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
♦ IMM’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  
Confederation and Human Rights Remedies  
Dr. Musa Dan-Fodio, Esq  
General Counsel, International Commission of African Descendants  
Dr. Mustafa Ansari  
Dean, American Institute of Human Rights  
Imam Talib Abdur-Rashid  
Muslim Alliance of North America (MANA), Imam of the Mosque of Islamic Brotherhood Inc, Harlem, NY  
Imam Khalil Abdur-Rahman  
Imam Jamil AL-Amin Action Network (IJAN) and the Community Mosque of Greenboro, NC  
Imam Khalid Griggs  
Chair of Social Justice Council, Islamic Circle of North America (ICNA) & Imam of the Community Mosque of Winston-Salem, NC  
Rukia Lumumba  
Jackson Attorney/Activist, Facilitator

5:30 pm - 7:00 pm  
Global Solidarity and Action: Know Your Rights  
Rabbi Jeffrey Kurtz-Lendner  
Beth Israel Congregation  
Manzoor Cheema  
Project South  
Ekhlass Khandekar  
Mississippi College Law Student  
Noel Didla  
Liaison, CORE ConneXions, Tougaloo College, Facilitator

7:00 pm - 9:00 pm  
Reception  
Pamela Junior  
Director, MS Civil Rights Museum  
Dr. C. Liegh McInnis  
Jackson State University  
Reena Evers-Everette  
Executive Director, The Medgar and Myrlie Evers Institute
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

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

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Speaker/Author</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2:00 pm – 3:00 pm</td>
<td>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</td>
<td>Dr. John Andrew Morrow (Ilyas “Abd al-‘Alim Islam) Author/Scholar Judge David Shaheed Judge Denise Owens Emad Al Turk, Facilitator</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3:00 pm – 3:30 pm</td>
<td>“Thomas Jefferson’s Qur’an”</td>
<td>Alexandra Meav Brandon, Ph.D. The College of William and Mary Kenneth Townsend Millsaps College, Facilitator</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3:30 pm – 3:45 pm</td>
<td>Islamic West Africa’s Legacy of Literacy and Music to America and the World.</td>
<td>Fode Seck UN Ambassador of Senegal</td>
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<tr>
<td>3:45 pm – 4:00 pm</td>
<td>Opening: International Decade for People of African Descent</td>
<td>Sheikh Abdel Kader Haidara Mama Haidara Memorial Library of Timbuktu</td>
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<tr>
<td>4:00 pm – 4:30 pm</td>
<td>Ancient Timbuktu Manuscript</td>
<td>Dr. Sylviane Diouf Historian of the African Diaspora Dr. Berthrone Mock Muhammad IMMC Board, Facilitator</td>
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<tr>
<td>4:30 pm – 5:00 pm</td>
<td>African Muslim Scholars Enslaved in America</td>
<td>Dr. Sylviane Diouf Historian of the African Diaspora</td>
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<tr>
<td>5:00 pm – 5:15 pm</td>
<td>Asr salat (Mid-Day Prayer)</td>
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<tr>
<td>5:15 pm – 6:30 pm</td>
<td>BREAK - The next sessions will be held at the MISSISSIPPI ART MUSEUM, 380 S Lamar St, Jackson, 39201</td>
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<tr>
<td>6:30 pm – 10:00 pm</td>
<td>OPENING RECEPTION AND PRESENTATION</td>
<td>Sponsored by the National Museum of African American History and Culture’s Center for the Study of African American Religious life.</td>
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<tr>
<td>6:30 pm – 7:00 pm</td>
<td>Muslim/African Roots of the Blues</td>
<td>Dr. Sylviane Diouf Historian of the African Diaspora</td>
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<tr>
<td>7:00 pm – 10:00 pm</td>
<td>CommUNITY Café Live Performance and Artistic Experience</td>
<td>The Inner-City Muslim Action Network (IMAN)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Time</td>
<td>Session Title</td>
<td>Facilitators/Participants</td>
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| 9:00 am-10:15 am| The Freedom Struggle: One Movement or Two?                                   | David Dennis  
Executive Director Southern Initiative Algebra Project.  
Dr. Safiya Omari  
Chief of Staff, City of Jackson.  
Ayesha Mustafaa  
Editor Muslim Journal/Professor  
Dr. Musa Dan-Fodio  
Co-Founder AIHR  
Imam Faheem Shuaibe of Oakland CA, Facilitator |
| 10:15 am -11:15 am| Two Americas: The Aspirational and the Real;                                  | Dr. Ronald Mason, Jr.  
University of DC  
Dr. James Stewart  
Founder, Historians Against Slavery  
Dr. Precious Rasheeda Muhammad  
Independent Scholar  
Dr. Steve Rozman  
Tougaloo College, Facilitator |
| 11:15 am11:30 am| BREAK                                                                        | Daisy Khan  
Founder, Women’s Islamic Initiative in Spirituality & Equality (WISE)  
Constance Slaughter Harvey  
Attorney/Activist  
Rev. Eruke Ohwofasa  
Interfaith Chaplain  
Beth Orlansky  
Advocacy Director of the MS Center for Justice  
Aisha Waheed  
Co-founder of the Muslim Women Home, Facilitator |
| 11:30 am-12:30 pm| Religion and the Freedom Movement: Assessing the Historical and Current Role of Women |  
|
SESSION V

THE FREEDOM MOVEMENT LIVES: REVIVING THE MOVEMENT

12:30pm-1:30 pm  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

Imam Plemon El Amin
World Pilgrim of Atlanta, GA

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

2:00 pm –3:45 pm  Special Opening Presentation: Racial Equity and Healing America: A Multi-Dimensional Approach

2:15 pm-3:45 pm  Building a Movement Against Hate: Interfaith Dialogue and Engagement

Imam Abdul Malik Mujahid
President of Soundvision

Maha Elgenaidi
Executive Director of Islamic Network Group (ING)

Rev. Chuck Poole
Northminster Baptist Church

Imam Talib M. Shareef
Masjid Muhammad/The Nation’s Mosque

Dr. Loye Sekihata Ashton
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
### Session VI
**Community (Re) Building: The Work of Individuals, Institutions, and Communities**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Presenter</th>
<th>Institution/Role</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9:00 am - 10:00 am</td>
<td>Community and Economic Development</td>
<td>Imam Muhammad Munir</td>
<td>“The New Harlem Renaissance and Detroit Revival”</td>
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<td>W. Deen Mohammed Islamic Center, NC</td>
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<td>Imam Mansour Sabree</td>
<td>Inner-City Muslim Action Network (IMAN)</td>
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<td>Imam Hamzah Abdul-Malik</td>
<td>Mid-Town Mosque, Facilitator</td>
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<td>Sababu Rashid</td>
<td>IMMC, Facilitator and Discussant</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:00 am - 11:15 am</td>
<td>Education: HBCU’s and the Bridge for K-12 to Higher Education</td>
<td>Dr. Hakim Rashid</td>
<td>Howard University</td>
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<td>Dr. Clyde Robertson</td>
<td>Southern University of New Orleans (SUNO)</td>
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<td>Dr. Sakinah Abdur Rashied</td>
<td>Jackson State University</td>
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<td>Dr. Robert Luckett</td>
<td>Jackson State University, Facilitator</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:15 am - 12:15 am</td>
<td>Civil Rights/Human Rights Curriculum Model</td>
<td>Maryam Rashid</td>
<td>RECoP/Civil Rights/Human Rights Curriculum/IMMC’s Education Coordinator</td>
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<td>Deborah Menkart</td>
<td>Executive Director Teaching for Change</td>
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<td>Dr. Cade Smith</td>
<td>Mississippi State University, Facilitator/Discussant</td>
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SESSION VII
CLOSING LUNCHEON AND STRATEGIC PLANNING SESSION

12:15 pm - 12:30 pm  BREAK

12:30 pm - 1:30 pm  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/
In Person: IMMC, 201 E. Pascagoula St., Jackson, MS
Phone: (601) 960-0440
Email: museumtimbuktu@bellsouth.net