

# RACE, CLASS AND RELIGIOUS INTERSECTIONALITY IN AMERICA: AN ON-GOING STRUGGLE FOR HUMAN DIGNITY

SEPTEMBER 6 - 9, 2018  
PROGRAM AGENDA

## Can Islam/Muslim Americans Offer A Way Forward?

The ISLAMIC THOUGHT INSTITUTE (ITI) of the International Museum of Muslim Cultures (IMMC), with major support from the W.K. Kellogg Foundation and other national and local sponsors, hosts a National Conference that presents a candid conversation about race, class, and religious intersectionality in America—an on-going struggle for human dignity in the American experiment. It dares to go beyond the headlines to take a fresh and unbiased look at Islamic thought, worldview, ideas, and culture—its contribution to America and the role of Muslim Americans, past and present. It is a clarion call for Bold and Dynamic new leadership and ideas that are intergenerational—in the context of this critical time in America's history and the world. Such an examination requires a global lens and perspective, even as we think and act locally, with emphasis on Islam and Muslims in America joining forces with others in building a diverse, pluralistic, multi-racial, multi-Ethnic, intra-faith, and interfaith movement in America and the world.

Two broad questions frame the conversation: “Can Islam and Muslim Americans offer America a way forward out of a deepening culture of racism, classism, and denial of human dignity? What's Islam's prescription for the promotion of human dignity, race and class within the family—while in search of the answer—is there a

Muslim American model? These questions will be explored through examining Islam and its universal approach and practical application in fostering a culture of respect for human dignity, race and class with Muslim Americans at the center. Also, at the core of the issue, the group that is among the most disenfranchised, and ranks lowest in most, if not all the social indicators, should appropriately be addressed, as the foundation to build upon. This is the African American, more broadly as well as the Muslim African American, through the lens of one people. Their history of enslavement and dispossession, divergent triumph, civil and human rights struggle and restoral, provides a model.

**The goal of the conference is to bring out of the shadows to the forefront the important work of Muslim American individuals, institutions, and communities, spur greater studies and support of this work, and challenge Muslim Americans to be more intentional about moving that model forward.**



THURSDAY, SEPT 6, 2018

**WESTIN HOTEL: PRECONFERENCE PROGRAM**

9:00 am - 4:00 pm    **Registration**  
(All Day and Between Sessions through Saturday)

9:00 am - 4:00 pm    **Tours of Mississippi**

- ◆ IMMC's Legacy of Timbuktu Exhibition
- ◆ Mississippi Civil Rights Museum
- ◆ Museum of Mississippi History
- ◆ Medgar and Myrlie Evers Home
- ◆ Smith Robertson Museum of African American History
- ◆ Historic Tougaloo College
- ◆ Mississippi Arts Museum
- ◆ Millsaps College
- ◆ Jackson State Univ. Margaret Walker Alexander Center and Fannie Lou Hamer Institute
- ◆ Civil Rights Tour

**SPECIAL CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS:**

- ◆ Intergenerational: Integrating and engaging millennials and youth adults in the Conversation intentionally.
- ◆ Youth Camp for children 5 to 12
- ◆ Authors Book Signing
- ◆ Daycare
- ◆ Art Showcase (SoundVision)

## PRECONFERENCE OPENING SESSION I

### WESTIN HOTEL

4:00 pm - 5:30 pm	<b>Confederation and Human Rights Remedies</b>	<b>Dr. Musa Dan-Fodio, Esq</b> General Counsel, International Commission of African Descendants <b>Dr. Mustafa Ansari</b> Dean, American Institute of Human Rights <b>Imam Talib Abdur-Rashid</b> Muslim Alliance of North America (MANA), Imam of the Mosque of Islamic Brotherhood Inc, Harlem, NY <b>Imam Khalil Abdur-Rahman</b> Imam Jamil AL-Amin Action Network (IJAN) and the Community Mosque of Greenboro, NC <b>Imam Khalid Griggs</b> Chair of Social Justice Council, Islamic Circle of North America (ICNA) & Imam of the Community Mosque of Winston-Salem, NC <b>Rukia Lumumba</b> Jackson Attorney/Activist, Facilitator
5:30 pm - 7:00 pm	<b>Global Solidarity and Action: Know Your Rights</b>	<b>Rabbi Jeffrey Kurtz-Lendner</b> Beth Israel Congregation <b>Manzoor Cheema</b> Project South <b>Ekhlass Khandekar</b> Mississippi College Law Student <b>Noel Didla</b> Liaison, CORE ConneXions, Tougaloo College , Facilitator
7:00 pm -9:00 pm	<b>Reception</b>	<b>Pamela Junior</b> Director, MS Civil Rights Museum <b>Dr. C. Liegh McInnis</b> Jackson State University <b>Reena Evers-Everette</b> Executive Director, The Medgar and Myrlie Evers Institute

**FRIDAY, SEPT 7, 2018**

**WESTIN HOTEL**

9:00 am-9:30 am **CONFERENCE OPENING PROGRAM**

**Opening Prayer**

**Imam Muhammad Abdur-Rahman**

IMMC's Imam-in-Residence, Conference Coordinator of Prayer Services

**Welcome & Introduction**

**Emad Al-Turk**

IMMC's Chairman & Co-founder

**Dr. Robert Blaine**

City of Jackson Chief Administrative Officer

**Mahmoud Abdul Rauf (formerly Chris Jackson/NBA)**

Ambassador of Timbuktu Exhibition and IMMC

**Co-Host/Hostesses**

**Khalid Abdullah Hudson**

IMMC's Project Coordinator.

**Aseelah Rashid**

Muslim Mix of Atlanta

**Latifa Ziyad**

Community Organizer and Radio Host

**Program Overview**

**Okolo Rashid**

IMMC's President & Co-founder and  
Director of Islamic Thought Institute



## SESSION II

### THE STATE OF BLACK LIVES IN AMERICA AND THE MUSLIM AMERICAN COMMUNITY

9:30 am –10:45 am	<b>Is America a Police State or Do Black Lives and Those of Other Minorities Really Matter?</b>	<b>Margari Aziza Hill</b> Co-founder/Co-Director of Muslim Arc  <b>Ndidi Okakpu of Chicago</b> Community Development & Organizing Consultant  <b>Albert Sykes</b> Executive Director of IDEA  <b>Nsombi Lambright</b> Executive Director of One Voice  <b>Mahmoud Abdul Rauf</b> Facilitator/Discussant
10:45 am - 12:00 pm	<b>Islamophobia/Xenophobia: Anti- Black, Anti-Muslim, Anti-Latino, Anti-Semitic, and the Othering.</b>	<b>Mustafa Carroll</b> Director of Dallas CAIR <b>Imam Hameem Habeeb</b> <b>Canadian</b> Talk Show Host <b>Lorena Quiroz</b> Executive Director of LABA Link <b>Brenda Hyde</b> Deputy Director Southern Echo, Facilitator
12:00 am - 12:15 am	<b>BREAK</b>	
12:15 pm - 1:15 pm	<b>LUNCH Presentation: “Race, Class and Religious Intersectionality in America”</b>	<b>Dr. Safiya Omari</b> City of Jackson, Chief of Staff <b>Okolo Rashid</b> Facilitator/Discussant
1:15 pm - 2:00 pm	<b>Jumah Salat (Friday Prayer Services) and BREAK</b>	

## SESSION III

### HOW DID WE GET HERE, CORRECTING THE NARRATIVE?

2:00 pm- 3:00 pm	<b>Islamic Thought in the Making of America and the World: Muslims with Christians and Jews: Covenants and Coexistence, Comparing Medina's Constitution with the U.S. Bill of Rights</b>	<b>Dr. John Andrew Morrow</b> (Ilyas "Abd al-'Alim Islam) Author/Scholar <b>Judge David Shaheed</b> <b>Judge Denise Owens</b> <b>Emad Al Turk</b> , Facilitator
3:00 pm –3:30 pm	<b>"Thomas Jefferson's Qur'an"</b>	<b>Alexandra Meav Brandon, Ph.D.</b> The College of William and Mary <b>Kenneth Townsend</b> Millsaps College, Facilitator
3:30 pm-3:45 pm	<b>Islamic West Africa's Legacy of Literacy and Music to America and the World.</b>	
3:45 pm - 4:00 pm	<b>Opening: International Decade for People of African Descent</b>	<b>Fode Seck</b> UN Ambassador of Senegal
4:00 pm - 4:30 pm	<b>Ancient Timbuktu Manuscript</b>	<b>Sheikh Abdel Kader Haidara</b> Mama Haidara Memorial Library of Timbuktu
4:30 pm -5:00 pm	<b>African Muslim Scholars Enslaved in America</b>	<b>Dr. Sylviane Diouf</b> Historian of the African Diaspora <b>Dr. Berthrone Mock Muhammad</b> IMMC Board, Facilitator
5:00 pm -5:15 pm	<b>Asr salat (Mid-Day Prayer)</b>	
5:15 pm - 6:30 pm	<b>BREAK - The next sessions will be held at the MISSISSIPPI ART MUSEUM, 380 S Lamar St, Jackson, 39201</b>	
6:30 pm-10:00 pm	<b>OPENING RECEPTION AND PRESENTATION</b>	<b>Sponsored by the National Museum of African American History and Culture's Center for the Study of African American Religious life.</b>
6:30 pm - 7:00 pm	<b>Muslim/African Roots of the Blues</b>	<b>Dr. Sylviane Diouf</b> Historian of the African Diaspora
7:00 pm-10:00 pm	<b>CommUNITY Café</b> <b>Live Performance and Artistic Experience</b>	<b>The Inner-City Muslim Action Network (IMAN)</b>

SATURDAY, SEPT 8, 2018

**SESSION IV: UP FROM SLAVERY: THE AFRICAN AMERICAN STRUGGLE  
FOR FREEDOM, JUSTICE, CIVIL AND HUMAN RIGHTS/HUMAN DIGNITY**

9:00 am-10:15 am	<b>The Freedom Struggle: One Movement or Two?</b>  <b>Islam/Nationalism/Separatism vs Civil Rights and Integration in the African American Experience: A Conversation about Freedom, self-determination and Social Reform.</b>	<b>David Dennis</b> Executive Director Southern Initiative Algebra Project. <b>Dr. Safiya Omari</b> Chief of Staff, City of Jackson. <b>Ayesha Mustafaa</b> Editor Muslim Journal/Professor <b>Dr. Musa Dan-Fodio</b> Co-Founder AIHR <b>Imam Faheem Shuaibe of Oakland CA,</b> Facilitator
10:15 am –11:15 am	<b>Two Americas: The Aspirational and the Real;</b>  <b>A Conversation about America's History of Slavery and remedies for Equity and Healing</b>	<b>Dr. Ronald Mason, Jr.</b> University of DC <b>Dr. James Stewart</b> Founder, Historians Against Slavery <b>Dr. Precious Rasheeda Muhammad</b> Independent Scholar <b>Dr. Steve Rozman</b> Tougaloo College, Facilitator
11:15 am-11:30 am	<b>BREAK</b>	
11:30 am-12:30 pm	<b>Religion and the Freedom Movement: Assessing the Historical and Current Role of Women</b>	<b>Daisy Khan</b> Founder , Women's Islamic Initiative in Spirituality & Equality (WISE) <b>Constance Slaughter Harvey</b> Attorney/Activist <b>Rev. Eruke Ohwofasa</b> Interfaith Chaplain <b>Beth Orlansky</b> Advocacy Director of the MS Center for Justice <b>Aisha Waheed</b> Co-founder of the Muslim Women Home. Facilitator.

## SESSION V

### THE FREEDOM MOVEMENT LIVES: REVIVING THE MOVEMENT

12:30pm- 1:30 pm	<b>LUNCH PRESENTATION: “The Freedom Movement and Muslim Americans: The Debt to El-Hajj Malik El-Shabazz (Malcolm X), Muhammad Ali, and Imam Warith Deen Mohammed</b>	<b>Imam Plemon El Amin</b> World Pilgrim of Atlanta, GA
1:30 pm - 2:00 pm	<b>Zuhr Prayer (Noon Day Prayer) and BREAK</b>	
2:00 pm –3:45 pm	<b>Special Opening Presentation: Racial Equity and Healing America: A Multi-Dimensional Approach</b>	
2:15 pm-3:45 pm	<b>Building a Movement Against Hate: Interfaith Dialogue and Engagement</b>	<b>Imam Abdul Malik Mujahid</b> President of Soundvision  <b>Maha Elgenaidi</b> Executive Director of Islamic Network Group (ING)  <b>Rev. Chuck Poole</b> Northminster Baptist Church  <b>Imam Talib M. Shareef</b> Masjid Muhammad/The Nation’s Mosque  <b>Dr. Loye Sekihata Ashton</b> Tougaloo College, Facilitator



## SESSION V

### THE FREEDOM MOVEMENT LIVES: REVIVING THE MOVEMENT

3:45 pm-5:00pm

**How Does Islam Address Human Dignity,  
Race and Class?**

**Imam Abdul Malik Mujahid**  
President SoundVision

**Imam Faheem Shuaibe**  
Director of Santa Clara Mohammed  
School, Oakland, California

**Imam Mansour Sabree**  
Executive Director of IMAN Atlanta

**Imam Ameen Abdur-Rashied**  
Masjid Muhammad, Facilitator

5:00 pm - 5:15 pm

**ASR PRAYER (Mid-Day Prayer)**

5:15 pm - 7:00 pm

**BREAK**

7:00 pm –10:00pm

**IMMC'S 17th YEAR ANNIVERSARY  
BENEFIT BANQUET PRESENTATION:  
"Race and Class Relations: Is There a Muslim  
American Model?"**

**Imam Zaid Shakir**  
Co-founder Zaytuna College

**Imam Sulaimaan Hamed**  
Atlanta Masjid of Al Islam  
Facilitator/Discussant

**Music and Entertainment**

SUNDAY, SEPT 9, 2018

**SESSION VI**  
**COMMUNITY (RE) BUILDING: THE WORK OF**  
**INDIVIDUALS, INSTITUTIONS, AND COMMUNITIES**

9:00 am - 10:00 am **Community and Economic  
Development**

**Imam Muhammad Munir**  
“The New Harlem Renaissance and Detroit Revival”  
W. Deen Mohammed Islamic Center, NC

**Imam Mansour Sabree**  
Inner-City Muslim Action Network (IMAN)

**Imam Hamzah Abdul-Malik**  
Mid-Town Mosque, Facilitator

**Sababu Rashid**  
IMMC, Facilitator and Discussant

10:00 am-11:15 am **Education: HBCU’s and the  
Bridge for K-12 to Higher  
Education**

**Dr. Hakim Rashid**  
Howard University

**Dr. Clyde Robertson**  
Southern University of New Orleans (SUNO)

**Dr. Sakinah Abdur Rashied**  
Jackson State University

**Dr. Robert Luckett**  
Jackson State University, Facilitator

11:15 am-12:15am **Civil Rights/Human Rights  
Curriculum Model**

**Maryam Rashid**  
RECoP/Civil Rights/Human Rights Curriculum/  
IMMC’s Education Coordinator

**Deborah Menkart**  
Executive Director Teaching for Change

**Dr. Cade Smith**  
Mississippi State University, Facilitator/Discussant

## SESSION VII

### CLOSING LUNCHEON AND STRATEGIC PLANNING SESSION

12:15 pm -12:30 pm **BREAK**

12:30pm - 1:30pm **LUNCH PRESENTATION: “Taking Religion Seriously Across the Curriculum”** **Usra Ghazi**  
First Amendment Center;  
**Dr. Steve Smith**  
Facilitator/Discussant

1:30 pm –2:00 pm Zuhr Prayer (Noon Day Prayer) and BREAK

2:00 pm - 4:00 pm **Strategic Planning Session** Khalid Hudson

**Primary goal of this session is to discuss next steps and engage presenters/participants in the development of a national agenda and process that can guide the work moving forward.**

To Register:

<https://conta.cc/2BGZnrk>

Website: [www.muslimmuseum.org/](http://www.muslimmuseum.org/)

In Person: IMMC, 201 E. Pascagoula St., Jackson, MS

Phone: (601) 960-0440

Email: [museumtimbuktu@bellsouth.net](mailto:museumtimbuktu@bellsouth.net)