

45th Annual ISNA Convention
Columbus, OH. Aug 29- Sept 1, 2008

Theme: **RAMADAN – A TIME FOR CHANGE**

إِنَّ اللَّهَ لَا يُغَيِّرُ مَا بِقَوْمٍ حَتَّى يُغَيِّرُوا مَا بِأَنْفُسِهِمْ

“... Verily God will not change the condition of a people until they change it themselves....” *The Qur’an* 13-11

Friday, August 29, 2008

1:15 – 2:15 pm	Jummah Prayer Sami Catovic	Main Prayer Hall
2:30 – 3:30 PM	Inaugural Session	Ballroom 1, 2, 3

Presidents:

Islamic Society of North America (ISNA) – Ingrid Mattson
Islamic Circle of North America (ICNA) – Khursheed Khan
Muslim Students Association National (MSA National) –Asma Mirza
Muslim Youth of North America (MYNA) – Zaki Barzinji
Association of Muslim Scientists and Engineers (AMSE) --M. Alam
Association of Pakistani Physicians of North America (APPNA)-- Mahmood Alam
Islamic Medical Association of North America (IMANA) --Hafizur Rehman
Council of Islamic Schools in North America (CISNA) -- Safaa Zarzour

Chairs:

Convention Program - Sami Catovic
Convention Chair - Abdul Wahab
Steering Committee - Azeez Haque

Moderator: Azhar Azeez

3:30 – 5:00 PM

Session 1A:

Hall C

Ramadan: A Time for Spiritual Rejuvenation

Ramadan is a once a year intensive training camp for Muslims, a time for retrospection, repentance, and rejuvenation. This session will prepare us mentally and spiritually for this blessed month of fasting and reflection, focusing on the inner dimensions of Ramadan and how to make the most of this special time.

Speakers: Jamal Badawi, Mokhtar Maghraoui, Muzammil Siddiqi

Moderator: M. Rajabally

5:20 pm Asr Prayer

5:30 - 7:00 PM

Session 2A:

Hall C

Meet the Scholars: Fiqh of Everyday Life

This session addresses common concerns and questions from the audience in a talk show format. The diverse panel of experts will address questions from the floor on a variety of issues relevant to American Muslims today. This is a unique opportunity for open dialogue and communication with the experts on topics ranging from Ramadan to family matters.

Panelists: Muneer Fareed, Ihsan Bagby, Zainab Alwani

Host: Hatem Bazian

5:30 – 7:00 PM Session 2B:

Ballroom 5

Celebrating Our Islamic Heritage with the Somali Community of Columbus (Session in Somali Language)

This is a special session for the Somali community in our host town that addresses some of the many issues they have had to deal with since coming here from war-torn Somalia to settle in Columbus. This panel will address issues faced by this fairly new community, some of which are similar to those faced by other immigrants, while some are unique to their situation, including parenting in the West, mental health issues, and other challenges, as well as opportunities for these new immigrants.

Speakers and topics:

Parenting in the West by Musa Ahmed

Dealing with Mental Health Issues by Abukar Dahir Osman

Challenges and Opportunities by Abdirasaq Farah

8:15 pm Maghrib Prayer

8:30 - 10:00 PM

Session 3A:

Hall C

Sharing the Spirit of Ramadan with Others: Outreach to the Greater Community

Ramadan provides an opportunity for mosques and communities across the country to open their doors to friends and neighbors.. This session focuses on the methodology for effective outreach to communities of other faiths, including tips for hosting interfaith events in Ramadan. Fasting is a shared practice in all the Abrahamic faiths, and can be a springboard for celebrating our commonalities, and educating others about Islam.

Speakers: Sayyid M. Syeed, Maha Elgenaidi, Rich Killmer, Jonathan Reckford
Moderator: Rizwan Jaka

9:40 pm Isha Prayer

Saturday, August 30 2008

Adhan – 5:45 AM, Iqama – 6:00 AM
Spiritual Talk: 6:15 -6:45 AM
Speaker: Jamal Badawi

9:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. Session 4A Hall B

Turning the Tables

“You just don't know what it's like!” Sound like a familiar response to nearly everything parents say these days? Parents: Are you tired of trying to decipher every word that comes out of your teen's mouth, and feeling caught in a constant guessing game? In this session a panel of teens answer questions parents have, frankly discuss the issues and challenges each face, and attempt to reach common ground.

Speakers: Panel of Youth
Moderator: Naeem Mohammed

9:00 – 10:30 am Session 4B Ballroom 5

Improving our communication with Allah (SWT)

The success of our daily life highly depends on how we communicate with Allah (SWT). Understanding and applying the principles of effective communications in our acts of worship help us to lead and regulate our daily life in the most efficient ways. The essence of submitting to Allah and worshipping Allah through the five daily prayers, supplications, and Dhikr is to communicate with our creator and sustainer consistently, frequently, and effectively. This talk will elaborate on certain elements in communication terms that would improve the quality of our daily prayers (Salaat), our supplications (Du'a), and our Dhikr to attain the ideal and optimum level of communication.

Speaker: Yusuf Ziya Kavakci, Muhammad Y. Ninowy, Daud Nassimi
Moderator: Moutasem Atiya

10:45 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Session 5A: Hall B

Election 2008: Understanding the Issues and Getting Involved in the Process

In this important election year, it is vital that Muslims get involved, understand election issues, and exercise their civic obligation of voting. This session will educate people on the topics, describe different political organizations, and provide information about other resources that can help clarify often confusing issues. As the country stands poised for change, Muslim Americans have a civic responsibility to participate in the political process and work for the betterment of their country.

Speakers: Agha Saeed, Tahara Goraya, Salam Al-Marayati
Moderator: Suhail Khan

10:45 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Session 5B: Ballroom 5

Thinking Outside the Mosque: How Muslim Institutions Can Change America

It is a sign of maturity for any immigrant community when it moves beyond establishing places that meet its immediate needs—houses of worship, grocery stores for ethnic cuisine, travel agencies for trips back home, etc.—and begins to look to the intellectual, scholastic, and social service needs that will help sustain the community for the long term. Muslims in America are clearly past that point. With the waves of immigrant Muslims in the past fifty years, combined with convert and African American Muslims, our community has attained a critical mass that necessitates a focused effort at building institutions. Zaytuna Institute intends this program to be a wide-ranging discussion about the institutional priorities and needs of Muslims in America.

Speakers: Hamza Yusuf and Special Guests
Moderator: Safir Ahmed

10:45 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Session 5C: Room D 130-132

Fiqh of the Family

This session is an open Q & A session with members of the Fiqh Council of North America on matters relating to life, including marriage, divorce, and child rearing issues. This open forum with the experts is an opportunity to dialogue about the everyday issues that affect all of us and our families.

Speakers: Zulfiqar Ali Shah, Zainab Alwani, Yusuf Ziya Kavakci, Muzammil Siddiqi
Moderator: Abdool Rahman Khan

10:45 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Session 5D: Room C 213-215

Toward a Just and Lasting Peace in Palestine and Israel

Join representatives from the three Abrahamic faiths as they give their perspectives on prerequisites for a just and lasting peace in Palestine and Israel.

Speakers: Hatem Bazian, Cecilie Surasky
Moderator: Jamal Dajani

10:45 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Session 5E: Room C 210-212

Youth Culture

Youth Culture is a product of the supersonic communication and virtual communities that were developed in the past fifteen years. It is effective, well-funded and global. It is shaping the minds and hearts of hundreds of millions of youth around globe, including your own. This session will shed some light on this cultural phenomenon and how we can best deal with it as parents, teachers and community leaders.

Speakers: Iyad Alnacheif, Habeeb Quadri
Moderator: Sarah Soliman

10:45 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Session 5F: Room C 110-112

Educational and Legal Challenges for Muslims and Minorities in India

This session seeks to raise awareness and provide detailed research and analysis of educational conditions of Indian Muslims. It will provide facts, as well as information on the IMRC project in providing educational help to the desired students. Also discussed will be the time and finances needed to support IMRC's mission and objectives.

Speaker: Salman Nadvi, Harsh Mander
Moderator: Manzoor Ghori

10:45 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Session 5G: Room C120-122

Medical Aspects of Fasting: Living Healthy, Ramadan & Beyond

Fasting during the month of Ramadan is a requirement for Muslims, except for those who are exempt because of health or other reasons. Many patients who are taking medicines for different illnesses can fast, but care must be taken to minimize, if not eliminate, the risks of adverse health consequences. Speakers will discuss exemptions due to illness, pregnancy and fasting and also steps that can be taken to adjust medications during fasting.

Speakers: Shahid Athar, Sheik N. Hassan
Moderator: Hafizur Rehman

10:45 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Session 5H: Room C 223-225

Muslim Funerals (Janazah) in America: An Interactive Workshop with Ahmad-Rufai Abdullah

10:45 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Session 5J: Room C 220-222

Caring for Our Community: Establishing Health Clinics and Women's Shelters

This session provides participants with the basic tools necessary to start a community clinic or health network in their area, using UMMA Community Clinic and Compassionate Care Network as case studies. It will also address how to help victims of family violence, which is the number one cause of injury to women in the U.S.-more than all other causes combined. The panel will discuss Fatima's Light House, a shelter for women and children in need, as well as highlight Hands to Hands Social Services, which assists families and children through education, air and counseling.

Speakers: Yasser Aman, Azher Quader, Shereen Begum, Jawairriya Abdallah-Shahid
Moderator: Aatiyyah Quadria

10:45 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Session 5K: Room D 230-232
American Mosque in the 21st Century
The continued growth of the Muslim community and its indigenization within the American society will have a significant impact on the mosque as an institution as the 21st century unfolds. Panelists, who are researching and analyzing this crucial subject, will discuss the anticipated role of the mosque within, and its relevance to, a rapidly changing Muslim community.

Panelists: Sulayman Nyang, Zahid Bukhari, Louay Safi, Iqbal Unus
Moderator: Ihsan Bagby

10:45 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Session 5L: Room E 150-151
AMSE Session: Knowledge Infrastructure Development Through ICT in Developing Countries
Information technology is an emerging field with a variety of applications in everyday life. This panel will focus on issues pertaining to the current development and applications of information technology towards improving the economic conditions in developing countries.

Speakers: A. Awal, M. A. Karim
Moderator: M. S. Alam

10:45 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Session 5M: Room C 113-114
Meet The Author
This 'Meet the Author' session presents a platform to learn, share ideas and provide literary contributions to the community. Participants receive an opportunity to meet with authors who have contributed to Islam and Muslims in America and around the world.

Beneath My Mother's Feet by Amjad Qamar
9 Steps to Achieve Your Destiny by Zohra Sarwari

Authors: Amjed Qamar, Zohra Sarwari

12:15-2:30 p.m.

Ballroom

Community Service Recognition Luncheon

The *Mahboob Khan Community Service Award* will be presented to a prominent community leader for his/her outstanding service to the Muslim community in North America. Check at the ISNA booth in the bazaar for tickets. (Tickets are \$200, if seats are still available).

Keynote Speaker: James Zogby

1:45 Zuhr prayer

Prayer Hall

2:45- 4:00 p.m.

Session 6A:

Hall C

Service to the Community: Living the Spirit of Ramadan

One of the major goals of Ramadan is to instill, in a fasting person, a sense of compassion and concern for those less fortunate,. How can we translate that focus into concrete programs and actions that serve the community? How does our faith serve as a springboard for providing needed social service programs and help us encourage existing projects? How do we walk the walk rather than merely talking the talk? Those involved in service projects will help inform and inspire us to exemplify our compassion and concern in our communities.

Speakers: Altaf Husain, Aisha Al-Adawiya, Khursheed Khan

Moderator: Iqbal Unus

2:45- 4:00 p.m.

Session 6B:

Room E 160 - 162

Opportunities and Challenges in Raising our Children

As children grow up, the world changes around them as well as their parents. In this era, parents face challenges in raising children who can uphold faith and serve humanity. This session will explore the importance of family atmosphere in raising children, as well as emphasize the role of parents in providing that favorable atmosphere. After a brief introduction to the topic, panelists will open up the discussion to questions and comments from the audience about this topic in a talk show format.

Speakers: Mohammad Tarazi, Ekram Beshir, Sunni Al-Islam

Moderator: M. Rida Beshir

2:45- 4:00 p.m.

Session 6C:

Room D 130-132

Defending the Prophet Against Orientalist Critique

In light of the recent spate of attacks against the honor of our beloved Prophet (SAW), it is imperative that Muslims are aware not only of what is said, but, even more importantly, how to respond to such misinformation. How much of these slanders are

pure fabrications? And how many have an element of truth but have been distorted or exaggerated? Even more profoundly, how does one understand and explain incidents that are indeed historically true, but are viewed in our times as being immoral or unethical? It is our goal to address a series of such incidents from the Seerah and explain the best methodology in defending the honor of our Prophet (SAW).

Speakers: Yaser Birjas, Yaser Farzaka, Yasir Qadhi
Moderator: Omar Zakariyyah

2:45- 4:00 p.m. Session 6D: Room C 213-215

Promoting Civic Engagement

The goal of this session is to define and describe civic engagement, and to explain its importance in a post 9/11 environment. Speakers will explain the many ways Muslims can participate in civic life and will highlight the benefits of such participation. Chief among these are positive contributions not only to our own communities, but to the larger American society in which we live and of which we are an integral part. This panel will explore ways to combine the energy and talent of the Muslim American community and actively put them to use in making the world a better place.

Speakers: Dan Sutherland, Eboo Patel, Maha Elgenaidi.
Moderator: Suhail Khan

2:45- 4:00 p.m. Session 6E: Room C 210-212

Ramadan: the Month of the Quran

Ramadan is the month in which Qur'anic revelation began, and in which it is highly encouraged to complete the recitation of our holy book. This session will give the historical role of Qur'anic revelation in Ramadan, and help us utilize this month to reconnect with our sacred text, and achieve the maximum benefit from its guidance.

Speakers: Muneer Fareed, Abdalla Idris Ali, Zainab Alwani
Moderator: Sumaira Akhtar

2:45 – 4:00 p.m. Session 6F: Room C 110-112

Conflict Resolution in Organizations and Communities

With the diversity and constant change in the ethnic backgrounds of Muslim communities in America, lack of communication can cause conflict. This session addresses how Muslims within their communities can improve communication among their leaders and members, as well as help maintain a friendly atmosphere open to all. This session will also address what Islam offers to deal with conflict and how it can be used constructively to improve organizational performance.

Speakers: Idris AlBakri, Gulam Bakali, Louay Safi
Moderator: Asma Mobinuddin

2:45- 4:00 p.m.

Session 6G:

Room C120-122

Muslims' Need for American Identity: Challenges, Reservations, Solutions

There are socio-psychological reasons for an integrated identity. Psychological research shows a high incidence of conflict and disorders in those who do not have such an identity, or have an identity that is fragmented. From a social perspective, each society has a powerful system that distributes its reward-punishment allocations based on its own scale of priorities. Muslims at present are pushed to the bottom for reasons very much related to this identity. These socio-psychological reasons have a compelling force to cause change automatically, albeit over generations. It is better for Muslims to choose and accept changes in a conscious and deliberate manner, rather than have them forced randomly upon them.

Speakers: Saleem Ahmed, Mohammad Akhtar, Sulayman Nyang

Moderator: Jamal Barzinji

2:45- 4:00 p.m.

Session 6H:

Room C 223-225

Muslim Christian Dialogue: Building Partnerships Toward a Common Goal

Living in the United States, a majority Christian nation, it is important to foster relationships and partnerships with our neighbors of the Christian faith. ISNA has worked to create and forge relationships with national Christian organizations to encourage strong bonds between the two faith communities.. In this session, the panelists will discuss the initiatives that have begun to further understanding and develop positive interaction between our communities, as well as give insight into future cooperation.

Speakers: Barbara Green, Michael Kinnamon, Peter Makari, Rev A Roy Medley, Robert Parham

Moderator: Sayyid M. Syeed

2:45- 4:00 p.m.

Session 6J:

Room C 220-222

Spirit of Wellness: Holistic Health for Muslim Women

This workshop will focus on helping Muslim women achieve wellness through various methods of healing such as exercising, managing stress and creating an environment that is conducive to greater spiritual growth. The session will also give specific examples from the Qur'an and Sunnah regarding the body's ability to heal naturally, as well as through the use of Islamic medicine. The presentation will be a vital source of information on how to balance physical, mental and spiritual health.

Speakers: Yolanda Febles, Irum Hussain, Mubarakah Ibrahim

Moderator: Mariam Jakaku

2:45- 4:00 p.m.

Session 6K:

Room D 230-232

Short Presentations Session I

Divorce in the Muslim Communities - Julie Macfarlane

Muslim Women must be Recognized in a Viable Social Movement Worldwide - Khalila Sabra

So, Is Ramadan like *Your* Christmas? - Khadijah Taseen

Moderator: Taslima Rashid

2:45- 4:00 p.m.

Session 6L:

Room E 150-151

Islamic Home Financing: A Beacon of Hope in Bleak Mortgage Market

At a time where the housing market is experiencing a slump, the Islamic finance industry continues to grow. This session will address how Muslims can use home financing from the Islamic perspective to benefit from the slow mortgage market.

Speakers: Hussam Qutub, Pervez Nasim

Moderator: Mohammed Elsanousi

2:45- 4:00 p.m.

Session 6M:

Room C 113-114

Meet the Author

This 'Meet the Author' session presents a platform to learn, share ideas and provide literary contributions to the community. Participants receive an opportunity to meet with authors who have contributed to Islam and Muslims in America and around the world.

Who Speaks for Islam by Dahila Mogahed

A Deadly Misunderstanding by Mark Siljander.

Authors: Dahila Mogahed, Mark Siljander

4:30 – 6:00 p.m

Session 7A:

Hall C

The Month in Which the Qur'an was Revealed: Reconnecting with Our Holy Text

Ramadan was the month in which the Qur'an first began to be revealed, and is the month in which to reconnect with our holy text. How can we make the Qur'an more relevant in our everyday life? How can we truly live the Qur'an, in Ramadan and after the month is over? This session will lay out an action plan going forward that helps incorporate the Qur'an in our life.

Speakers: Abdalla Idris Ali, Muhammad Y. Ninowy, Ingrid Mattson

Moderator: Iman Faris

4:30 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. Session 7B:

Ballroom 5

Mobilizing the Muslim Political Machine: Effective Strategies for Community-Based Political Advocacy

With the upcoming presidential election, the political importance of the Muslim community has increased dramatically. While voter turnout and registration is important, now is the time to increase Muslim American participation in the political system at the local, state, party and federal levels. The audience will be provided with tools to organize their community to be involved in all aspects of the political process, from establishing dialog and familiarity with elected officials, to becoming involved in the political party system, participating in the electoral process itself, and how to create political action committees that support candidates and bring a tangible return to their community.

Elected officials, including the only two Muslim members of the United States House of Representatives, the Hon. Keith Ellison and the Hon. Andre Carson, will discuss their own experiences as well as the efficacy of these strategies from the perspective of those in office.

NOTE: THIS IS A FREE TICKETED EVENT. TICKETS MAY BE OBTAINED AT BAZAAR BOOTH # 709 (National Center for Voter Advocacy). SEATING IS LIMITED AND ADMITTANCE IS BY TICKET ONLY.

Speakers: Congressman Keith Ellison (D-MN), Congressman Andre Carson (D-IN), Houston City Council Member M.J. Khan, Khurram Wahid, A.J. Durrani, Shejea Khan
Moderator: Asad M. Ba-Yunus

4:30 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. Session 7C:

Room D 130-132

Fiqh of Ramadan

This session provides an opportunity for attendees to find answers to questions about fasting, Ramadan, and related issues from well known scholars and experts in an interactive Q & A forum.

Speakers: Muzammil Siddiqi, Jamal Badawi, Zainab Alwani, Abdool Rahman Khan
Moderator: Iqbal Unus

4:30 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Session 7D:

Room C 213-215

Kashmir: Setting a Stage for the Final Settlement

While the international community upholds a position of principle with relation to the status of Kashmir, little has been done and the urgency of settling the dispute is getting scant multilateral recognition. As a result of this, no genuine negotiations have yet been held by the two involved governments of India and Pakistan to arrive at a just and lasting solution. Both are going through motions and holding parleys which turn out to be more a matter of pretence than substance. The panelists will explore various possibilities to set a stage for the settlement of the Kashmir dispute.

Speakers: Ambassador Riaz Khokher, Lord Nazir Ahmad
Moderator: Ghulam-Nabi Fai

4:30 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. Session 7E:

Room C 210-212

Strategic Partnerships that Advance Community Causes

The panel will explore the success strategies for community based organizations and leaders. Discussion will be focused on the strategies and techniques by subject matter experts on issues related to: social services, federal funds, and the importance of strategic job employment and placement. Experts in the fields of community organizing and working with charitable institutions will provide “best practices” for advancing the cause of your community based group.

Speakers: Mark Ward, Mohammad Magid Ali, Suhail Khan, Mohamad Elibiary

Moderator: George Selim

4:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Session 7F:

Room C 110-112

Practicing What we Preach

As Muslims, we would like the whole world to know that "Islam means peace. " While we have many mosques, Islamic schools, Islamic centers, and Muslim organizations involved in interfaith work, do we actually *live* according to Islamic tenets? We will share the secrets of American Muslim Voice's success locally, nationally and internationally, part of which is because we operate under Islamic tenets by being kind, caring and charitable, accepting and practicing nonviolence and peace, and protecting humanitarian values and human rights for all. We hope that our Muslim brothers and sisters will live Islam by getting involved in proactive peace-building. The desired outcome would change the negative image of Muslims and Islam to a positive one.

Speakers: Samina Sundas, Tahir Anwar, M. Rajabally

Moderator: Malik Nadeem Abid

4:30 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. Session 7G:

Room C120-122

What it Takes to Be an Entrepreneur: Foundation of Faith Based Entrepreneurship

Understanding Technology Entrepreneurship models with specific focus on technology based ventures is an important part of becoming an entrepreneur. The first part of this session will discuss the characteristics and behavior of Technology Entrepreneurs, and the challenges they face. Speakers will also describe some success stories of Technology Entrepreneurs in the world. The second part of this session will deal with how to develop entrepreneurial characteristics and what steps to take to develop your own business and life plans. Faith-based entrepreneurship is the ability to develop a vision of the future, to commit oneself to a mission, to be innovative and creative, and to proceed with humility and self confidence with an abiding consciousness of God's design. These characteristics of entrepreneurship offer a path of success in business ventures, as well as in public and private life.

Speakers: Abid Abideen, Miles Davis, Tarik Fareed, M Yaqub Mirza

Moderator: Farhan Shah

4:30 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. Session 7H:

Room C 223-225

Engaging Youth in Family Violence Prevention: Catalysts to Changing Social Norms

Family violence occurs in at least ten percent of Muslim homes in America and children and youth are often caught in the destructive cycle. Prevention becomes crucial in addressing violence in homes and through engagement, education and empowerment, Muslim youth can break the cycle of violence that impacts their homes and future relationships and social change; children learn what they live. Come find out how you and your community can engage youth to model healthy relationships, effective change agency and wellness for themselves and society.

Speakers: Robina Niaz, Bonita McGee, Yasmin Turk

Moderator: Najma Adam

4:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Session 7J:

Room C 220-222

Ramadan: A Time for Giving

Ramadan is a time to share our wealth with those less fortunate. From starting a food pantry to serve local indigent families, to helping those in need throughout the world, these panelists will highlight the opportunities and rewards of charitable giving.

Speakers: Anwar Khan, Omar Shaheen

Moderator: Abukar Arman

4:30 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. Session 7K:

Room D 230-232

The Green Muslim Movement

As scientists gain a better understanding of the process of global warming, the possibility of major changes in our earth's climate has created an impetus to re-evaluate our relationship to the earth. As faith groups take the mantle of leadership in trying to be better stewards to the earth, Muslims cannot continue to remain silent on this issue. An environmental awareness is firmly rooted in our tradition through the Quran and Sunnah. The question for us is how to take these concepts and apply them in our lives. How does the idea of ayaat Allah (signs of God) around us help transform our personal relationship with nature? How do the concepts of 'adl and mizan keep us and our society in an equitable balance? Where does the concept of khilafa (stewardship) take us in terms of activism and awareness?

This session will bring together a diverse panel of speakers who have tried to answer these questions through their work. Presenters will share practical tips and advice from their experience with environmental activism. This session aims to inspire the audience to network and develop an eco-consciousness in their communities by taking action on behalf of the planet.

Speakers: Sanjana Ahmad, Mohamad Chakaki, Zainab Khan

Moderator: Rabia Harris

4:30 – 6:00 p.m. Session 7L: Room E 150-151

AMSE Session: Nanotechnology Based Infrastructure Development

The prospects and challenges associated with the development of knowledge based economy in developing countries will be discussed in this session.

Speakers: A. Hossain, Khurshid A. Qureshi

Moderator: S. Jeelani

5:20 pm Asr Prayer

4:30 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. Session 7M: Room C 113-114

Meet the Author

This ‘Meet the Author’ session presents a platform to learn, share ideas and provide literary contributions to the community. Participants receive an opportunity to meet with authors who have contributed to Islam and Muslims in America and around the world.

Treatise for the Seeker of Guidance by Imam Zaid Shakir

Author: Zaid Shakir

8:15 pm Maghrib Prayer

8:30 – 10:30 p.m. Session 8A: Hall C

A Time For Reflection: A Journey of 45 Years

This session, which aims to address the main theme of the convention, will commemorate 45 years of achievement and leadership by ISNA, MSA, and MYNA. Scholars will reflect on the legacy of ISNA and its impact on Islam in North America.

Speakers: Hamza Yusuf, Ingrid Mattson, Zaid Shakir, Suhaib Webb

Moderator: Altaf Husain

9:40 pm Isha Prayer

Sunday, August 31, 2008

Adhan – 5:45 AM, Iqama – 6:00 AM

Spiritual Talk: 6:15 -6:45 AM

Speaker: Abdalla Idris Ali

9:00 – 10:30 a.m. Session 9A: Ballroom 1, 2, 3

Connecting to God: Finding Our Spiritual Compass

Ramadan is a time for renewal and change, both as individuals and families. How can we make the most of this blessed month to inspire transformation and growth in our families? How can we take the lessons of Ramadan beyond the month itself, and use them to help us meet the challenges faced by families in raising children? Speakers will provide the inspiration and practical tools for families to make Ramadan a catalyst for change, as well as a means of bringing the family closer together, and nurturing the noble characteristics that this religion seeks to cultivate in its adherents.

Speakers: Aisha Gray Henry, Mohamed Magid Ali, Sadullah Khan

Moderator: Safaa Zarzour

9:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. Session 9B: Ballroom 5

Meet the Author

This 'Meet the Author' session presents a platform to learn, share ideas and provide literary contributions to the community. Participants receive an opportunity to meet with authors who have contributed to Islam and Muslims in America and around the world.

Quranic Inspirations by Ibrahim Syed

Muslim Family in a Dilemma: A Quest for a Western Identity by Mohammad Akhtar

Authors: Mohammad Akhtar, Ibrahim Syed

11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Session 10A: Hall B

Agreeing to Disagree: Adab al-Ikhtilaf

Unity and brotherhood are words that are often bandied about or heralded as important goals. But when true disagreements arise, we often lose sight of the bigger picture, and allow small differences to sow division and enmity between us. This session will provide tools to help people learn to respect and accept differences within Islam, and will explain the ethics of disagreement, the manner in which to agree or disagree, and the importance of acknowledging diverse perspectives.

Speakers: Yusuf Ziya Kavakci, Jamillah Karim, Abd al'Hakim Jackson

Moderator: Sami Catovic

11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Session 10B: Ballroom 5

Agenda to Change Our Families

An abbreviated version of Zaytuna Institute's weekend Minara workshop, this session provides clear and effective guidance for rectifying our state as conscientious and productive Muslims. With an emphasis on taqwa (God consciousness) and ikhlas (sincerity), Agenda to Change Our Condition is an indispensable workshop for all

Muslims striving for excellence in character. Topics addressed will include: Taqwa's Definition and Benefits; The Heart and its Treatment; and Civic Involvement.

Speakers: Hamza Yusuf, Zaid Shakir
Moderator: Sadaf Khan

11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Session 10C: Room D 130-132

Answering Difficult FAQs

Muslims today are bombarded with stereotypes and misconceptions about Islam that they are often not in a position to address or clarify. Almost daily new issues and questions arise that most Muslims are not equipped to answer. This workshop provides answers to contemporary frequently asked questions, as well as general tips for responding to such questions.

Speakers: Salam Al Marayati, Jamal Badawi, Maha Elgenaidi
Moderator: Imran Maskatiac

11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Session 10D: Room C 213-215

Muslim-Jewish Dialogue: Building Peaceful Society Here & Elsewhere

In 2007, ISNA launched *The Children of Abraham Dialogue Guide*, in partnership with the Union for Reform Judaism. This initiative, which focused on partnering mosques and synagogues throughout the country to study together the common principles of both faiths in hope of encouraging understanding and acceptance of each others faith traditions, is one of the major achievements of Muslim-Jewish relationships. Along with other partners of the Jewish faith, there is a dialogue to further promote similar avenues to achieve the common goal of understanding and acceptance. In this session panelists will discuss these partnerships and how they are fostering relationships amongst our two communities.

Speakers: Ingrid Mattson, Rabbi Harold Berman, Rabbi Schneier, Huda Abu Arqoub
Moderator: Sayyid M. Syeed

11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Session 10E: Room C 210-212

Following the Prophet's Example in This Holy Month

This session focuses on the importance of emulating the Prophet's example in this holy month, especially increasing our piety, mercy, and connection with the Quran. Join the scholars as they give concrete examples from the Prophet's Seerah on how to make Ramadan a true source of rejuvenation and inspiration for change.

Speakers: Hisham Mahmoud, Sadullah Khan, Mokhtar Maghraoui
Moderator: Rizwan Jaka

11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Session 10F: Room C 110-112

Build a Masjid, Build a Community

In America, Masjids play a vital role in the life of Muslims. Are we using our masjid to its full potential in structuring our community as well as the image of Muslims in the community? What is the role of a masjid in a community? What role will the masjid play on your behalf as a Muslim in a particular community if you do not become involved? These questions and concerns need answers. Join this session to get the answers you need and learn how you can help

Speakers: Muneer Fareed, Aisha Al-Adawiya, Louay Safi
Moderator: Rodwaan Saleh

11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Session 10G: Room C120-122

Islamic Schools: Working Together to Serve Muslim Children in North America

Islamic Schools are an organic and natural product of the phenomenal growth of the Muslim Community in North America. Over the past several decades, hundreds of schools sprang up across the country, working independently and in some cases cooperating with other schools regionally, to educate upcoming generations of Muslims in America. Over the years, there have been several efforts to bring the schools together to ensure success for all without duplication or waste of effort. The Council of Islamic Schools of North America (CISNA) has been leading efforts in this arena, and some members of the board will share the latest developments in the organization as well as general trends in Islamic education today.

Panelists: Safaa Zarzour, Patricia Salahuddin, Abdalla Idris Ali, Debbie al-Montasir
Moderator: Rashed Nizam

11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Session 10H: Room C 223-225

Speaking About the Unspeakable: Drug Abuse, Depression, and Suicide Prevention

Communities often ignore or deny societal problems, such as drug abuse, depression, and suicide. This session addresses symptoms and warning signs of these problems, and treatment options and intervention, utilizing Islamic teachings, and practical steps for the community to start a recovery program.

Speakers: Trish Merrill, Hamada Hamid, Abdul Basit
Moderator: M. Rajabally

11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Session 10J: Room C 220-222

Opportunities for Youth Leadership

Parents and teachers are always looking for after-school programs or extra-curriculum activities that would supplement what these youth learn at home and at school. This panel will introduce three opportunities to our community members. Representatives from the scouting program, Muslim Inter-Scholastic Tournament (MIST) and the Muslim Youth

of North America (MYNA) will share with parents, teachers and community leaders how these programs can contribute to their existing youth development programs.

Speakers: Dave Richardson (Boy Scouts of America), Zaki Barzinji (MYNA), Ilana Alazzeh (MIST)
Moderator: Aisha Noor

11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Session 10K: Room D 230-232

Health Care Reform: Faith-Based Perspectives

One of the main concerns of citizens of the United States (and the world) is equitable health care. In this session the panelists will discuss Jewish, Christian and Muslim perspectives of health care reform. There will be ample time for comments, questions and answers from the audience

Speaker: Rabbi Richard F. Address, Reverend Linda Walling
Moderator: Sheik N. Hassan

11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Session 10L: Room E 150-151

AMSE Session: Improving Science and Technology Education in Developing Countries

This panel will focus on the growing disparity between the quality of science and technology education in the developed and developing countries, and possible ways to bridge this gap.

Speakers: Zarjon Baha, I. Ahmad
Moderator: I. Ahmad

11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Session 10M: Room C 113-114

Meet the Author

This ‘Meet the Author’ session presents a platform to learn, share ideas and provide literary contributions to the community. Participants receive an opportunity to meet with authors who have contributed to Islam and Muslims in America and around the world.

Ibn al Haytham: The First Scientist by Bradley Steffens

Author: Bradley Steffens

2:00 PM Zuhr Prayer

2:30 – 4:00 p.m.

Session 11A:

Hall B

ISNA and You: ISNA Business Session

The Annual Report and Budget will be presented in this session as ISNA leaders discuss the workings of the organization, offer their ideas for advancing Islamic work through the ISNA mission and receive feedback from members.

Speakers: ISNA President, ISNA Secretary General, Majlis Ash-Shura, Executive Council

6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Hall C

Session 12A: MSA MAIN SESSION

4:15 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.

Session 12B:

Ballroom 5

Principles Governing Fiqh for Muslim Minorities

It is not the first time Muslims have existed as a minority in a non-Muslim region. Muslims in the past who found themselves a religious minority navigated the social, political, cultural and legal constructs of their peers to create an identity that would both coexist with their neighbors and be sincere to their faith. These Muslim communities utilized the basic principles of fiqh as they proceeded to create this identity. This session will examine some of these basic principles that help us make some of the decisions we are faced with daily on our own, while addressing some of the unique aspects of the Fiqh of Minorities with an emphasis on Muslims in America.

Speakers: Ihsan Bagby, Zulfiqar Ali Shah, Jamal Badawi, Yusuf Ziya Kavakci
Moderator: Adam El-Sheikh

4:15 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. Session 12C:

Room D 130-132

Ramadan – a Time for Self-Purification

Ramadan is a once a year opportunity to focus on self purification and improvement. This session will provide the inspiration combined with concrete suggestions to make the most of this blessed month.

Speakers: Muhammad Y. Ninowy, Abdalla Idris Ali, Mokhtar Maghraoui
Moderator: Sami Catovic

4:15 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. Session 12D:

Room C 213-215

Equal Justice Under the Law: Knowing Your Rights when the FBI Comes Knocking, Going Through Security at the Airport, and Other Legal Hazzards for the Common American Muslim

This session will provide the audience with knowledge and tools to protect themselves from potentially overreaching tactics used by federal and state law enforcement to gain information from Muslim individuals and communities, including common traps used to

ensnare otherwise law-abiding citizens. A video produced by lawyers at Muslim Advocates will be presented and supplemented with remarks and a Q&A session with lawyers with experience in this area. The discussion will include the latest developments in the law, an explanation about our rights when confronted by law enforcement authorities, and recommendations about how to approach various scenarios in which Muslims often find themselves under scrutiny.

SPEAKERS: Khurrum Wahid, Esq., Naheed Qureshi, Asad M. Ba-Yunus
MODERATOR: Farhana Khera

4:15 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. Session 12E: Room C 210-212

Estate Planning: Your Family, Your Community

Estate Planning is vital to the financial security of both your family and your community. This presentation will cover Estate Planning instruments such as Wills and Trusts, and the legal, financial, and Islamic importance of such documents. The session will highlight the impact of not having such documents in place, as well as the tax implications involved. The session will also cover the role of endowments in charitable giving.

Speakers: Salman Azam, Yaqub Mirza, Ahmed Shaikh
Moderator: Farooq Selod

4:15 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. Session 12F: Room C 110-112

Issues Facing Refugee Population

There are many Muslim refugee populations in the U.S. for many reasons, including war, political persecution and the desire for a better life. Immigrants often arrive with little support and cultural understanding. This session seeks to explore the challenges facing these immigrant populations and those who are helping them adjust to life in a new country. It will also discuss how we, as fellow brothers and sisters in faith, can provide a much needed link and support system for the refugee community.

Speaker: Hawa Siad, Steve Walker, Angie Plummer, Zeba Khan
Moderator: Amanda Mouttaki

4:15 p.m. -5:30 p.m. Session 12G: Room C120-122

Towards the Abrahamic Vision of Faith Based Understanding

The general goal of this session is to introduce the concept of Faith-Based Reconciliation that is founded on the Abrahamic moral vision to a general Muslim audience. Specifically, the session presents eight core values that constitute reconciliation as a moral vision: Pluralism, Inclusion, Peacemaking, Social Justice, Forgiveness, Healing, Sovereignty and Atonement.

Speakers: Jamal Barzinji, Abubakar Al-Shingieti
Moderator: Hisham Altalib

4:15 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. Session 12H:

Room C 223-225

Program Shift or New Paradigm: How American Muslim Health Professionals are changing the landscape?

Muslim health care professionals are making tremendous contributions in creating new and unique programs for the benefit of not only the community but in addressing challenging issues affecting society at large. In this session, the Association of Muslim Health Professional (AMHP) Board Members and Advisors will assess the collective impact of projects involving Muslim Free Clinics Council, Cultural Competency, Health Policy, Environmental issues, Disability and Elderly Care Initiatives as undertaken by second generation Muslims.

Speakers: Malikah Adillah, Ihtesham Alam, Zia Qazi, Faisal Qazi

Moderator: Hasan Chughtai

4:15 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. Session 12J:

Room C 220-222

Prophetic Medicine: A Holistic Approach to Medicine

In the realm of health, hygiene, prevention and treatment of maladies, the Prophet employed both popular remedies of his time as well as spiritual remedies. The latter comprised of recitation of verses from the Holy Quran and duas or (nafl) prayers on various occasions. Thus, his was a true approach to problems of health. Prior to Islam, the spiritual aspects of cure were left to the priests and the treatment of the body was in the domain of physicians, surgeons, orthopedists and ophthalmologists. By combining the two, and blending these philosophies together, our Prophet can be considered one of the first ones to use a truly "holistic approach to the cure of disease". In this session, we will examine in some detail these combined aspects of "Prophetic Medicine" which can truly be considered a 'Holistic' approach to medicine.

Speaker: Husain F. Nagamia

Care of the Elderly In a Muslim Community

The US population is growing larger and older. American Muslims, who make up 6-8 million of America's population, also have a growing population of older Muslims. This is especially true of immigrant American Muslims. Currently there is no formal national program by any national Muslim organization to deal with issues affecting elderly American Muslims. The purpose of this presentation is to identify these concerns and offer some suggestions. IMANA, and its parent organization ISNA, are invited to take up this challenge.

Speaker: Shahid Athar

Moderator: Ashraf Sufi

4:15 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. Session 12K:

Room D 230-232

Short Presentations Sessions II

- 1.) Legacy of Islamic Arts and Contemporary Muslim Artist - Salma Arastu.
 - 2.) Yoga and Islam - Aisha Jaffri
 - 3.) Building Sustainability through Islamic Management Frameworks - Abrar Ansari
- Moderator: Faizan Haq

4:15 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. Session 12L: Room E 150-151

AMSE Session: Networking and AMSE Business Meeting

The importance of networking in the job market will be discussed followed by the annual AMSE business meeting and elections for the new AMSE executive committee.

Speakers: Khurshid A. Qureshi, Iqbal J. Unus
Moderator: Khurshid A. Qureshi

4:15 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. Session 12M: Room C 113-114

Meet the Author

This 'Meet the Author' session presents a platform to learn, share ideas and provide literary contributions to the community. Participants receive an opportunity to meet with authors who have contributed to Islam and Muslims in America and around the world.

The Story of the Quran: Its History and Place in Muslim Life by Ingrid Mattson
Author: Ingrid Mattson

5:20 pm Asr Prayer

5:00 – 7:00 p.m. MSA Main Session Hall C

Ramadan: An Impetus for Cures

Speakers: Hamza Yusuf, Zaid Shakir, Suhaib Webb, Altaf Husain, Asma Mirza
Moderator: Mohamed Sheibani

7:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Islamic Entertainment

Muslim artists share their faith and passion for Islam through poems, prose, lyrics, comedy and more.

8:15 p.m. – Maghrib Prayer

9:30 p.m. – 10:30 pm Isha with Taraweeh

Monday, September 1 2007

Suhur – 4:30 A.M. - 5:30 AM.

Adhan – 5:45 AM., Iqama – 6:00 a.AM

Spiritual Talk: 6:15 a.m. - 6:45 a.m.

Speaker: Zaid Shakir