

## Achieving Balance in Faith, Family and Community

### ISNA 43<sup>rd</sup> Annual Convention

#### Final Program

Friday, September 1, 2006

Friday, 1:00 – 2:00 pm

Jummah Prayer - Main Prayer Hall

Friday, 3:00 – 4:30 pm

#### **Inaugural Session**

Room – Hall A

#### Presidents:

*Islamic Society of North America (ISNA)* – Muhammad Nur Abdullah

*Muslim Students Association (MSA)* – Mohamed Sheibani

*Muslim Youth of North America (MYNA)* – Omar Siddiqi

*Association of Muslim Scientists and Engineers (AMSE)* – Khurshid A. Qureshi

*Association of Pakistani Physicians of North America (APPNA)* – Abdul Rashid Piracha

*Islamic Medical Association of North America (IMANA)* – Sheik N. Hassan

#### Chairs:

*Convention Program* – Ingrid Mattson

*Convention* – Abdul Wahab

*Steering Committee* – Abdul Malik Mujahid

#### Guest and Dignitaries:

Gordon England - *Deputy Secretary of Defense*

Alina Romanowski - *Deputy Assistant Secretary for Educational and Cultural Affairs*

Mark Ward - *Deputy Assistant Administrator Bureau for Asia and the Near East at USAID*

David Richardson - *Boy Scouts of America*

Friday, 5:00 – 6:30 pm

Room – Hall A

#### **Session 1A: The Balancing Act: Serving Faith, Family and Community**

This session addresses the heart of the theme, namely the importance of balancing our duties and practice of faith. We often emphasize one aspect of our faith and life to the detriment of others as we struggle to juggle our busy lives. Our faith is of utmost importance, but how does one effectively balance the often competing roles that Islam encourages us to have, from being a devoted servant of Allah, to a caring and involved parent or family member, and a contributing and engaged member of the community? Moreover, while the participation of women, specifically, at all levels is vital to a healthy community, this need is often not realized due to a woman's greater family responsibilities, restricted views of women's participation and other factors. Indeed, the Qur'anic imperative and Prophetic example provides us with guiding principals and injunctions, but it is often practical experience that helps brings into practice.

Speakers: Muzammil Siddiqi, Muhammad Nur Abdullah, Ameena Jandali

Moderator: Ghulam Nabi Mir

Friday, 8:30- 10:15 pm

Room – Hall A

#### **Session 2A: Muslim Unity: Between Utopia and Defeatism**

Immigrant-Indigenous; Arab-South Asian; Black-White; Shi'a-Sunni; Salafi-Sufi; Men-Women; Young-Old. Differences abound in our community, both ethnic and ideological. The same differences that make our community vibrant and colorful are often the cause of conflict and strife. Many Muslims, including young people, feel disenfranchised and do not feel like they belong

to any community, or can only relate to their particular group or masjid. How can we live up to the Qur'anic and Prophetic vision of unity in an increasingly diverse society? How can we ensure that our communities are open and inclusive of a broad spectrum of people without sacrificing our core identity and values? In what ways can we harness our differences and varying strengths so as to be productive and positive? How can we learn from or adopt existing models of community collaboration and unification that have been successful in various cities? Sharing their long experience and wisdom in this area are imams and activists who will shed light on a subject that is becoming increasingly critical.

Speakers: Hasan Qazwini, Salam Al-Marayati, Abdul Malik Mujahid, Aisha Al-Adawiyya

Moderator: Ihsan Bagby

Friday, 9:00 PM

Rosemont Convention Center

**ISNA Entertainment Organized by Allah Made Me Funny**

This entertainment session is by admission ticket only. Please check the lobby of the convention center to purchase tickets for this event. Tickets are \$20.

Saturday, September 2, 2006

Saturday, 9:00 – 10:30 a.m.

Room –Hall A

Session 3A: **Measuring Ourselves: Achieving Personal Balance in an Unbalanced World**

Work, family, masjid, Internet, cell phone, computer, house, garden, car; the list of duties and obligations seems to grow increasingly longer in this ever fast-paced world. Technology that was created to save time and enhance communication, such as the Internet and cell phone, often serve to dominate our life and any free time. As Muslims, we are enjoined to excellence in all walks of life, including our professional life, but we are also encouraged to contribute our free time in volunteerism. Similarly, the demands of family and house are vital to a healthy society. How do we balance our obligations in all these competing areas without short-changing one of them, or losing our own? How do we measure our own success in terms that often do not reflect a contemporary value of success, which is often judged in dollars and cents? In what ways can we achieve balance in our daily lives?

Speakers: Mokhtar Maghraoui, Suhaib Webb, Yusuf Z. Kavacki

Moderator: Azhar Azeez

Saturday, 9:00 – 10:30 a.m.

Room 12

Session 3B: **Media's Role in Balancing Faith and Culture**

This session will explore ways in which the media and specifically nationally broadcast documentary films can play an important role in creating a more balanced view of faith and culture, both in the Muslim as well as in the mainstream American community. The panelists will offer an overview of comments on Bridges TV, theatrically released documentaries like "Control Room" and the recent expansion of positive programming concerning American Muslims in the national media (E.g., ESPN, Newsweek, New Republic, and among films "Syriana," "Paradise Now," and "Crash"). Additionally, the implications and impact of this form of media on the Muslim and mainstream American community will be illuminated by the acclaimed panelists.

Speakers: Michael Wolfe, Alex Kronemer

Moderator: Aakif Ahmad

Saturday, 9:00 – 10:30 AM

Room 9

Session 3C: **The Place of Imams in Community Leadership and Development**

This panel examines the various roles played by imams in Muslim communities and identifies various models of imam's preparedness and needs to handle community issues and help develop the community.

Speakers: Muhammad Nur Abdullah, Zoubir Bouchikhi, Mohamed Magid Ali

Moderator: Kareem Irfan

Saturday, 9:00 – 10:30 a.m.

Room 9

Session 3E: - **IMANA Medical Relief in Kashmir**

- **Plight of Muslim Women of Niger Suffering from Child Birth Injuries**

Presentation by the Islamic Medical Association of North America (IMANA)

Speaker: Rehana Kausar

Saturday, 9:00 – 10:30 a.m.

Room 21

Session 3F: **The Joys and Challenges of Home Schooling**

So you are ready to home school . . . but where do you start? You want to know how to pick a curriculum, how to find support, what the laws are and how to stay within them. You want to make sure your child is doing well and you want advice on how to explain home schooling. Come to this informative session and have these questions and more answered. Explore how home schooling can help your child develop a stronger Islamic identity and get the information you need on integrating Islamic studies, diverse home schooling methods, home schooling teens, and options for testing and assessments. A display of excellent books, magazines, national organizations and other resources will be on hand to help you get started.

Speakers: Rhonda Reese, Sanobar Yacoob

Moderator: Priscilla Martinez

Saturday, 9:00 – 10:30 am

Room 22

**Session 3G: Social Costs of Family Violence on the Muslim Community**

This session will define Family Violence and illustrate its inconsistency with Islamic principles, discuss social costs of family violence on the individual, family, community of Muslims and offer suggestions for addressing the issue in the community

Speakers: Imam Johari Abdul Malik, Bonita McGee, Sonali Sadequee

Moderator: Salma Abugideiri

Saturday, 9:00 – 10:30 AM

Room 23

**Session 3H: So You Want to Start a Free Clinic?**

The UMMA Community Clinic and Compassion Care Network are two model social service institutions that have been providing free to low cost health services to the low income and uninsured. Over the years there has been an increasing interest in these two projects from Muslim communities throughout America. Many are interested in ways to replicate such efforts in their own communities. This workshop will provide a perfect opportunity for participants to learn the basic elements to starting similar projects and showcase two very successful Muslim institutions. The primary goal of the workshop is to provide a broad overview on how to start a grassroots organization or network. Participants will leave with a better understanding of the preliminary steps to take back to their respective communities.

Speakers: Yasser Aman, Azher Quader

Moderator: Mohamad Rajabally

Saturday, 9:00 – 10:30 AM

Room 30

**Session 3J: Khalifah Project – Solving the Problems Facing Muslim Ummah – A Malaysian Experience**

The session will describe the Malaysian experience of solving the problems facing the Muslim Ummah with the unique, practical and powerful new approach called Khalifah Project. It is based on the hypothesis that if you give any individual or social group a positive, accurate, and motivational worldview plus a good understanding of the Laws of Learning by which all human characteristics develop, then that individual or social group will move naturally and inevitably toward everything good and right.

Speakers: A. Karim Omar

Moderator: Louay Safi

Saturday, 9:00 – 10:30 a.m.

Room 34

**Session 3K: Internet Marketing for Your Business and Community**

Did you know that there are over 213 million searches on a daily basis in the U.S. alone? What are they searching for and how does it affect you and the community? In this session we will aim to cover the world of Internet marketing and how it currently affects your company and the community in the marketplace, news, and media services. Particular highlights of the session will be: Search engine basics – an overview of online search and how we are all affected by it; optimization and sponsorship programs: What is this and how does it relate to your organization? How much exposure is being given to our community? What are other online advertising techniques and how these can be used to help us? Through these points we hope to establish the need for our community to be organized and active using the Internet space and illustrate how it can serve as a terrific tool for those interested in finding out more about Islam and our community.

Speakers: Feras Alhlou, Shoib Ali

Moderator: Abdul-Rahman Taleb Agha

Saturday, 9:00 – 10:30 a.m.

Room 31

Session 3L: **Ethnic Community Building and the Future of Muslims in America**

This session will present the simple approach that American Muslim Voice (AMV) has taken towards political activism which has earned this California-based organization substantial recognition nationwide for protecting and improving human rights globally through grassroots community-building.

Speakers: Sheila Stevens, Richard Hobbs, Grace Shimzu

Moderators: Khalid Saeed

Saturday, 9:00 – 10:30 a.m.

Room 32

Session 3M: **Intra-Faith Understanding in Islam: Issues and Solutions for People Living in the U.S.**

Along with global increase in level of intolerance towards various faiths, level of intolerance within the same faith is increasing. Muslims living in the US have their own degree of intolerance towards other Muslims – driven by ethnicity, language, practice and understanding of religion. In order to live successfully, Muslims need to learn and achieve balance of faith and community. This panel proposes to discuss how to identify orthodoxy as well as heterodoxy in community life and how to withstand and overcome intra-faith differences of opinion.

Speakers: Husain A. Nuri, Mansur Ahmad, Mohamed Shafiq

Moderators: Ruqiyah Islam

Saturday, 9:00 – 10:30 a.m.

Room 33

Session 3N: **The Wonder Woman: Challenges of Balancing Faith, Family and Community**

Muslim Women in the west are faced with many challenges everyday. They have to juggle with a high demanding career, domestic responsibilities, child rearing, and dealing with in-laws or relatives as well as meeting the needs of a fast paced society. Presenters will present practical tips on how women can keep the ‘cool’ and balance these various obligations placed upon them in today’s society.

Speakers: Yasmeen Qadri, Kaisar Sufi, Suraiya Husain, Amatullah Moore

Moderator: Khadija Haffajee

Saturday, 9:00 – 10:30 a.m.

Room 8

Session 3P: **Meet The Author**

‘Meet the Author’ sessions present a wonderful platform to learn, share ideas, and provide literary contributions to the community. Participants receive an opportunity to meet with authors, writers who have made contributions in different avenues. This session will highlight the authors of children stories and textbooks for elementary schools. Come listen to these authors as they articulate the importance of having children’s literature for the Muslim youth of America as well as highlight their respected books. This session will also provide an opportunity for book signing by the authors.

Speakers: Asma Mobin-Uddin: *My Name is Bilal*; Nabil Sadoun: *Learning Islam 1* – Textbook for Middle School Students, *I Love Islam 4 & 5* - Textbook for 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> graders; Jamilah Kolocotronis: *Rebounding*

Moderator: Freda Shamma

Saturday, 9:00 – 10:30 a.m.

Room 29

Session 3Q: **Islam 101 - Basic Beliefs**

This session will present an overview of the basic beliefs of Islam and will be followed by a question and answer session. This presentation is recommended for non-Muslims, new Muslims and returning Muslims.

Speakers: Mustafa Kifah

Saturday, 11:00 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.

Room – Hall A

**Session 4A: Our Dollars, Ourselves: Muslims Between Charitableness and Consumerism**

Part of living the American dream has been the acquisition of the wealth and the accompanying lifestyle that includes a dispensable income. From name brand clothing, Louis Vuitton purses, and pricey cars and houses, American Muslims have bought into the consumerist model without questioning the values represented. Simultaneously, Muslims around the world are some of the most impoverished groups, suffering from hunger, homelessness, disease, and most recently, natural disasters that have impacted millions. How do we as American Muslims justify our lifestyles and spending while our brothers and sisters often cannot find food to fill their mouths? What was the example of the Prophet (s) in his lifestyle and spending habits? How can we instill the values of charity, caring and philanthropy in our children who have never known hardship or want? What is our duty as the wealthiest Muslim community towards our brothers and sisters in need?

Speakers: Abdullah Adhami, Ingrid Mattson, Siraj Wahhaj, Naeem Muhammad

Moderator: Iqbal Unus

Saturday, 11:00 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.

Room 14

**Session 4B: Contemporary Fiqh Issues: Q & A Session with Islamic Scholars**

Open session with members of the Fiqh Council of North America answering questions on various topics.

Speakers: Muzammil Siddiqi, Ihsan Bagby, Mahmood Ghazi, Jamal Badawi

Moderator: Rashed Nizam

Saturday, 11:00 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.

Room 12

**Session 4C: Dating: Challenges and Solutions to Marriages in the West**

Marriage has become a challenge for both parents and children. In a society where dating has become a norm and is seen as a necessary pre-requisite to a successful marriage, Muslim families are struggling to save their children from it. This session will present challenges of marriage and provide practical solutions to these challenges. Panelists will discuss about individual match-making efforts and ISNA's Matrimonial Services.

Speakers: Mohamed Magid Ali, Yasmeen Qadri, Tasneem Qadeer

Moderator: Aameena Jandali

Saturday, 11:00 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.

Room 10

**Session 4D: Sweet Dreams and Nightmares: Telling the Story of Islam in America**

The American Muslim story is not wholly different from the story of other minority or marginalized groups that have since become accepted in the mainstream. The struggle of each community was always a combination of "sweet dreams" and "nightmares." Islam in America is no different, for the number of times Muslims may feel targeted unfairly (nightmare), they have also achieved great successes (sweet dreams.)

This panel will discuss the need for constructing a story of Islam, and community narrative in which Americans see their own reflection. Like any good story it will have successes and failures, highs and lows. But the stories success is not so much in the details but rather in how it is told. We must make an effort to tell our story in a compelling and meaningful way.

Speakers: Sulayman Nyang, Hesham Hassaballa, Firas Ahmad

Moderator: Al-Hussein Madhany

Saturday, 11:00 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.

Room 9

Session 4E: **Eradicating Torture: Going Public with Facts and Resources**

A majority of the U.S. public condones the use of torture by the U.S. at least some of the time. This panel will explore the roots of that attitude and the tools and resources to change both the public's perception and the political aspects of policy development. This session is organized by the National Religious Campaign Against Torture.

Speakers: Jumana Musa, Carol Prendergast, Steve Rickard, Maher Hathout

Moderator: Jeanne E. Herrick Stare

Saturday, 11:00 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.

Room 21

Session 4F: **Retirement Planning and Options**

Many parents have little or no retirement savings and then face unpleasant life in retirement. This struggle is becoming more exasperating as companies continue to abolish traditional pensions. Planning early is the key to avoid having to choose between life necessities in old age. This session will discuss how families can better equip themselves to retire comfortably. Tax consequences of various options would also be presented.

Speakers: Suhaib Quadri, Bashar Qasem, Monem Salam, Bassam Osman

Moderators: Mohammed Kaiseruddin

Saturday, 11:00 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.

Room 22

Session 4G: **Voices of Vigilance ... Testimonials of Established Muslim Social Service Organizations in their Development and Impact in the Muslim Community**

This session will showcase success stories of Muslim social service agencies and discuss the need of such agencies in the community, identify challenges faced in their development and the state of social services in the Muslim community, discuss resources and support systems needed to sustain an organization, and offer technical assistance/advice for establishing similar social services in your community.

Speakers: Ambreen Ahmad, Hadayai Majeed, Yasmin Turk, M. Basheer Ahmed, Reshma Jamal

Moderators: Bonita McGee

Saturday, 11:00 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.

Room 23

Session 4H: **Take-home Recipes for Daw'ah**

*"And thus We have made you a community of the middle way, so that you may be witnesses [to the Truth] before all mankind, and the Messenger may be witness [to it] before you" (Surah Al-Baqarah, verse 143).*

This session will highlight the practical ideas that attendees can adopt to start dawah activities in their neighborhoods. The program will discuss holding dawah booths in local fairs and shopping malls, programs in local libraries, airing commercials on radio stations, erecting billboards on local highways, and other such initiatives.

Speakers: Naeem Baig, Jawad Ahmed

Moderator: Rizwan Bari

Saturday, 11:00 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.

Room 30

Session 4J: **Concepts of Islamic Banking**

The session will introduce various financing concepts with a deeper focus on the most successful home financing model in the US. The session will focus on the following: Introduction of various financing models, understanding *riba* in today's lending practices, differences between the Sharia way and the conventional way, the advantages of home ownership and a questions and answers portion.

Speaker: Rehan Dawer

Moderator: Hussam Qutub

Saturday, 11:00 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.

Room 34

Session 4K: **Interfaith Partnership for Community Service**

ISNA has been working with interfaith coalitions in order to promote activities that will alleviate hunger, reduce homelessness and provide assistance to the uninsured. This panel will discuss the focus of the various coalitions and how faith communities must come together to fight against these problems. ISNA has created partnerships with national youth programs. Panelists will discuss the scope of their organizations and how Muslims may become more involved with these programs.

Speakers: Bob Edgar, Rev. Barbara Green, David Richardson

Moderators: Faroque A. Khan

Saturday, 11:00 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.

Room 31

Session 4L: **Islam Amongst Latino Muslims**

The number of Spanish speaking Muslim reverts continues to grow everyday. This session will discuss this phenomenon as well as outline the kinds of Dawah activities that are taking place in this area. Finally, the panelists will discuss the challenges that these converts face.

Speakers: Mujahid Fletcher, Rebecca Abuqoud, Ruth Saleh, Edmundo Arroyo

Moderator: Ricardo Pena

Saturday, 11:00 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.

Room 32

Session 4M: **Revelation: Catholic and Muslim Perspectives**

This session will discuss *Revelation: Catholic and Muslim Perspectives*, a document authored by the Mid West Regional Dialogue of Catholics and Muslims. The document shows clearly that dialogue can contribute to deeper understanding about religious beliefs, even those on which both sides agree to disagree. Presentations will look at the history and contents of the new document, propose ways to make fruitful use of the document in local dialogue and education settings, and will address criticisms of the approach taken.

Speakers: Fr. Francis Tiso, Ghulam Haider Aasi, Scott Alexander

Moderator: Sayyid M. Syeed

Saturday, 11:00 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.

Room 33

Session 4N: (AMSE) **Improving the Science and Technology Education in Developing Countries**

The ever-growing disparity between the quality of science and technology education in the developed and developing countries is a serious concern. This panel will focus on the possible ways to bridge this gap.

Speakers: M.I. Khan, S. Jeelani

Moderator: M.A.G. Abushagur

Saturday, 11:00 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.

Room 8

Session 4P: **Meet The Author**

‘Meet the Author’ sessions present a wonderful platform to learn, share ideas, and provide literary contributions to the community. Participants receive an opportunity to meet with authors who have made contributions in different avenues. This session will focus on the work of Yusuf Yee and Amin Nathari and highlight some of the greatest challenges we are facing as Muslim in America in better implementing our faith in the fabric of the American society. This session will also provide an opportunity for book signing by the authors.

Speakers: Yusuf Yee: *For God and Country: Faith and Patriotism Under Fire*; Amin Nathari: *Stand up for Truth*

Moderator: Sohaib Sultan

Saturday, 11:00 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.

Room 29

**Session 4Q: Islam 101 - Essential Practices**

This session is about the essential practices to being a Muslim— prayer, fasting, charity, etc., followed by a longer question and answer session. Recommended for non-Muslims, new Muslims and returning Muslims.

Speakers: Asma Akhras

Saturday, 12:15-2:30 p.m.

Grand 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: Sherman Abd al-Hakim Jackson

12:51 pm Zuhr and Lunch

Saturday, 2:30 – 4:00 p.m.

Room – Hall A

**Session 5A: First Things First: Understanding the Priorities and Purposes of the Sacred Law**

We often hear the term *Shariah* used in relation to Islamic countries or movements, yet few of us truly understand the lofty ideals that the Sacred Law came to fulfill. What are the true goals of the Sacred Law, and how does one apply it in a world that is increasingly secular? Does applying the Shariah automatically mean enforcing certain punishments? Is there a clash between Sacred Law and Secular Law? These scholars will shed some light on this often misunderstood topic, and address some of the specific laws that often tend to be the subject of misunderstanding and misapplication.

Speakers: Umar F. Abd-Allah, Sherman Abd al-Hakim Jackson

Moderator: Randa Loutfi

Saturday, 2:30 – 4:00 p.m.

Room 14

**Session 5B: Moon sighting in North America: New Initiatives from the Fiqh Council of North America**

Scholars from the Fiqh Council of North America will update the audience with the latest decision of the Fiqh Council on determining the Islamic calendar.

Speakers: Muzammil Siddiqi, Muhammad Nur Abdullah, Khalid Shaukat

Moderator: Mohib Durrani

Saturday, 2:30 – 4:00 p.m.

Room 12

**Session 5C: An Islamic Perspective on Interfaith Solidarity for Justice**

Muslims in America have been confronted with myriad political and social questions over the past few years that directly touch upon issues of participation and involvement in broader American society. This panel will argue for the need for Muslims to engage in interfaith projects and movements that strive to implement justice in American society. Particular attention will be paid to specific forms of engagement and organizations/causes in which Muslims, alongside other people of faith committed to justice, can participate in, such as on issues related to the environment, poverty, a more just globalization, anti-militarism, etc. The attempt will be to clearly define the Islamic ethos motivating any such action, its Islamic precedent and its modern necessity.

Speakers: Sulayman Nyang, Abdul Malik Mujahid, Mahdi Bray, Farid Esack

Moderator: Itrath Syed

Saturday, 2:30 – 4:00 p.m.

Room 10

Session 5D: **Kashmir: New Hopes, Aspirations, or Illusion**

This session will discuss that any solution to the Kashmir problem must be acceptable not only to India and Pakistan but also to “those living within Kashmir.” It is the hope that the leadership of India and Pakistan will fully recognize that there can be no “peaceful negotiated settlement” without the full and active participation of the Kashmiris living on both sides of the ceasefire line, as well as the Kashmiris living in the diaspora.

Speakers: Maher Hathout, Shahid Malik, Ghulam N. Mir

Moderator: Ghulam-Nabi Fai

Saturday, 2:30 – 4:00 PM

Room 9

Session 5E: **Muslim Chaplains as Catalyst for Integrating Islam in North American Society**

What kinds of challenges face Muslim Chaplains? What kind of support do they need from the larger Muslim community? How can chaplains better serve as agents of integration of Islam into American society?

Speakers: Saifulislam Abuhanna, Yahya Hindi, Yusuf Yee

Moderator: Sohaib Sultan

Saturday, 2:30 – 4:00 p.m.

Room 21

Session 5F: **Striking the Right Balance: Challenges Facing Islamic Schools in North America**

This session will explore the challenges facing Islamic schools in North America in the area of achieving the right balance between instilling Islamic values and exposing students to North American popular culture in order to prepare them for the life ahead in a North American environment.

Speakers: Ekram Beshir, Mohamed Rida Beshir

Moderator: Hamed Ghazali

Saturday, 2:30 – 4:00 p.m.

Room 22

Session 5G: **Caught Between Two Worlds: Islamic and American Family Laws Regarding Marriage, Divorce and Child Custody**

This session will seek to understand the perspective of Shariah on marriage, divorce, and child custody in comparison to the American law regarding marriage, divorce, and child custody. This panel will also focus on reconciling the two systems.

Speakers: Rabia Karim Khan, Abed Awad, Adam Elsheikh

Moderator: Mohamed Magid Ali

Saturday, 2:30 – 4:00 p.m.

Room 23

Session 5H: **Best Practices for Charities**

There is little doubt that Muslim organizations are under scrutiny. This panel will look at what charities may do that will not only help their organization be more effective but also respond to any allegations that are made against them. The panelists will look at federal guidelines as well as other measures of transparency that will assist these charities.

Speakers: Salam Al-Marayati, Ismail Tahir

Moderator: LaDale George

Saturday, 2:30 – 4:00 p.m.

Room 30

Session 5J: **Jihad Against Hunger**

This session will discuss the Islamic obligation to feed the poor and present obstacles and opportunities for the Muslim community to respond collectively to the plight of their hungry neighbors at home and abroad.

Speakers: Bob Forney, Kate Maher, Bilal Mujahid

Moderator: Maurice Weaver

Saturday, 2:30 – 4:00 p.m.

Room 34

Session 5K: **Challenges of Aging: Community's Responsibilities**

The number of retired and aging Muslims in the United States is growing. This constitutes a challenge to the aging individuals, their families and their communities. This session will explore the economic, social and psychological nature of these challenges, and the possible ways to address them.

Speakers: Ahmed Kobeisy, Abdul Basit, Rafath Waheed, Diane Coleman

Moderator: Sana Malik

Saturday, 2:30 – 4:00 p.m.

Room 31

Session 5L: **Muslim-Christian Initiatives on the Nuclear Weapons Danger**

In 2005, ISNA and the Churches' Center for Theology and Public Policy took the groundbreaking step of creating the Muslim-Christian Initiative on the Nuclear Weapons Danger because the U.S. and Russia still have about 2,500 nuclear warheads on hair-trigger alert. The spread of nuclear weapons to other countries is a great security threat and there are unsecured nuclear materials throughout the world. Come hear more about this danger, and learn how Muslim teachings apply to it and what Muslims and Christians can do together in an effort to end the nuclear weapons danger.

Speakers: James Walsh, Jamal Badawi, Mohammed Elsanousi, Louay Safi

Moderator: Rev. Richard Killmer

Saturday, 2:30 – 4:00 p.m.

Room 32

Session 5M: **Estate Planning in Compliance with U.S. Law and Shariah Obligation**

Estate planning continues to be a concept that is ignored by many Muslims despite a strong Islamic tradition recommending it. Estate planning is vital to the financial security of both your family and your community. Through estate planning one can maximize a gift to a beloved charity while acquiring a tax savings at the same time. This session will highlight some of the estate planning tools, such as wills and trusts, as well as the Islamic importance for implementing these tools. Focus will be given to various planned charitable techniques that can be used to minimize your tax burdens as well as make your donation go further. This session will be repeated on Sunday 11:00 – 12:30 P.M.

Speakers: M. Yaqub Mirza, Salman Azam, Mir Ali

Moderator: Abdul Alim Khandekar

Saturday, 2:30 – 4:00 p.m.

Room 33

Session 5N: (AMSE) **Applications of Information Technology Toward Improving the Economic Conditions 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 toward improving the economic conditions in developing countries.

Speakers: M. Bayoumi, M.A.G. Abushagur

Moderator: M.S. Alam

Saturday, 2:30 – 4:00 p.m.

Room 8

Session 5P: **Meet The Author**

‘Meet the Author’ sessions present a wonderful platform to learn, share ideas, and provide literary contributions to the community. Participants receive an opportunity to meet with authors who have made contributions in different avenues. This session will focus on the publication of Geneive Abdo who is an author, analyst and Liaison for the United Nation’s Alliance of Civilizations. In *Mecca and Main Street* she reveals a community tired of being judged by Americans’ perceptions of Muslims overseas and eager to tell their own stories. She brings these stories vividly to life, allowing us to hear their own voices and inviting us to understand their hopes and their fears. Join the discussion of her enlightening book in this important session. Participants will also have an opportunity to have their books signed by the author.

Speaker: Geneive Abdo: *Mecca and Main Street: Muslim Life in America after 9/11*

Moderator: Milia Islam

Saturday, 2:30 – 4:00 p.m.

Room 29

Session 5Q: **Islam 101 - Beginners’ prayer (Salah)**

This session is a practical guide to praying the five prayers, the steps to and the benefit from prayer; a Q & A session will follow.

Recommended for non-Muslims, new Muslims and returning Muslims.

Speaker: Khalil Rufai

Saturday, 4:30 – 6:00 p.m

Room –Hall A

Session 6A: **The Good and the Greater Good: Social Justice Beyond Parochialism**

Prior to 9/11, many American Muslims were somewhat less troubled by the challenges that have long confronted other minority groups, and were relatively unaware and uninvolved with some of the civil rights and social justice movements in this country. Even today, we are often only concerned with social justice issues when they touch us directly, and still have done little to reach out to or support other groups. What is the Islamic position regarding justice for all people? What is our duty as people of conscience towards fellow citizens, regardless of their race or religion? How can we as Muslims in America become more involved and make common cause with those who have long suffered from social injustice?

Speakers: Zaid, Shakir, Jimmy Jones, Kim Bobo, Rafael Narbaez

Moderator: Ameena Saeed

Saturday, 4:30 – 6:00 p.m

Room 14

Session 6B: **Reaching out to Your Neighbors: Guidelines for Outreach and Education about Islam**

In the light of current events, Muslims cannot afford to be isolated, and must increasingly engage in outreach. The methodology of outreach is as important as the effort, and the best intentions with the wrong approach can be more damaging than beneficial. This workshop provides basic guidelines for outreach and interaction, from the most basic conversation, to making presentations on Islam.

Speakers: Ameena Jandali, Umar F. Abd-Allah

Moderator: Maha Elgenaidi

Saturday, 4:30 – 6:00 p.m

Room 12

Session 6C: **Waqf in the USA and its Financing**

This session will introduce the institution of waqf, familiarize the audience with the history of waqf in the U.S and highlight its growth potential in America. Mechanisms for long term waqf financing will be discussed. Renowned scholars will lay out the historical practices and teachings of how to apply them in financing a waqf property in the U.S.

Speakers: Monzer Kahf, Muzammil Siddiqi, Muhammad Nur Abdullah

Moderator: Farooq Selod

Saturday, 4:30 – 6:00 p.m

Room 10

**Session 6D: Creating a Culture of Peace: The Role of American Muslims**

This session will present the concept of a culture of peace and the contributions American Muslims can make towards achieving this.

This session will also demonstrate that such a culture already exists and is in need of nurturing to bring it to the fore, with a focus on the role of government.

Speakers: Sameena Faheem Sundas, Dorothy J. Maver

Moderator: S. Reshma Yunus

Saturday, 4:30 – 6:00 p.m

Room 9

**Session 6E: Human Rights and Secular Democracies**

The panelsits will discuss the role of social activism and bringing accountability using the legal system of secular democratic societies.

There will be a discussion of the different models and experiences of Muslim in India, which can also be used in the US, Europe and other parts of the Muslim world.

Speakers: Harsh Mander, Zaheer Jan Mohammed, Jalees Tareen

Moderator: Manzoor Ghori

Saturday, 4:30-6:00 pm

Room 21

**Session 6F: Muslims in Media, Arts and Music Networking Session**

The purpose of this networking session is to bring together Muslims who are involved with Media, Arts and Music to share ideas, resources and showcase their portfolio; meet potential partners in collaborating on a creative project; provide a space for a creative think tank; provide a space to meet like-minded professionals and independent artists of media, arts and music; and finally to foster an environment of support for those working in these fields and discuss the challenges and opportunities facing them.

Speakers: Juveria Aleem, Ali Khan, Aman Mehrzai, Mariam Sobh, Tariq Jaleel, Kelly Crosby

Moderator: Juveria Aleem

Saturday, 4:30 – 6:00 p.m

Room 22

**Session 6G: Domestic Violence in the Muslim Community: How We Can Make a Difference**

This session will discuss: the creation of a greater awareness for domestic violence, how it is affecting the Muslim community and prove by examples from the Qur'an and Sunnah, that domestic violence is not tolerated in Islam. This session will also discuss what we can do by following examples of Muslim organizations working in the field.

Speakers: Ambreen Ahmed, Imam Johari Abdul Malik

Moderator: Sana Pasha

Saturday, 4:30 – 6:00 p.m

Room 23

**Session 6H: The Prospect of Sunni-Shi'i Rapprochement**

This session will provide an overview of the history of Sunni-Shi'i rapprochement and sketch the prospect of their partnership on issues of shared concern. This mutual respect is based on the common scriptural sources which provide the essential core values and the fundamentals of the religion (*usul al-din*), the love and reverence for the family of the Prophet (s) and his companions, the notion that vilification and denigration of the companions of the Prophet (s) constitutes a contravention of the Qur'anic prescription, and the recourse to *ijtihad* or scholarly reflection for the adaptation of Islamic rules to novel circumstances. This session will also present the appreciation of the fundamental points of overlap and agreement between these two major schools of thought within Islam which should foster mutual respect and harmony in the place of mutual acrimony and hostility. This presentation will enhance and engage an active scholarly exchange, as well as mutual understanding in these times of sectarian tension and misconceptions.

Speakers: Hamid Mavani, Mohamed Magid Ali

Moderator: Hisham Al-Talib

Saturday, 4:30-6:00 p.m.

Room 30

Session 6J: **Muslims for a Safe America?**

At a time when America is in conflict with Muslims in various parts of the world, polls show that many Americans are fearful of Muslims, and many Muslims are concerned about America's foreign policy in the Muslim world. What should we be doing to educate our community about Islam and national security and what should we be doing to put our neighbors at ease?

Speakers: Kamran Memon, Salam Al-Marayati, Mohammed Hafez

Moderators: Faizan Haq

Saturday, 4:30 – 6:00 p.m.

Room 34

Session 6K: **Technology Roadmap for Your Community**

Information Technology (IT) is used by organizations, large and small, commercial and not-for-profit to enhance productivity, streamline operations, manage finances, and handle communications. Islamic institutions are no less able to benefit from smart investments in IT. Is your organization getting the most from its technology spending? Does it have an IT budget? What are other successful 'Hi-tech' communities doing? This session will answer all that and more. You'll leave with a 'roadmap' for assessing and addressing your particular community's needs.

Speakers: Ahmed El-Haggan, Rizwan Jaka, Abid Malik

Moderators: Shehzad Jameel

Saturday, 4:30 – 6:00 p.m

Room 31

Session 6L: **Muslim Refugee Resettlement in America**

The growing number of global conflicts will be reflected in the number of refugees that come into the United States. The number of Muslim refugees are especially on the rise. This session will outline how the Muslim community can deal with this community issue.

Speakers: Abdul Basit, John Tuskan, Maria Muzzafar, Cindy Weber-Taha

Moderator: Altaf Husain

Saturday, 4:30 -6:00 PM

Room 32

Session 6M: **Standing Up Against Torture**

This session will focus on the following: Exporting torture – what we call 'rendering' or 'outsourced torture', torture in prison and jails – specifically the case of John Berge, and the use of torture in Abu Ghraib and Guantanamo Bay. It will also discuss the failure in legal cases the use of torture in legal cases.

Speakers: Bernardine Dohrn, Stanley Willis, Maryam Salah

Moderator: Steve Saltzman

Saturday, 4:30 – 6:00 p.m

Room 33

Session 6N: **Healing our Communities Through Restorative Justice Initiatives**

From the reaction to the Danish cartoons, to the reaction of Afghan convert to Christianity – it is very important to recognize that our community lacks a skill to engage and respond to issues in a restorative way. We are not crazy nor are we extremists. Muslims are not bad people. We need to learn the art of restorative dialogue for it is a skill that our community must engage in to deal effectively with challenges within our communities, outside and internationally. It is a principle embedded in Islamic theology. If we can stop evil with our hands – we do it, else we do it with our mouths. Clearly, this day and age Muslims do not have power – and need to learn to respond to issues with restorative dialogue.

Speakers: Fedwa Wazwaz, Mark Umbreit

Moderator: Husain Nagamia

Saturday, 4:30 – 6:00 p.m

Room 8

Session 6P: **Meet the Author**

‘Meet the Author’ sessions present a wonderful platform to learn, share ideas, and provide literary contributions to the community. Participants receive an opportunity to meet with authors who have made contributions in different avenues. This session will focus on Dr. Maher Hathout most recent book “*In Pursuit of Justice: The Jurisprudence of Human Rights in Islam*” (2006), which is a renewed examination of Islamic law on key international human rights issues such as freedom of speech, Constitutionalism, women, and non-Muslims. Dr. Hathout does an unprecedented job of incorporating historic notations while presenting an in-depth look on human rights in Islam and this new book comes from years of research and is a landmark in the development of America Muslim community. This session will also provide an opportunity for book signing by the author.

Speaker: Maher Hathout: *In Pursuit of Justice: The Jurisprudence of Human Rights in Islam*

Moderator: Khalid Iqbal

Saturday, 4:30 – 6:00 p.m

Room 29

Session 6Q: **Islam 101 - ABCs of Zakat**

This session is about the basics of zakat. Who should give, what counts as giving, the essentials to giving and the wisdom behind this pillar of Islam. Recommended for non-Muslims, new Muslims and returning Muslims.

Speakers: Quadir Husain Khan, Inamul Haq

Saturday, 8:15 – 11:30 p.m.

Hall A

Session 7A: **Achieving Balance in a Troubled World**

Current events today reveal a world out of balance - from the recent events in Lebanon and the West Bank, to the terrorist attacks in New York, London, and Madrid; from the war in Iraq, to a purported clash between the West and Islam, to the war on terror which threatens basic civil liberties Americans have held sacrosanct for two centuries. How do we as American Muslims, caught in the nexus of these conflicts, help our countrymen, our co-religionists, and our world re-establish the balance so needed for global security and peace? Come and be not only informed about these most important topics by our esteemed panelists, but also inspired by anasheed (Islamic poetic songs) and leave motivated to make a change towards the betterment of all of humanity.

Speakers: Hamza Yusuf, Suhaib Webb, Siraj Wahhaj, Robert Fisk, Ingrid Mattson, Abdalla Idris Ali, Mohamed Sheibani, Sabra Bhat

Moderator: Altaf Husain

Sunday, September 3, 2006

Sunday, 9:00 am – 10:30 am

Room – Hall A

Session 8A: **Growing Up, Growing Old: Everyone is Talking: Who is Listening?**

While parents attempt to instill morals and values in their children that reflect an Islamic identity, American Muslim youth are often more influenced by mainstream youth culture. Muslim youth are not immune to the pressures that affect the larger American community, including the conflicts that often exist between generations, especially parents and children. These conflicts are exacerbated by a number of factors, including the lack of consistent involvement and direction by fathers, which is critical during teenage years, lack of experience of child rearing methods in an environment different from that their childhood, and the increasing challenges to wholesome values posed by a growing culture of consumerism, peer pressure, and a mass media culture that exerts an inordinate amount of influence on our youth. Some of these challenges and potential solutions are examined both by youth and youth activists.

Speakers: Shazia Siddiqui, Altaf Hussain, Abdalla Idris Ali, Anwar Muhaimin

Moderator: Fatima Mirza

Sunday, 9:00 am – 12:30pm

Room 14

Session 8B: **Chicago Muslims Rally to Showcase and Celebrate Islam in Chicago**

A wide spectrum of Muslim activists: social services, Islamic schools, media, Imams, youth, creative arts, law, and advocacy groups will assemble to share their best practices, achievements, challenges and hopes for the future in a high energy presentations spotlighting the heroic efforts of Muslims in Chicago's civil society.

Speakers: Congressman Jesse Jackson Jr., Former Congressman Paul Findley, Abdul Malik Mujahid

Moderator: Rami Nashashibi

Sunday, 9:00 am – 10:30 am

Room 12

Session 8C: **Answering Difficult, Frequently Asked Questions About Islam and Muslims**

From terrorism to women's rights, and more recent questions about the Danish cartoon controversy, apostasy in Islam, and other contemporary issues, the questions that American Muslims are faced with on a daily basis are numerous and often complex. How one answers such questions is often as important as the answer itself, and Muslims frequently respond to such queries in ways that are difficult for others to understand or relate to. In this popular session join experts in the field as they not only provide answers to common FAQ's, but give guidelines to the audience on the methodology for answering.

Speakers: Jamal Badawi, Salam Al-Marayati, Ameena Jandali

Moderator: Maha Elgenaidi

Sunday, 9:00 am – 10:30 am

Session 8D: **Practical Guidelines for Implementing Zakat in North America**

Muslims in North America continue to face challenges in completing their obligations of paying Zakat due to practical difficulties in calculating Zakat and distributing it. This session will address the realities of the Zakat system and its distribution according to Islamic principles. A primer on how to calculate Zakat in North America will also be given.

Speakers: Muzammil Siddiqi, Mahmood Ghazi. Monzer Kahf

Moderator: Abdul Rauf Mir

Sunday, 9:00-10:30AM

Room 9

Session 8E: **Muslim Funerals (Janazah) in America: Challenges and Opportunities**

This session will discuss the challenges the Muslim community is confronting in observance of Islamic teachings regarding funerals (janazah). This session will also discuss the public health aspects in order to protect the health of the volunteers and the general public. There will be a 30-minute PowerPoint presentation and an hour workshop demonstration of Ghusul Janazah and making of the Kaffan.

Speaker: Ahmad-Rufai Abdullah

Sunday, 9:00 am – 10:30 am

Room 21

Session 8F: **Countering Islamophobia in the Media**

From Ann Coulter to Daniel Pipes, certain pundits and policymakers continue to make a living out of defaming Islam on print and broadcast media outlets. This session will chronicle the rise in anti-Muslim rhetoric in the media and political realms from September 11, 2001 until today and outline methods of counteracting this growing phenomenon.

Speakers: Arsalan Iftikhar, Ibrahim Hooper, Corey Saylor

Moderator: Ahmed Rehab

Sunday, 9:00 am – 10:30 am

Room 22

Session 8G: **The Children are Listening: The Impact of Family Conflict on Children**

This session is for family members to be aware that children are impacted by everything they see and hear; to understand that witnessing conflict (verbal, emotional, and physical) has long lasting psychological impacts on children and to learn effective peaceful family styles of conflict resolution.

Speakers: Mohamed Magid Ali, Salma Abugideri, Bonita McGee

Moderator:

Sunday, 9:00 am – 10:30 am

Room 23

Session 8H: **American Muslims in Policy Analysis in D.C.**

U.S. policy analysts in Washington and the policy community at large now consider the merits of engaging with Muslim scholars, religious figures and grassroots organizations on foreign and domestic policies. With an increased attention on the Muslim world and, in particular on Middle Eastern societies, this panel discusses the experiences of two American Muslims deeply involved in these issues. Abdeslam Maghraoui, Director of the Muslim World Initiative, and Qamar-ul Huda, Senior Program Office of the Religion and Peacemaking program at the United States Institute of Peace will share their ideas of current pressing issues related to U.S. foreign policies in the Muslim world and the ways in which American Muslims are contributing to the debate within the policy community.

Speakers: Abdeslam Maghraoui, Qamar-ul Huda

Moderator: Sayyid M. Syeed

Sunday, 9:00 am – 10:30 am

Room 30

Session 8J: **Getting Ready for the Green Jihad**

This session takes a look at the Islamic concept of vicegerency of the environment and how non-Islamic notions of plant and animal life have influenced, and continue to influence, how we live and interact with our planet. The second part is based in experimental teaching technology that helps each audience member understand their own value system in relation to the environment and animals and where they can create shifts to create greater sustainability in their lives and the world around them. Finally, the session concludes with tools and skills that each individual can use to serve the environment and sustain a deep connection between their soul and their Creator.

Speakers: Anila Muhammad, Katherine Hendrix

Moderator: Wahid Akbar

Sunday, 9:00 am-10:30 am

Room 34

**Session 8K: Does Free Speech Still Exist? Dealing Effectively with Law Enforcement and Preventing Entrapment**

This panel of attorneys will discuss how to best deal with law enforcement questioning, update you on new laws you should be aware of, and discuss whether you still have freedom of speech in America.

Speakers: Farhana Khera, Khurram Wahid

Moderator: Naheed Qureshi

Sunday, 9:00 am – 10:30 am

Room 31

**Session 8L: Dawah through Creative Expression: The Role of Fiction and Poetry**

The Muslim community in America has become aware of the importance of the written word in promoting Islamic values and improving the image of Islam in the West, but the focus to date has been primarily on non-fiction – scholarly tracts and opinion pieces. Fiction and poetry have a unique ability to touch the hearts of the reader in a way that non-fiction cannot and thus should not be neglected. Several ground breaking novelists and poets will discuss the power of fiction and poetry as daw'ah, the basics of the craft, and the publishing process.

Speakers: Jamilah Kolocotronis, Dasham Brookins, Freda Shamma

Moderator: Pamela Taylor

Sunday, 9:00 am – 10:30 am

Room 32

**Session 8M: Muslim American Journalists Association: Giving Voice to the Community**

In this Information Age, the only way to counter negative Muslim stereotypes is with more information. Creating our own media outlets so that our voices can be heard is a big part of that. This panel will address the decades-long struggle of Muslim Americans to self-define their beliefs and customs in the face of enormous misinformation. It will discuss the effort of the community to arrive at its own unique identity on its own terms, discuss triumphs and challenges in the field of media and touch upon strategies for entering and succeeding in the industry.

Speakers: A.S. Nakadar, Firas Ahmad, Naeem Randhawa

Moderator: Shabina S. Khatri

Sunday, 9:00 am – 10:30 am

Room 33

**Session 8N: (AMSE) Engineers, Scientists, Physicians and Professionals for the Betterment of the World**

Most of the developing world is in need of basic infrastructure for housing, water, power, transportation and communication. However, almost all of the volunteer work is conducted by non-Muslim volunteers because of the lack of interest by Muslim professionals. This panel will be an inspiration for the attendees and is a must for those who intend to take the first step in volunteerism and uplift the Ummah. One of the main objectives of this session is to develop a Muslim resource directory of volunteers.

Speakers: K. Qureshi, P. Malik, F. Selod

Moderator: I. J. Unus

Sunday, 9:00 am – 10:30 am

Room 8

**Session 8P: Meet the Author**

'Meet the Author' sessions present a wonderful platform to learn, share ideas, and provide literary contributions to the community. Participants receive an opportunity to meet with authors, who have made contributions in different avenues. This session will focus on those authors who are providing literature to educate both Muslims and Non-Muslims about the core principles of the Islamic traditions such as understanding *aqeeda*, the Qur'an as well as al-Zakah. Come meet these authors as they illuminate their knowledge to better educate others. This session will also provide an opportunity for book signing by the authors.

Speakers: Abdullah Rokadia: *Vital Perspective of Islam, Understanding Islam*; Muhammad Farooq-i-Azam Malik: *AL-Qur'an: Translation of the Meaning of Al-Qur'an, the Guidance for Mankind, Al-Zakah: The Islamic Financial Responsibility*

Moderator: Laeeq Khan

Sunday, 9:00 am – 10:30 am

Room 29

Session 8Q: **Islam 101 - Halal and Haram**

This session presents the basics about what is permissible and what must be avoided by a Muslim in life. Your questions and answers will follow. Recommended for non-Muslims, new Muslims and returning Muslims.

Speakers: Sheikh Abdul-Rahman

Sunday, 11:00-12:30 pm

Room- Hall A

Session 9A: **American Muslims: Citizens of the Global Village**

American Muslims are one of the most successful, upwardly mobile, and prosperous communities in the world, often in contrast to the state of Muslims living in numerous parts of the world. Despite some of the post 9/11 challenges, many American Muslims live a life that is focused primarily on the continuing advancement of its own family members, or local community. Events overseas, from political strife, famines and wars or natural disasters are merely news items to be experienced momentarily on the nightly news, but rarely affect us directly. What should the role of American Muslims be with relation to, not only to fellow Muslims overseas, but to the problems and issues affecting the rest of the world, especially impoverished countries in the developing world, where people have little voice or impact on their own destiny. Is it enough that Muslims have “made it” for themselves and their families, or should they have a role in ensuring that others have a chance at the same privileges they enjoy? What is the American Muslim role or position on topics such as globalization, global warming, environmental issues, and other areas where the American Muslim voice has been generally absent? What is our Islamic duty as citizens of this world?

Speakers: Manal Omar, Sulayman Nyang, Ambassador Friis Petersen

Discussant: Sayyid M. Syeed

Sunday, 11:00-12:30 pm

Room 14

Session 9B: **Chicago Muslims Rally to Showcase and Celebrate Islam in Chicago**

A wide spectrum of Muslim activists: social services, Islamic schools, media, Imams, youth, creative arts, law, and advocacy groups will assemble to share their best practices, achievements, challenges and hopes for the future in a high energy presentations spotlighting the heroic efforts of Muslims in Chicago's civil society. *This session is continued from the morning session.*

Speakers: Congressman Jesse Jackson Jr., Former Congressman Paul Findley, Abdul Malik Mujahid

Moderator: Rami Nashashibi

Sunday, 11:00-12:30 pm

Room 12

Session 9C: **Meet the Author**

‘Meet the Author’ sessions present a wonderful platform to learn, share ideas, and provide literary contributions to the community. Participants receive an opportunity to meet with authors, who have made contributions in different avenues. This session will feature award-winning international journalist Robert Fisk speaking about his recent book, *“The Great War for Civilisation: The Conquest of the Middle East”*. Among other things, this book is a story of journalists in war: of their attempts to report the first, impartial drafts of history, to monitor the centers of power, to challenge authority and to battle an increasingly partisan worldwide media in their determination to report the truth. Unflinching, provocative, brilliantly written—a work of major importance for today’s world. Come hear the award-winning international journalist speak on the issue of the Middle East in this special session. Participants will have the opportunity to have their books signed by the author.

Speaker: Robert Fisk: *The Great War for Civilisation: The Conquest of the Middle East*

Moderator: Hadia Mubarak

Sunday, 11:00-12:30 pm

Room 10

**Session 9D: Educating Health Care Providers with Cultural Diversity Training on Muslim Patients: For General Health Care, Mental Health, and Women's Health**

Increasingly, health care and mental health providers are interested in better understanding of the growing Muslim American population. This workshop provides the audience with the presentations and accompanying scripts for presenting cultural sensitivity trainings for both hospital and mental health staff.

Speakers: Ameena Jandali, Mona Orady, Ahsan Shaikh, Hamada Hamid

Moderator: Maha Elgenaidi

Sunday, 11:00-12:30 pm

Room 9

**Session 9E: Effective and Ineffective Daw'ah**

*A good word is as a good tree, its roots are firm and its branches are in heaven; so it gives its produce every season by the leave of its Lord (Ibrahim 14: 24-5).*

The objective of Da'wah is not to win an argument, to score a victory, or to silence an opponent. It is to win and activate a heart, a mind, indeed a life, for the cause of Allah. This session will highlight what makes certain daw'ah strategies effective and others ineffective. What do we need to know about our audience? This session will also take the misconceptions that prevail in the society regarding the status of women in Islam, as well as cover the basic Do's and Don'ts of Dawah.

Speakers: Mahmood Ghazi, Tariq Zameer, Abdalla Idris Ali

Moderator: Asim Khan

Sunday, 11:00-12:30 pm

Room 21

**Session 9F: The Spiritual and Socio-economic Impact of Halal Market on Muslim Individuals, Businesses, and Muslim Communities**

This session will project the future of the Halal market in North America; illustrate the role of Halal dietary standards in future trends; present the ISNA Halal certification model; and illustrate the spiritual and socio-economic impact of the Halal market on Muslim individuals, businesses, as well as Muslim communities.

Speakers: Mohammed Mazhar Hussaini, Adnan Al-Dayel

Moderator: Ahmed El-Hattab

Sunday, 11:00-12:30 pm

Room 22

**Session 9G: "...And Beat them Lightly": An Analysis and In-Depth Discussion of Verse 4:34**

This session will discuss the following: understanding the context of revelation (*asbaab al nuzuul*) for this verse. Emphasis will be focused on understanding the correct meaning of the verse, with specific attention given to the words *qiwamah*, *nushuz*, and *daraba* as well as to understand how this verse is to be applied as a protection for women, not as an abuse.

Speakers: Muzzamil Siddiqi, Rabia Karim Khan

Moderators: Mohamed Magid Ali

Sunday, 11:00 AM -12:30 PM

Room 23

**Session 9H: Models of Vibrant Muslim Communities**

This panel examines the organization and activities of three Islamic centers and suggests different strategies for energizing Muslim communities throughout America.

Speakers: Rizwan Jaka, Faroque A. Khan, Sheikh Abdul Rahman

Moderator: Bonita McGee

Sunday, 11:00-12:30 pm

Room 30

**Session 9J: Meet With the Elected Muslim Leaders of America: Preparing for Public Office**

This session will introduce to the convention participants, a few American Muslims who have come forth and have successfully achieved, through appointment or election, positions of public leadership in mainstream America.

Speakers: Keith Ellison, Candidate for Congress from Minnesota; A.J. Durrani, Coalition of New American Communities, Houston Texas; Abdul Akbar, State Rep 55th District, Atlanta, GA; Nasim H. Ansari: County Commissioner, Kalamazoo County, State of Michigan

Moderator: Faizan Haq

Sunday, 11:00-12:30 pm

Room 34

**Session 9K: Career Opportunities in Technology**

Learn more about the latest trends and opportunities in the ever-changing world of information technology. This includes important topics such as infrastructure and security. Linux and open source, software development and outsourcing, wireless networking and IP Telephony will also be discussed. Learn about the importance of professional networking within the Muslim community along with the impact of certifications and training in your career path.

Speakers: Farhan Shah, Ashfaq Khokhar, Syed Shafiullah

Moderators: Arif Ghafoor

Sunday, 11:00-12:30 pm

**Session 9L: Estate Planning in Compliance with U.S. Law and Shariah Obligation**

Estate planning continues to be a concept that is ignored by many Muslims, despite a strong Islamic tradition recommending it. Estate planning is vital to the financial security of both your family and your community. Through estate planning one can maximize a gift to a beloved charity while acquiring a tax savings at the same time. This session will highlight some of the estate planning tools, such as wills and trusts, which are well established in Islam, as well as the Islamic importance for implementing these tools. Focus will be given to various planned charitable techniques that can be used to minimize your tax burdens as well as make your donation go further. This session is a repeat from Saturday 2:30 – 4:00 P.M.

Speakers: M. Yaqub Mirza, Mir Ali. Nizam Arain

Moderators: Saleem Bajwa

Sunday, 11:00-12:30 pm

Room 32

**Session 9M: Muslim American Journalists Association: A Day in the Life of a Mainstream Media Journalist**

The need for Muslims in the media is very important, now more than ever. How can being a journalist still be a "noble" profession and how can our Muslim values be blended with the Journalistic/Communication ones? This session will assess certain stories that have been in the news lately which are pertinent to Muslims. It will evaluate what reporters are doing right, what they need to improve on, and what they have or could have brought to the stories.

Speakers: Noreen Ahmed-Ullah, Leila Fadel, Omar Mullick

Moderator: Shabina S. Khatri

Sunday, 11:00 – 12:30 pm

Room 33

**Session 9N: (AMSE) Networking and AMSE Business Meeting**

The importance of networking in the job market will be discussed followed by the annual AMSE Business Meeting and election for the new AMSE executive committee.

Speakers: K.A. Qureshi, I.J. Unus

Moderator: K.A. Qureshi

Sunday, 11:00 – 12:30 pm

Room 8

Session 9P: **Good Governance and Conflict Prevention in Islamic Centers**

The questions addressed by this panel include: What constitutes good governance in the Islamic center? How should the governing body conduct itself to provide effective leadership while maintaining a friendly atmosphere and lessen the conflicts within the community? How important is communication for the Islamic center? How can the Islamic center improve communication among its leaders and members?

Speakers: Gulam Bakali, Louay Safi

Moderator: Salman Azam

Sunday, 11:00-12:30 pm

Room 29

Session 9Q: **Islam 101 – How To Respond To Questions About Islam**

The interest for Islam has increased. Learn the best approach to answering questions about faith, and ask the questions you're frequently asked and hear the effective answers.

Speakers: Tabassum Haleem

Sunday, 2:30 – 4:00 pm

Room – Hall A

Session 10A: **ISNA Business Session**

ISNA leaders discuss the working 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

Sunday, 4:30-6:00 pm

Room – Hall A

Session 11A: **Loyalty to God and Country: The Moral Obligations of Citizenship**

After 9/11, there has often been put forth the claim that a Muslim cannot be a good citizen of the U.S. While immigrant Muslims have long been making the U.S. their home, there is often still a sense of not belonging or disenfranchisement. As indigenous Muslims increasingly become the majority through birth and conversion, this identity crisis should resolve, but Americans need to answer some of the moral questions that accompany citizenship. Is there a conflict between loyalty to God and loyalty to country? What are the moral obligations of good citizenship?

Speakers: Mohammed Fadel, Maher Hathout, Louay Safi

Moderators: LaDale George

Sunday, 4:30-6:00 pm

Room 14

Session 11B: **Election 2006: Staying in the Mainstream without Being Trapped by the Two-Main-Party System**

This session will cover a multi-perspective analysis of possible shifts during the midterm elections and articulation of a multidimensional strategy to enable American Muslim voters to play a meaningful role in the coalitional politics of peace, civil liberties, human rights, and immigration rights.

Speakers: Al-Haj Talib Abdur-Rasheed, Mahdi Bray, Ahmed Al-Akhras, Agha Saeed, Keith Ellison

Moderators: Shabbir Safdar

Sunday, 4:30-6:00 pm

Room 12

**Session 11C: Palestine and Lebanon: The Project for “The New Middle East!”**

The recent developments in Palestine and Lebanon are contextualized under ‘The New Middle East’ rubric; a policy that so far has visited death and destruction upon civilian populations while at the same time undermining incipient civil society institutions in both countries. While the US is attempting to win hearts and minds in the Muslims world, the current approach and the double standards evident in the handling of the crisis is leading to a growth in the negative sentiments across the Muslim world. The session will explore the impacts on both the Palestinian and Lebanese societies, an examination of American Muslims responses to the crisis and provide a wider analysis of policies that are pushing the Middle East closer to the edge.

Speakers: Amy Goodman, Jamal Dajani, Hani Hasan, Jess Ghannam

Moderator: Hazem Bazian

Sunday, 4:30-6:00 pm

Room 10

**Session 11D: Reflections on Islam and Muslim Community Building in Urban America**

Islam is reported to be the fastest growing religion in America, particularly among African Americans. This panel brings together African American Muslim leaders who have developed dynamic community models and methodologies which address the challenges as well as opportunities for Muslims as Islam expands exponentially in Urban America.

Speakers: Asim Abdul Rashid, S.T. Ibrahim, Anwar Muhaimin, Mika’il Deveaux

Moderator: Amir Al-Islam

Sunday, 4:30-6:00 pm

Room 9

**Session 11E: Faith in Action: Muslims Serving Humanity**

The session will feature several US-based Muslim groups, inspired by the teachings of Islam, providing service to needy people both overseas and in the USA. Speakers will talk about the unique needs of different communities and how their organization is addressing those needs. Presentations will include Muslim youths helping the victims of hurricane Katrina, efforts to promote civil societies in Bangladesh through development and relief activities, and a unique focus on helping “stranded Pakistanis” in a camp in Bangladesh.

Speakers: Anwar Khan, Abu Bakar Ahmed, Patricia Anton, Abdul Rashid Piracha

Moderators: Mohammed Ataul Karim

Sunday, 4:30-6:00 pm

Room 21

**Session 11F: Impact Litigation and Muslim: The Next Chapter in America’s Civil Rights History**

This session will discuss how the American Muslim community can begin to strategically empower the general American community at large by filing federal civil rights lawsuits which will help to protect the constitutional rights in the great historical legacy of civil rights case like *Brown v. Board of Education*.

Speakers: Arsalan Iftikhar

Moderators: Ibrahim Hooper

Sunday, 4:30-6:00 pm

Room 22

**Session 11G: O’ God! Please Help Me Help Others...Dealing with Burnout and Revictimization as a Community Helper**

This session will discuss the following: Define burnout, compassion fatigue, and self care as well as discuss spiritual costs of burnout on community work and stressors that impact doing the work effectively. Moreover, there will be a discussion on the linkages of compassion fatigue and re-victimization of those in needs both on a systemic or individual level. Lastly, it will offer tips for self care for advocates, Imams and helpers in general.

Speakers: Salma Abugideiri, Majd Kam-Almaz, Shahina Siddiqui, Aneesah Nadir, Ameenah Rashid

Moderators: Bonita McGee

Sunday, 4:30-6:00 pm

Room 23

**Session 11H: Human Rights Education and Religion: Creating Open-mindedness and Understanding for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century**

This session will discuss the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) and ways by which human rights can become better known and respected, with resultant benefits for all. Included in the presentation are new public service announcements (PSAs) for television prepared by Youth for Human Rights International in collaboration with the Church of Scientology International. The PSAs, 30 in all, portray the key concepts from each article of the UDHR.

Speakers: Shakeel Syed, Mary Shuttleworth

Moderators: Tom Whittle

Sunday, 4:30-6:00 pm

Room 30

**Session 11J: Civil Service: The Benefits of Working with the Federal Government**

This session will explore the many opportunities available working for the Federal Government and discuss the benefits and prestige associated with civil service careers. Panelists will describe their experiences working in Federal agencies, as political appointees and career employees, on Capitol Hill as legislative aides, and as members of the Foreign Service. Panelists will also give concrete guidance on the best way to obtain Federal employment, and what to expect after you start working.

Speakers: Farhana Khera, Suhail Khan, George Selim, Carmen Walker, Mark Ward, Anthony Benesch

Moderator: Shaarik H. Zafar

Sunday, 4:30-6:00 pm

Room 34

**Session 11K: Understanding Addiction**

This session will educate and raise awareness about addiction, create an understanding of pathology and recognize symptoms of addiction. Additionally it will establish the realization of the Islamic duty and responsibility in regards to addiction and aim to make others understand the impact of addiction on family and community. Information about treatment and recovery will also be highlighted.

Speakers: Mohamed Magid Ali, Muzzamil Siddiqi, Mohamed Rajabally

Moderator: Talal Sunbuli

Sunday, 4:30-6:00 pm

Room 31

**Session 11L: Islamic Schools and Islamic Education: A Progress Report**

This session will provide an update about several initiatives and projects related to the continuing development of Islamic schools and Islamic Education in North America. The session will discuss current challenges and opportunities for Islamic Schools along with an update on the preparation for the 8th Annual ISNA Education Forum.

Speakers: Necva Ozgur, Elizabeth Noble, Safaa Zarzour

Moderator: Abdalla Idris Ali

Sunday, 4:30 – 6:00 PM

Room 32

**Session 11M: The Time Is Now For a National Islamic Broadcasting Network**

The mainstream media presents a sinister picture of Islam and Muslims among the American public which places a huge ignorance about our faith and values. This is a root cause for stereotyping and prejudice against American Muslims today. This session will discuss why it is the time now to launch a new American Daw'ah-Driven TV Network to explain and clarify the religion of Islam for ourselves, others, and to present Muslim perspectives on all issues of life and living.

Speakers: Jamal Badawi, Mamdouh Rezeika

Sunday, 4:30-6:00 PM

Room 33

Session 11N: **Islamic Medical Ethics**

Presentation by the Islamic Medical Association of North America (IMANA)

Speaker: Hossam Fadel, Malika Haque

Moderator:

Sunday, 4:30-6:00 pm

Room 8

Session 11P: **Meet The Author**

'Meet the Author' sessions present a wonderful platform to learn, share ideas, and provide literary contributions to the community. Participants get an opportunity to meet with authors who have made contributions in different avenues. This session will feature Dr. Sherman Jackson who will discuss his most recent publication "*Islam and the Blackamerican: Looking toward the Third Resurrection*". Dr. Jackson offers a trenchant examination of the career of Islam among the blacks of America. In his book he shows that none of the distinctive features of African Islam appear in the proto-Islamic, black nationalist movements of the early 20th century. Instead, he argues, Islam owes its momentum to the distinctively American phenomenon of "Black Religion," a God-centered holy protest against anti-black racism. Come be a part of this important discussion today. This session will also provide an opportunity for book signing by the author.

Speaker: Sherman Abd al-Hakim Jackson: *Islam and the Blackamerican: Looking toward the Third Resurrection*

Moderator:

Sunday, 4:30-6:00 pm

Room 29

Session 11Q: **Islam 101 - Qur'an 101**

This session will focus on tips for developing a relationship with the holy text and a suggested guide to reading. No prior knowledge of Quran is required.

Speakers: Ahmed Murad

Sunday, 8:15 – 9:45 pm

Room – Hall A

Session 12A: **Between Outrage and Apathy: The Right Response to Injustice**

Recent events in the world have increasingly put Muslims in a never ending cycle of action and reaction, where they feel wronged and the world looks at them as the problem. Iraq, Afghanistan, Guantanamo, Abu Ghraib, the cartoons. . the list goes on and on. Simultaneously, the world only sees 9/11, Bali bombings, Chechnya school incident, Iraqi beheadings and sectarian violence, London bombings, violent protests over cartoons causing ant-Muslim sentiments to be increasingly high post 9/11. Who is in the right and who is being wronged? What is the Prophetic example and Qur'anic guidelines for responding to injustice and oppression? How do we live up to our duty of working to change a wrong without creating greater wrongs? What is the right response to injustice? How can we stop perpetuating the very stereotypes we try to counter by our own behavior? Join three esteemed scholars who will help us answer these critical questions.

Speakers: Jamal Badawi, Nihad Awad, Shahid Malik

Discussant: Kareem M. Irfan

Sunday, 10:15 – 11:30pm

Room – Hall A

**Entertainment Session**

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

*Native Deen, Kareem Salama, Kismet, Sofia Baig*

MC: Mohammad Amer

Monday, September 4, 2006

Monday, 10:00 – 11:30 am

Room – Hall A

Session 13A: **Executive Summary**

Join us for this year's executive summary session of the 43rd Annual ISNA Convention. Articulate Muslim professionals will offer a synopsis of core concepts, highlights and essential 'take away' action points from key convention speeches and sessions during the past three days. Watch 'on the spot' opinions from your fellow attendees in post lecture interviews taken throughout the meeting--you may even see yourself or someone you know. This informative presentation will enlighten the many convention attendees, leaders, guests, volunteers, speakers/moderators, and vendors who were unable to attend all of the convention sessions. This is also a great opportunity for the media to get a snapshot of the ISNA Convention.

Speakers: Faiz Ahmed, Kim Newkirk, Jaanan Hashim

Moderator: Azeem Haleem