specialists and Transcultural Health Care Solutions, a training group that promotes cross-cultural understanding between clinicians and patients, as well as founder and CEO of Zaman International, a Metro Detroit-based nonprofit providing essential needs, crisis assistance and training to women and children living in poverty. As an interfaith leader, she has educated thousands internationally about Islamic practices and beliefs through books, documentaries, and talks. Born and raised in Southeast Michigan, Najah graduated from Henry Ford Community College with her R.N. degree prior to earning her B.S.N. from Madonna University. Over the next three decades, Najah specialized in critical care and transcultural nursing, which promotes cultural and spiritual competency within health care. The extreme poverty Najah witnessed during post-discharge house calls in 1996 led her to found Zaman International, a grassroots network of Southeast Michigan donors providing food, furniture, clothing and utility assistance to women and children living in poverty. The organization was incorporated in 2004 and under Najah’s leadership now offers comprehensive crisis assistance, essential needs support, infant burial, vocational training and life skills programs – all operated out of its 40,500-square-foot Hope For Humanity Center in Inkster, Mich. Through partnerships with international relief organizations, Zaman has also funded projects bringing humanitarian aid and safe drinking water to more than 600,000 people around the world.

Rami Nashashibi
Rami Nashashibi has served as the Executive Director of the Inner-City Muslim Action Network (IMAN) since its incorporation as a nonprofit in 1997. He has a Ph.D. in Sociology from the University of Chicago and is a Visiting Professor of Sociology of Religion & Muslim Studies at the Chicago Theological Seminary. Rami and his work with IMAN have been featured in many national and international media outlets. In 2014, the Center for American Progress profiled him as one of the “14 Faith Leaders to Watch in 2014” and he was named one of the “500 Most Influential Muslims in the World” by The Royal Islamic Strategic Studies Center in concert with Georgetown’s Prince Alwaleed Bin Talal Center for Muslim-Christian Understanding. In 2016, Rami was appointed by President Obama to serve on the President’s Advisory Council on Faith-Based and Neighborhood Partnerships.
PRESENTERS’ BIOS

Tammy Elmansoury
Tammy Elmansoury completed her MA and MPhil in History at the School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London on the topic of Dawah in 20th century Egypt. She has taught at colleges in the US since 2010, and currently teaches History at Union County College in Cranford, NJ. She is also very involved in community initiatives at the New Brunswick Islamic Center in NJ, she is especially interested in providing programming for young people.

Shadee Elmasry
Dr Shadee Elmasry is a native of New Jersey. After completing a BA, he earned a Masters from George Washington University and then a PhD from the University of London on the subject of dawah in the works of Imam al-Haddad. Dr Shadee spent over three years in New Haven, CT teaching at Yale University and contributing to Masjid al-Islam. Currently, he teaches at the New Brunswick Islamic Center, where he founded Safina Society for live and virtual transmission of traditional Islamic teachings.

Amy Greene
Rev. Amy Greene, D.Min. is Director of Spiritual Care at the Cleveland Clinic, where she oversees a team of chaplains, chaplaincy students, holistic nurses and others involved in the whole-person care of patients, families and staff. She has been at the Clinic since 2007 as a Supervisor of Clinical Pastoral Education and continues to oversee that program now as Director. Students at the Clinic receive the prerequisite training for board certification as professional chaplains, while also learning how to provide holistic care in an outcomes-driven, world class healthcare environment. Chaplains are available at the main campus (1400 inpatient beds) 24 hours a day. Amy has served as a chaplain and chaplain-educator in hospitals, hospices, prisons and other institutional settings for many years. She has a Master of Divinity from Union Theological Seminary (Columbia University) in New York and a Doctor of Ministry from the Ecumenical Theological Seminary in Detroit. She is the President-Elect of the Association for Clinical Pastoral Education, Inc. for 2018-19 Amy and her husband Thomas Reuter have two grown sons.

Muhammad Hatim
Dr. Muhammad Hatim is a respected religious leader, human rights activist, educator, lecturer, and counselor. He retired as an Imam with the Admiral Family Circle Islamic Community in NYC after 18 years. He directed the Admiral Family Justice Ministry (prisons/courts); Admiral Family’s United Nations NGO Representative, Geneva, Switzerland and NYC; and Red Cross Disaster Chaplain at ground zero after the World Trade Center tragedy in NYC. He is the Imam Warith Deen Muhammad Professor of African American Muslim Studies at the Graduate Theological Foundation (GTF) in Indiana; Board Certified Clinical Chaplain (BCCC) and Pastoral Counselor (BCPC) by College of Pastoral Supervision and Psychotherapists (CPSP); and both a Certified Drug and Alcohol Counselor (CADC) and Certified Co-Occurring Disorder Professional (CODP) in NJ. He holds a PhD in Civil Engineering and MS in Transportation Planning from NYU; DMin from the GTF in Pastoral Counseling, and a BS in Education from Temple University.

Islamic Relief USA (Diamond - Plus Sponsor)
Islamic Relief USA is a community of humanitarians--staff, volunteers, affiliates, supporters, partners, donors—who have been working together for a better world for nearly 25 years. In 1993, Islamic Relief USA became an independent (and legally separate) member of a global family of collaborating relief organizations that share a common vision, mission and family identity—connected through the use of the “Islamic Relief” name. Islamic Relief USA operates seven regional offices in the United States: in northern California, southern California, Illinois, Florida, New Jersey, Texas and Virginia, which is its headquarters location. These IRUSA offices have been serving to educate, inform, and raise awareness about our various relief and development projects for years. Additionally, IRUSA holds seminars, banquets, concerts, and other public awareness programs across the country to help fund domestic and international projects. Islamic Relief USA is represented at this conference by Chair of the IRUSA Waqf Hamadi Hamadi Beugabsia and US Programs Manager Naeem Muhammad.

Lena Masri
Atty Lena Masri JD is the National Litigation Director at the Council on American-Islamic Relations (CAIR), the nation’s largest Muslim civil rights and advocacy organization. Previously, Masri was legal director of CAIR’s Michigan chapter, where she spearheaded high-impact, landmark civil rights litigation that both challenged anti-Muslim policies and defended the constitutional rights of American Muslims. Masri holds a Juris Doctor from Indiana University - Indianapolis, School of Law, where she focused her studies in International and Comparative Law, as well as on International Human Rights Law. She received her Bachelor of Arts in Political Science and Near Eastern Studies from the University of Michigan. In 2014, she was awarded the RARE Everyday Hero Award by Winning Futures for her “extraordinary commitment, integrity, selflessness and courage to changing lives and inspiring others.” Prior to joining CAIR-MI, she worked in different areas relating to national security and international human rights, including ethnic cleansing, genocide, enforced disappearances, arbitrary detentions, torture, use of child soldiers, money laundering, and sex trafficking. In 2008, she principally authored and presented a shadow report on the United States to the United Nations Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination. She also spoke before the United Nations Special Rapporteur on Contemporary Forms of Racism about arbitrary arrests and detentions, use of secret evidence in closed proceedings, secret detentions, refoulement (the expulsion of refugees or asylum seekers), and proxy torture.
**Meraj Mohiuddin**

Dr. Meraj Mohiuddin is an American physician and writer. With a background in neuroscience and a medical degree from Northwestern University, he completed his training in Anesthesiology and Critical Care Medicine and subsequently began teaching at Harvard Medical School and its affiliated hospitals. During his medical career, Dr. Mohiuddin developed a keen interest in early Islamic history and after 13 years of work, published his award-winning, *Revelation, the Story of Muhammad*. Dr. Mohiuddin has no formal training in the Islamic sciences. He considers himself a mainstream American-Muslim who believes that every prophet lived a timeless example of moderation and integrity. He has no political agenda other than to close the gaps of disharmony between Jews, Christians, and Muslims. “By getting to know our prophets,” he writes, “we can hope to attain a more compassionate, more gracious version of ourselves.” Dr. Mohiuddin is an avid reader and is particularly interested in studying how modern advances in cognitive and behavioral sciences can deepen our understanding of classical Islamic thought.

**Nisa Muhammad**

Nisa Muhammad is a graduate student at Hartford Seminary, Class of 2017, pursuing a Master’s Degree in Islamic Studies and a graduate certificate in Islamic Chaplaincy. She interns at Howard University as their Muslim Chaplain. Her responsibilities include organizing Muslim worship and devotion, counseling and advising students, faculty, staff, the vendor on the corner, and answering a myriad of questions and challenges from race to religion to relationships. Mrs. Muhammad advocates for the religious needs of Muslim students, represents the Islamic faith on campus when necessary at official university functions, teaches non academic personal enrichment classes on Islamic tradition and works closely with other faith chaplains to foster inter religious dialogue and cooperation. She is also the advisor to the Muslim Students Association at Howard.

**Kameelah Mu’Min Rashad M.Ed**

Kameelah is the Founder and President of Muslim Wellness Foundation (MWF), a nonprofit organization dedicated to reducing stigma associated with mental illness, addiction and trauma in the American Muslim community through dialogue, education and training. Kameelah is the Fellow for Spirituality, Wellness and Social Justice at the University of Pennsylvania (UPenn). She served three years as the Muslim Chaplain at UPenn and continues to facilitate discussions on religious identity development and challenges faced by American Muslim youth. In addition to Kameelah’s involvement in mental health advocacy and religious life, she is a proud social justice activist. Kameelah has 15+ years in the field of psychology and counseling. She is currently pursuing her doctorate in Clinical Psychology at Chestnut Hill College in Philadelphia, PA.

**Maryam Sharrief**

Maryam Sharrief MTS is a filmmaker, lecturer and researcher. Research projects have included the: “African-American Shi’i Muslim Community: Under-researched, Underestimated & Underrepresented in the American Muslim Public Square”, “Muslim Women Teach Tradition: Undertaking Three Case Studies; the Qubaisiat, Hui Hui and Murshidat, the Legacy of Female Scholarship in Islam” and “Gender and Its Linguistic Implications in the Qur’an and Torah”. Sharrief’s research interests encompass the Muslim contribution to Sicilian society, the Representation of faith in and on film, Homosexuality in canonical texts, American Muslim women’s activism, fundamentalism across faiths and America’s Founding Fathers and Islam. Recently she has presented on Muslim women’s leadership at the World Parliament of Religion’s Conference in Sydney, Australia and the Shaykafest. She received her BA in Middle Eastern Studies/Italian/TV & Film from Rutgers University (1998) and obtained her Masters in Theological Studies at Harvard Divinity School (2008). Maryam currently serves as the Muslim chaplain at Brandeis University.

**Adeel J. Zeb**

Imam Adeel J. Zeb is a Muslim chaplain, interfaith scholar, and TEDx speaker. Currently serving as vice president of the National Association of College and University Chaplains, Zeb has worked as a Muslim chaplain at 11 colleges and universities across the United States. He has given Friday khutbah (sermons) on Capitol Hill, at the State Department, and mosques nationally. He has been featured on media including CNN, National Public Radio, the *Washington Post*, *Time Magazine*, and the *Huffington Post* over a 10-year span. In addition he was a participant in the International Higher Education Interfaith Leadership Forum and has completed the prestigious fellowship for the Study of Auschwitz and Preventive Ethics. Zeb has certifications in conflict management, interfaith conflict management, and mediation from the United States Institute for Peace. He holds degrees from Baylor University in business administration, Arees University in traditional Islamic studies, and Hartford Seminary Master's degree in Islamic chaplaincy. He studied tajweed and Qur'anic recitation from the Blue Mosque in Istanbul. He is fluent in English, Hindi, and Urdu and has a working fluency in Spanish, Modern Standard and Qur'anic Arabic. His focused areas of specializations are American Islam, Spiritual Counseling, Muslim Youth Development, and Interfaith Relations.
Save the Date for
Shura 1439
INSHALLAH
March 24 2018!

SPECIAL THANKS to the many who assisted with Shura 1438 including:

Administrative Support: Manhattanville College Department of World Religions,
Manhattanville College African Studies Program
Chaplain Abdulmalik Negedu, Secretary - Treasurer—Malik Human Services Institute
Facilities: Yale University Chaplain’s Office, Yale Divinity School

Graphics, editing and layout: Tashae Smith, Manhattanville College ‘17

The Islamic Seminary of America
Congratulates
The Islamic Seminary Foundation
on its
7th Annual National Shura and In-service Training for Chaplains &
Imams & Other Service Providers to the Muslim Community

We look forward to working with you in the future!
President : Khalil Adur Rashid
Vice President : Omar Suleiman

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our Facebook page - https://www.facebook.com-IslamicSeminariofAmerica/

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National Shura and In-Service Training for Chaplains and Imams
Association of Muslim Chaplains
A 501 3 (c) IRS tax-exempt organization

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Dr. Khadijah Matin, Vice President – Healthcare Chaplains
Chaplain Rafael Lantigua, Vice President – Military Chaplains
Chaplain Nisa Muhammad, Secretary
Chaplain Seher Siddiqee, Treasurer

Current Mission & Vision
The Association of Muslim Chaplains (AMC) is a non-profit 501(c)3 organization committed to supporting, training, mentoring, and advocating on behalf of Muslim chaplains as they serve hospitals, schools, correctional facilities, the US military, and local communities. Our goal is to offer mutual support, nurturance, and continuing education to Muslims who are facilitating and providing spiritual care, counseling, and Islamic services across the US. There is an urgent need to provide more religious leaders with professional chaplaincy training and skills that Muslims depend upon within our local communities and institutions. AMC is dedicated to meeting this need.

Proposed Changes for Vote During AMC Annual Meeting 3/25/17 at 1:15pm at Yale Divinity School Niebhur Hall during Annual Conference.

Mission: The Association of Muslim Chaplains supports the professional development of Muslims who provide spiritual care as chaplains in communities and in public/private institutions in the United States, while prompting the advancement of the field of Islamic Chaplaincy.

Vision: The Association of Muslim Chaplains seeks to be an organization:
Offering regular trainings that promote the ongoing skill development of Muslim Chaplains;
Creating professional networks and connections between Muslim Chaplains that offer collegial nurturing and support;
Serving as an institution for Muslim Chaplains seeking certification and/or professional endorsement;
Supporting the development of cohesion and greater collaboration between Muslim Chaplains and Muslim communities

Values
Our core values are drawn from the Qur’an and the Sunnah of the Prophet Muhammad (Peace be upon him): Ikhlas (Sincerity) – our intention is to act fi sabil Allah (for the sake of God).
Nashih (Good Counsel) – our actions are in fulfillment of our religious obligation to provide nasiha (good counsel).
Rahma (Mercy) – our conduct reflects the example of the Prophet Muhammad (Peace be upon him) who was sent as rahma lil-`alamin – mercy to all the worlds.
Hay’ (Dignity) – our deportment demonstrates modesty, respect, honor, good morals and humility toward our own selves and to all others.

Ethical Standards
Members of the AMC are expected to follow the AMC Code of Ethics. The AMC Code of Ethics supports and endorses the Common Code of Ethics for Spiritual Care Professions affirmed by the constituent boards of the Council of Collaboration, which represents the Association of Professional Chaplains (APC), American Association of Pastoral Counselors (AAPC), Association for Clinical Pastoral Education (ACPE), National Association of Catholic Chaplains (NACC), the National Association of Jewish Chaplains (NAJC), and the Canadian Association for Pastoral Practice and Education. This common code of ethics may be referenced at www.acpe.edu/council.htm
Your Title & Name: ____________________________________________________________

Preferred Mailing Address: ____________________________________________________

City / State / Zip Code: ________________________________________________________

Home Phone:_______________ Cell Phone:_______________ Work Phone:____________

E-mail: _____________________________________________________________________

CHAPLAINCY EMPLOYMENT / VOLUNTEER SERVICE

Please indicate your chaplaincy employment / volunteer site/s.

Employer: _________________________________________________________________

Job Title:______________________________ Start & End dates______________________

Status (check): __ full-time __ part-time __ per diem __ stipend __ volunteer

Employer: _________________________________________________________________

Job Title:____________________________ Start & End dates_______________________

Status (check): __ full-time __ part-time __ per diem __ stipend __ volunteer

CHAPLAINCY EDUCATION

Program: __________________________Advisor/Supervisor:________________________

Start date/ Expected Graduation date: ___________ Degree: ______________________

Clinical Pastoral Education: Please indicate the number of units completed or in progress:

None _____

1 __ Site: __________________________________________________________________

2 __ Site: __________________________________________________________________

3 __ Site: __________________________________________________________________

4 __ Site: __________________________________________________________________

Students: Which area of chaplaincy do you intend to work in (i.e. corrections, military, etc.):

___________________________________________________________________________
Are you currently endorsed? __Yes __ No

Endorser: _________________________________________________________________

Are you currently board certified? __Yes __ No

Certifying Agency: ___________________________________________________________

**AMC is a member-led organization:** The more each member contributes, the more we can collectively achieve. The contribution of your skills and time would be most appreciated. If you are able and interested please indicate one or two committees you would be willing to serve on and/or skills you can contribute.

Membership ●  Website ●  Education ●  Training ●  Social Media ●  Fundraising ●  Community Outreach ●  Event Planning ●  Advocacy ●  Public Relations/Marketing

Skills ______________________________________________________________________

I, __________________________, am applying as a(n) ______________(regular, associate) member of the Association of Muslim Chaplains and am enclosing the annual dues for the current year in the amount of $_______($50, $25). I am aware that signing this indicates that I agree to abide by the AMC Code of Ethics that follows. Additionally, I recognize that the emails shared on the Association of Muslim Chaplains general member listserv as well as my field specific one/s (i.e. health care, military) are confidential and should not be shared, in part or in full, without the express permission of the author.

SIGNATURE: ______________________________ DATE: ____________

Return this to AssociationOfMuslimChaplains@gmail.com

If you would prefer to post it, please contact the membership team at this email to ask for the Membership Committee’s mailing address
Muslim Endorsement Council of Connecticut
A 501(c)3 IRS tax-exempt organization

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VISION
To maintain, reinforce and improve quality standards of spiritual care for people in public and private institutions.

MISSION
To provide a structure and process for the official endorsement and support of Muslim chaplains based on Islamic and pastoral principles and to establish a national standard for such endorsement in order to develop consistency and integrity in the field of Islamic chaplaincy. 

MECC serves to manifest the Qur’anic enjoinment and Prophetic traditions of consultation and consensus as also practiced by the four rightly guided caliphs. It strives to represent the diversity within the Muslim community in Connecticut.

HISTORY
For more than 15 years prior to the establishment of the Muslim Endorsement Council of CT Inc. (MECC), CT Islamic Prison Chaplains and volunteers would meet to discuss establishing a support group for Islamic chaplains and their clients. Such an effort coalesced in March of 2006 when several Muslim leaders in the state of CT in association with the Muslim Coalition of Connecticut (MCCT) decided to look at the issue by establishing a chaplaincy sub-committee. With the advice and support of the Council on American Islamic Relations (CAIR)-CT, the International League of Muslim Women CT Chapter, the Islamic Council of New England (ICNE), the New England Council of Masajid and the New England Muslim Sisters Association (NEMSA), MECC was established in March 2010 (Rabi al-awal 1431). MECC organized the National Shura and Best Practices on Chaplaincy and Muslim Seminary Conference that was held on March 5, 2011 at Yale University. It was a successful effort to broaden the Muslim and non-Muslim input into these projects as well as increase the Muslim community’s knowledge about the processes of establishing an endorsement entity and a seminary.

HIGHLIGHTS
The committee attempted to contact every Islamic center in CT. It ultimately contacted more than 70% of the approximately 42 centers. The committee made contact with the Association for Clinical Pastoral Education, Inc. (ACPE), and began encouraging CT Muslims to get clinical pastoral education training. The committee held several statewide meetings where the leadership of the Islamic centers was invited to give feedback and advice on the issue of endorsing chaplains. The Islamic centers elected an endorsing body board in March 2010 (Rabi al-awal 1431), thereby establishing the Muslim Endorsement Council of CT (MECC). MECC was incorporated in March 2011 and applied for and ultimately received federal 501(c)3 tax-exempt status. In the interim, Masjid Al-Islam Inc. in New Haven CT served as the fiduciary agent for the project. In September of 2010, some of the members of the original group saw the need for the establishment of a Muslim American seminary. After consulting Muslim academics, national Muslim organizations and some non-Muslim entities, the decision was made to try to establish a Muslim American seminary as a separate, but related, initiative. The establishment of this national Shura conference in 1432/2011 is based on a process developed in consultation with: Association of Muslim Chaplains (AMC), Council on American Islamic Relations (CAIR), Graduate School of Islamic and Social Sciences (GSISS), International Institute of Islamic Thought (IIIT), International League of Muslim Women - New England Chapter, Islamic Center of New London (ICNL), Islamic Circle of North America (ICNA), Islamic Relief-USA, Islamic Social Services Association-USA (ISSA-USA), Islamic Society of North America (ISNA), Masjid Al-Islam (MAI), Muslim American Society (MAS)- Freedom, Muslim Alliance in North America (MANA), New England Council of Masajid, New England Muslim Sisters Association (NEMSA). All Praises and Gratitude are due to Allah - in 2016 MECC, Inc. has consolidated its relationship with the BOP as an approved endorser by meeting with staff of the BOP at Hartford CT to discuss the relationship, MECC's standards and Endorsement process. The BOP staff was impressed at the high quality level of MECC's standards and endorsement process. MECC, Inc. continues its endorsement of new candidates in the chaplaincy areas of education, community, corrections, healthcare and military. In an effort to accommodate growth MECC, Inc. is now setting its sights on becoming a national endorsement council by partnering with a national organization. To this end MECC, Inc. meet with ICNA with a view to jointly developing a national board for endorsing chaplains nationwide.

Contact: Prof. Jimmy Jones Phone: 203-376-7189 Email: mecc.endorse@gmail.com

National Shura and In-Service Training for Chaplains and
Vision for an Islamic Seminary in the US

Developed by the Islamic Seminary Foundation (ISF) in consultation with Muslim and people from other faith traditions since Shura 1432 (2011):

- An institution that serves as a catalyst and platform for rigorous Islamic scholarship, research and training, firmly based on the Quran and Sunnah, integrating the best traditions of classical Islamic scholarship and Western academic scholarship.

- A seminary that seeks to preserve the life-giving guidance of Quran and Sunnah, making it relevant and meaningful to this period of history.

- An institution that serves the American Muslim community, addressing in particular the relevant fiqhi issues and questions of the American Muslim community, and the various social and organizational needs of masjids and the American Muslim community.

- An institution that serves as a vehicle for cross-fertilization between Muslims and non-Muslims in order to contribute to the general American ethos and to facilitate the civilizational and interfaith dialog which was accelerated in the wake of September 11, 2001.

- An institution that strengthens the role of religion in the public square by countering the current negative portrayals of Islam which tend to affect all religions.

- An institution that assists in the on-going development of the American Muslim identity, aimed at fostering authentic identities firmly rooted in both the American and Islamic contexts.

- An institution that promotes an agenda of social justice and compassion in the world.

Islamic Seminary Foundation

MISSION

The mission of an American Islamic Seminary in the US is to be a preeminent institution of Islamic higher learning, whose primary purpose is to prepare Imams and Muslim leaders to serve Islam and the American Muslim community, combining rigorous Islamic scholarship with a commitment to strengthening the Muslim community in America and striving for social justice and compassion in the world.

GOAL OF THE SEMINARY: to train and prepare American Muslim Leaders who are

- balanced in their understanding of Islam
- confident in their American Muslim identity
- committed to the vision of building a vibrant, engaged American Muslim community
- trained in the necessary organizational and communication skills in leading the American Muslim community

NEED FOR AN AMERICAN ISLAMIC SEMINARY

- Mosques are dramatically increasing in number, and by 2020 there is expected to be 1400 full-time, paid Imam positions. Most mosque leaders prefer American-born Imams who are trained both in the scholarly tradition of Islam and in the skills of serving the American Muslim community, but few exist.
- Mosque personnel (youth directors, executive directors) need training in their fields.
- Volunteer Imams (largely African American) need to upgrade their Islamic knowledge
- Prisons, the armed forces, universities and hospitals have a growing need for Muslim chaplains
- Foreign-born Imams need training in the skills of serving an American Muslim community.

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