

49th Annual ISNA Convention

August 31- September 3, 2012

Washington DC Convention Center
801 Mount Vernon Place NW
Washington, DC 20001

THEME: One Nation Under God: Striving for the Common Good

“إِنَّ هَذِهِ أُمَّتُكُمْ أُمَّةً وَاحِدَةً وَأَنَا رَبُّكُمْ فَاعْبُدُونِ”

“This community of yours is one single community and
I am your Lord, so serve Me.”

Al-Anbiya (The Prophets) 21:92

Parallel Session Suggestion Guidelines and Form

(Deadline for submission is February 10, 2012)

Parallel Session Suggestion Guidelines:

The Islamic Society of North America is inviting suggestions for parallel sessions to be presented at the 49th Annual ISNA Convention. The convention continues an ISNA tradition devoted to better understanding Islam and developing stronger Islamic personalities and communities. We seek suggestions that teach, inspire, and show how to develop Islam in our lives, families, and communities, as well as how to present Islam to others. Through this process of soliciting suggestions for parallel sessions, the Convention Program Committee hopes to:

- bring current and relevant Islamic scholarship and activism from across the US and Canada
- offer sessions and speakers that represent the diversity and breadth of our Muslim community
- remain open, fair and objective in selection of session subject matter and presenters.

Your suggestions may be used in constructing the final program, subject to necessary changes by the Program Committee.

The following SIX topical areas have been identified for this year's parallel sessions. Please send your proposals relating to various aspects of the following areas:

1. Protection of Religion: Freedom of religion, Spirituality, Practices, Idea of Choice (the right to choose), Pluralism (Interfaith and Intra-faith), Institution Building.

2. Essentials of Life: Quality of Life, Health Care, Housing/Shelter, Environment, End of Life issues, Issues Surrounding Abortion, Death Penalty, Issues of War, Combating Terrorism, Extra-Judicial Killing, Jobs, Endowment.

3. **Strengthening the Family:** Marriage, Parenting, Youth, Generational Harmony, Inheritance, Adoption, Dealing with Domestic Violence, Protecting Institution of Marriage.

4. **Advancing Intellect:** Education, Psychology, Eradicating Addiction, Social Issues, Social Medium, Popular Culture,

5. **Managing Property:** Finance and Economic Responsibility, Interest-Free Economy, Economic Justice, Right to Own, Socialism/Capitalism (where Islam stands), Wills/Estate.

6. **Promoting Dignity:** Civil Rights, Human Rights, Gender Equity, Minority Rights, Islamophobia, Eliminating Torture, Respect for Humanity, Sexual Identity.

Criteria for Acceptance:

The Program Committee will review and accept or decline suggestions according to the criteria listed below. Sessions should:

- Adhere to the convention theme and the topical areas mentioned above.
- Be relevant to American Muslims and their communities.
- Educate the audience about a specific subject matter.
- Be in lecture format or hands on workshops
- Provide the audience with useful tools, skills, data and references.
- Include a question and answer period that is NOT LESS than 20 minutes. (The entire time period for a session is 90 minutes, including the moderator's introduction of not more than 3 minutes and the total of presentations not to exceed 60 minutes.)

*NOTE: There are only a limited number of parallel sessions available. In order to fulfill the overall objectives of the convention, as well as accommodate those submitting suggestions, the Program Committee reserves the right to combine sessions that overlap in subject matter and/or speakers.

Submitting your suggestion:

- Please [download the form](#) to submit the parallel session suggestion.
- All suggestions must be submitted as an attachment via email by Friday, **February 10, 2012**. There will be no exceptions.
- Suggestions that are incomplete, difficult to read or late will NOT be considered.
- Send suggestion forms to: suggestions@isna.net

Notification:

The Program Committee feedback on your suggestion will be sent via email by Friday, March 9, 2012. The decisions made by the Program Committee are final.