

# POWER OF FAITH: TRANSFORMING SELF AND SOCIETY

## ISNA CONFERENCE IN ST. LOUIS

|   |                                       |                            |
|---|---------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| <b>9:30-10:00 AM</b>  | <b>Opening Session</b>                | <b>Grand Ballroom</b>      |
| Recitation from the Holy Qur'an : <b>Baha Alak</b><br><b>Welcome remarks:</b> ISNA Conference Chair; <b>Helal Ekramuddin</b><br>ISNA Conference Vice Chairs; <b>Ziauddin Mahmood, Djilali Kacem</b> & Program Chair Overview; <b>Lubabah Abdullah</b>   |                                       |                            |
| <b>10:00-10:50 AM</b>   | <b>Main Session 1</b>                 | <b>Grand Ballroom</b>      |
| <b>Where There is Hope, There is Faith: Translating Faith Beyond Words</b><br>The Qur'an clearly tells us that our sole purpose on this earth is to worship Allah and serve His creation. Unfortunately, for many Muslims, worshiping Allah is a practice confined to five prayers a day and the month of Ramadan, rather than an entire lifestyle defined by an outward expression of a heart which is close to Allah. We must go back to square one and work from the inside out, beginning with setting clear intentions for all our actions and realizing that no matter what the situation, we need to have certainty that we, and history, are in good hands. Realizing God's complete and authoritative dominion is a source of solace, contentment and motivation to action. This panel discussion will not only focus on the necessary kind of faith and hope but also how you can manifest that in our global world.<br>Speakers: <b>Asif Umar, Djilali Kacem</b><br>Moderator: <b>Helal Ekramuddin</b> |                                       |                            |
| <b>11:00-11:50 AM</b>   | <b>Main Session 2</b>                 | <b>Grand Ballroom</b>      |
| <b>Transformative Social Change: Looking in the Mirror</b><br>Allah could certainly force everyone into submission if He willed, or He could manifest miraculous and powerful signs – such as the earth splitting or the dead speaking – that would compel all human beings to submit in fear and awe, as He said: "If We willed We could send down a sign from heaven to them, and then their necks would be lowered to it in subjection." (Quran 26:4). Allah could have created us all in submission from the start. He chose not to. How can we change ourselves to be in true submission to Allah and how does that personal transformation translate into wide-spread social change?<br>Speaker: <b>Yasmin Mogahed</b><br>Moderator: <b>Marah Zabibi</b>  |                                       |                            |
| <b>12:00 – 12:50 PM</b>   | <b>Main Session 3</b>                 | <b>Grand Ballroom</b>      |
| <b>Reconnecting with the Seerah: How our Prophet Transformed a Nation</b><br>Muhammad (pbuh) was by far the most remarkable man that ever set foot on this earth. He preached a religion, founded a state, built a nation, laid down a moral code, initiated numerous social and political reforms, established a powerful and dynamic society to practice and represent his teachings and completely revolutionized the worlds of human thought and behavior for all times to come. How much of his teachings have been lost?<br>Speakers: <b>Ubaydullah Evans, Chris Caras</b><br>Moderator: <b>Nabeel Aslam</b>  |                                       |                            |
| <b>12:00-12:50 AM</b>   | <b>MYNA/MSA/Youth Session 1</b>       | <b>Valley Amphitheater</b> |
| <b>Being That Weird Kid</b><br>The Messenger of Allah (peace be upon him) said: "Islam began as something strange and will revert to being strange as it began, so give glad tidings to the strangers." Living in America, people look at our religious traditions as strange. We should embrace this and be okay with others judging us. Allah is the one we are striving to please.<br>Speakers: <b>Rowhea Elmesky, Mona Rajab</b><br>Moderator: <b>Lubabah Abdullah</b>  |                                       |                            |
| <b>1:00 – 2:30 PM</b>   | <b>Break (Lunch and Dhuhr Prayer)</b> | <b>Pavillion</b>           |
| <b>2:30 – 3:30 PM</b>   | <b>Main Session 4</b>                 | <b>Grand Ballroom</b>      |
| <b>Panel Discussion: Being an Agent of Change in our Communities</b><br>There comes a time in our lives when we come to a crossroad. The choices we make at those junctures influence the future chapters of our lives until the next crossroad emerges. We as a community are at a critical crossroad in our history as Muslims in America. This is the moment we turn the corner, embrace the legacy of the great Mohammed Ali, and unapologetically present a communal identity that is at once Muslim and American. We need to create a strategy for presenting our narrative, defending ourselves, and integrating our efforts within the fabric of the society. Learn how to effectively criticize poor reporting, get coverage of stories from your communities, and have Muslim voices and perspectives included with positive stories that go beyond terrorism and Islamophobia.<br>Panelist: <b>Ubaydullah Evans, Djilali Kacem, Hamza Jalal</b><br>Host: <b>Mehdi Hasan Hamza Jalal</b>                |                                       |                            |

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| <b>2:30 – 3:30 PM</b>  | <b>MYNA/MSA/Youth Session 2</b>   | <b>Valley Amphitheater</b> |
| <b>Empowering Youth to Tackle Islamophobia</b>   |                                   |                            |
| <p>This workshop will empower youth with tips on combating Islamophobia in schools; answering questions about dawah from the youth; instilling confidence about Islam, and refusing to fall prey to the media definition of Islam and Muslims.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Facilitators: <b>Faizan Syed, Mustafa Abdalla</b></p>  |                                   |                            |
| <b>2:30 – 3:30 PM</b>  | <b>Masjid Development Session</b> | <b>Conference Room C</b>   |
| <b>Greening Our Ramadan</b>  |                                   |                            |
| <p>As khalifah in the earth, we as Muslims know that we have a responsibility to preserve and enhance our environment. However, how active and conscience are we in being environmentally friendly. This session presents a vision of how Muslims can better fulfill their duty to make their lives and their masjids more green. Especially during Ramadan we should feel an extra motivation, and this session will offer a guide for greening your masjid for this Ramadan.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Speaker: <b>Huda Alkaff</b></p>  |                                   |                            |
| <b>3:40 – 4:40 PM</b>  | <b>Main Session 5</b>             | <b>Grand Ballroom</b>      |
| <b>Going Beyond the Basics: Empowerment through Engagement</b>   |                                   |                            |
| <p>As we talk about practicing Islam in our individual, family, and community lives, we also need to explore how to serve the extended community outside the masjid walls. This session will discuss the importance of community service in Islam, as well as the various means we can use to practice social and humanitarian service as Muslims in North America and beyond.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Speakers: <b>Chris Caras, Representatives of CAIR, ICNA Relief, ACLU, Project Downtown, Promus, and others</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Moderator: <b>Noman Wadalawala</b></p> |                                   |                            |
| <b>3:40 – 4:40 PM</b>  | <b>MYNA/MSA/Youth Session 3</b>   | <b>Valley Amphitheater</b> |
| <b>Feeding The Soul: Maintaining A Spiritual Connection at School and on Campus</b>  |                                   |                            |
| <p>With all the demands placed on a college student's life, making time for the development and maintenance of a relationship with God often gets pushed down on a list of priorities. However, our connection with God should be our biggest priority. This session will discuss spiritual routines, religious practices, and the importance of making time for worship even on a busy college campus</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Speaker: <b>Alaa Kuziez</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Moderator: <b>Hassan Yasin</b></p>  |                                   |                            |
| <b>3:40 – 4:40 PM</b>  | <b>Chaplain Session 1</b>         | <b>Conference Room C</b>   |
| <b>The Diverse Roles of the Muslim Chaplain in American Institutions (Part 1)</b>  |                                   |                            |
| <p>This session will challenge the participant's knowledge of the chaplaincy profession by administering a quiz on this subject. The session will continue with further discussion on the subject followed by Q&amp;A.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Speaker: <b>Abdul-Rasheed Muhammad</b>, ISCD Director &amp; ISNA Islamic Endorsing Agent</p>   |                                   |                            |
| <b>4:45 – 5:00 PM</b>  | <b>Break (Asr Prayer)</b>         | <b>Pavillion</b>           |
| <b>5:00 - 5:50 PM</b>  | <b>Main Session 6</b>             | <b>Valley Amphitheater</b> |
| <b>Reclaiming Muslim Spaces: Creating Welcoming Mosques</b>  |                                   |                            |
| <p>A mosque is a place to nurture spirituality and connect with fellow community members. Often times, converts, women and youth lack the necessary support they need to help them find their space in our masajid. How do we ensure that masajid feel open, safe and welcoming spaces.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Speakers: <b>Ubaydullah Evans, Yasmin Mogahed</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Moderator: <b>Ferrahs Abdelbaset</b></p>   |                                   |                            |
| <b>5:00 - 5:50 PM</b>  | <b>Chaplain Session 2</b>         | <b>Conference Room C</b>   |
| <b>The Diverse Roles of the Muslim Chaplain in American Institutions (Part 2)</b>  |                                   |                            |
| <p>This session will highlight four distinct chaplaincies currently operating within four major institutions in the US. It will also address the unique role(s), challenges, and rewards Muslim Chaplains frequently experience within these institutions.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Speaker: <b>Abdul-Rasheed Muhammad</b>, ISCD Director &amp; ISNA Islamic Endorsing Agent</p>   |                                   |                            |
| <b>6:00 – 8:00 PM</b>  | <b>(Entry by ticket)</b>          | <b>Grand Ballroom</b>      |
| <b>ISNA Celebration Banquet</b>  |                                   |                            |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Welcome remarks – <b>Azhar Azeez</b>, ISNA President</li> <li>▪ Community Service Recognition Award Ceremony</li> <li>▪ Finding your Voice - Keynote address from <b>Mehdi Hasan</b></li> </ul> <p style="text-align: center;">Entertainment program &amp; Nasheed singing by The Mohammed Webb Foundation Community Choir which builds community and faith by remembering God and His beloved messenger through song.</p>  |                                   |                            |
| <b>8:15 PM</b>   | <b>Maghrib Prayer</b>             | <b>Pavillion</b>           |