



بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

# ISM Today

A Publication of the Islamic Society of Milwaukee

January & February 2015

Rabi Al-Thaani 1436

Volume II Issue III

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

President's Message	3
Muharibeen	4
ISM West Photos	5
Community News	6-8
Seerat Un-Nabi Program	10-11
Book Corner	12-13
University News	13
Salam School News	14-16
Hujjaj Welcome Back Program	18
National Day of Prayer Controversy	19
Green Tip of the Month	20-21
Doors Open Milwaukee	22
Community Outreach	23
Iqama Times	23

## New Masjid Complete! Open House on February 14

Alhamdulillah (all praise and thanks to Allah) our new Masjid in Brookfield has been completed and the City of Brookfield has issued an occupancy permit. The last major item that was completed was the installation of the prayer carpets which were specially ordered and shipped from Turkey. Although the facility is not fully furnished, Friday and other prayers have been held at the Masjid for the last few weeks.

We would like to thank all those who were involved in the planning and construction of the Masjid, especially the members of the ISM West Task Force, the Project Manager, Br. Nabil Salous, as well as all community members who made a financial contribution toward the construction of the new facility. May Allah bless and reward all of you for your work and contributions.

**An "Open House" and educational program for the Muslim community is scheduled for Saturday, February 14, 2015 from 1:00pm to 5:00pm. Included in the program will be a presentation by Shaykh Abdul-Hakim from Dallas, Texas.**

The construction of a Masjid in Brookfield has been a longtime dream of the Muslim community in the Waukesha area. For years, the Brookfield community has either rented space for Friday prayer services or has utilized space that was kindly offered by various institutions. Special thanks go to Waukesha Memorial Hospital and Elmbrook Memorial Hospital which, for many years, allowed the use of its auditorium for Friday prayers and prayers during the month of Ramadan.

In September 2009, the ISM purchased a plot of land at 16730 W. Pheasant Drive. In October 2010, the ISM purchased the adjoining lot to the east (16650 W. Pheasant Drive). Construction of the new facility began in July, 2013.

**On Saturday, March 7, there will be an "Open House" for the general public, with a special focus on our interfaith partners who strongly supported the establishment of our new facility in Brookfield.**

An official "ribbon cutting" ceremony with the Mayor of Brookfield, Steven Ponto, members of the common council, representatives of the Brookfield Elm Grove Interfaith Network and the Interfaith Conference of Greater Milwaukee, as well as other dignitaries will be held on Monday March 2, 2015. Because of space and parking considerations, this event is by "invitation only".

Alhamdulillah, the development and construction of the Masjid was completely financed by donations, including donations taken from the general funds of the ISM. In the next edition of ISM TODAY, we will provide a breakdown of the costs of the new Masjid.

To get a glimpse of the new Masjid, we have included two photos below and others on page five of this newsletter.



**Board of Trustees**

Dr. Muhammad Y. Khan  
 Dr. Ghulam Mohammad Shah  
 Mr. Mahmoud Atta  
 Mr. Ali Lubbad  
 Mr. Saleh Hamdan  
 Dr. Sultan Mallik  
 Dr. Hafiz Yunus

**Board of Directors****President**

Atty. Ahmed Quereshi

**Vice President**

Dr. Iftekhhar Khan

**Secretary**

Mr. Lateef Khan

**Treasurer**

Mr. Nabil Salous

**Religious Chair**

Mr. Salah Sarsour

**Education Chair**

Dr. Shaik Sayeed

**Publication & Outreach Chair**

Mr. Ayman Alamy

Ms. Inshirah Farhoud

**Fundraising Chair**

Atty. Munjed Ahmad

**Board Members:**

Mr. Adel Bekhiet

Mr. Mohamed Sandid

Dr. Mohammad Djelmami-Hani

Br. Khaled Ahmad

**ISM Staff****Executive Director**

Atty. Othman M. Atta

**Religious Director**

Dr. Zulfiqar Ali Shah

**Imam**

Br. Ziad Hamdan

**Office Administrator**

Ms. Ala Ismail

# Advertise with ISM Today

**FULL PAGE  
AD  
\$299**

(Back cover is  
\$399)

**3/4 PAGE AD  
\$249**

**1/2 PAGE  
AD  
\$199**

**1/4 PAGE  
AD  
\$149**

- ◆ Send your advertisement to [ISMToday@ismonline@org](mailto:ISMToday@ismonline@org)
- ◆ Include your name, address, email and phone number
- ◆ 100% of the money collected from the advertisements are donated to ISM
- ◆ Please be aware that we reserve the right to refuse any advertisement
- ◆ Payment is billed to you along with a copy of the newsletter
- ◆ ISM Today is posted at the ISM Website and printed to the ISM community members
- ◆ ISM Today can create an ad for your business for an additional fee

# President's Message

## TOP TEN REASONS WHY ISLAM CONDEMNS TERRORISM:

### *A Guide for our Youth*

Assalaamu alaikum, brothers and sisters:

In our last newsletter, I wrote about why there is nothing Islamic about the so-called Islamic State of Iraq and Syria ("ISIS"). I asked that, if you are confused or lack the background to evaluate who and what ISIS is and what it is not, you please talk to someone in Islamic Society of Milwaukee leadership or to another educated adult Muslim that you trust in our community. I warned you not to take your guidance from social media.

Since I last wrote, we have witnessed more killings by ISIS, Boko Haram, the targeting and massacre of children in Pakistan and another story about youth from Chicago being recruited to ISIS. I thought I would offer you some short concrete responses to why terrorism is forbidden in Islam, which you might find useful in educating your families, your friends and others about what Islam has to say about terrorism.

**1. Islam Forbids Murder.** Terrorism most frequently takes the form of murder. Murder is strictly forbidden in the Qur'an. Qur'an 6:151 says, "and do not take any human being's life-[the life] which God has declared to be sacred-otherwise than in [the pursuit of] justice". The exception "otherwise than in [the pursuit of] justice" refers to a government's ability to impose capital punishment for certain crimes after due process of law. The murder of a single human being is compared in the Qur'an as being as grave and weighty as the murder of all mankind (5:32)

**2. Islam Forbids Compulsion in Religion.** If the motive for terrorism is religious (e.g., Boko Haram), it is forbidden in the Qur'an to attempt to impose Islam on other people: "There shall be no coercion in matters of faith. Distinct has now become the right way from [the way of] error..." (2:256).

**3. Islam Forbids Aggressive Warfare.** The Quran says, "But if (those who have broken their treaty with you and have aggressed against you) incline to peace, incline thou to it as well, and place thy trust in God: verily, He alone is all-hearing, all-knowing!" (8:61) Quran 2:190 also says, "And fight in God's cause against those who wage war against you, but do not commit aggression-for, verily, God does not love aggressors."

**4. Islam Forbids Surprise Initiation of War.** As a further inhibition to aggressive war, Muslim leaders must give the enemy fair warning that war is imminent. In one incident, the Qur'an imposed a 4-month notice (9:1-15).

**5. War Cannot Be Declared Except by a Government After Mutual Consultation.** According to Islamic law, not just any one person or any group can declare or launch a war. This is the prerogative of the duly constituted leadership of the Muslim government

in mutual consultation with Islamically knowledgeable representatives.



### **6. Islam Forbids the Killing of Innocent Non-combatants.**

Abu Bakr, the first Caliph, included these instructions to his armies: "I instruct you in ten matters: Do not kill women, children, the old, or the infirm; ... do not destroy any town . . .

" (Malik's Muwatta', "Kitab al-Jihad."). All of the heinous acts that we have read about in the past few months involve murder of non-combatants.

**7. Terrorism is hirabah, not jihad.** Terrorism is not to be confused with nor can it be called jihad. Jihad, when discussed in the form of communal armed fighting (as opposed to the individual struggle to resist evil and do good), is subject to the conditions laid out above regarding forbidding aggression, declaration by a government and forbidding killing of innocents. Terrorism under Islamic law is called hirabah, which is any illicit use of fear and coercion in public spaces for money or power, and is forbidden. Islamic law equates hirabah with brigandage and highway robbery and it is potentially a capital crime under Islamic law.

**8. Islam Forbids Returning Evil With Evil.** The Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) counseled doing good to those who harm you and commanded, "Do not be people without minds of your own, saying that if others treat you well you will treat them well, and that if they do wrong you will do wrong to them. Instead, accustom yourselves to do good if people do good and not to do wrong (even) if they do evil." (Al-Tirmidhi) In other words, there is no Islamic justification for a Muslim to commit an act of terrorism or any other evil act in return for a real or perceived act of evil done against him or her or others.

**9. Islam Warns Against Acting Out of Hatred.** The Qur'an demands of believers that they exercise justice toward people even where they have reason to be angry with them: "And do not let the hatred of a people prevent you from being just. Be just; that is nearer to righteousness." (5:8)

**10. Islam Requires Protection of the People of the Book.** The Quran does not preach violence against Jews and Christians. In fact, the Jewish prophets and John and Jesus, son of Mary, (peace be upon all of them) are honored in the Qur'an. Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) in his charter of rights to St. Catherine's Monastery in Egypt in 628 C.E. made eternal and universal promises to protect Christians and their rights. In another saying the Prophet (pbuh) said, "He (i.e., a Muslim) who wrongs a Jew or a Christian will have myself as his accuser on the Day of Judgment." (Al-Bukhari)

May Allah (SWT) guide and protect us, our families and our communities. Ameen.

Ahmed J. Quereshi, President, Islamic Society of Milwaukee

## Mujahideen or Muharibeen?

Dr. Zulfiqar Ali Shah



Peace and security are two fundamental essentials of any successful society. Progressive societies always ensure the well-being of their populace and channelize financial and human resources to create an environment of harmony and homogeneity. Law-and-order is a prerequisite to financial prosperity and social development. It was peace and security (aman) that Prophet Ibrahim (PBUH) sought while settling his nascent family in the valley of Makkah, as the Qur'an explains in Surah Ibrahim verse 35: "And when Abraham said: My Lord! Make safe this territory, and preserve me and my sons from serving idols." In this du'a, Prophet Ibrahim was asking for physical as well as spiritual security. Physical security is a prelude to spiritual growth. Islam cannot grow and prosper in a state of chaos. Similarly, the human soul lives in the human body, but without the body, a soul cannot survive on its own (except in the life to come). Therefore, creating a peaceful and secure society is one of the most cherished goals of Islam.

Unfortunately, both peace and security are missing from many parts of the contemporary Muslim world. People's lives, businesses, properties and honor are being risked for geo-political reasons leading to a frantic sense of insecurity. Many Muslims are living under a constant fear of death, sudden destruction and annihilation. It is impossible for most people to do anything worthwhile while living under such horrible conditions. Religious extremism and narrow-mindedness are among a host of reasons that have plagued Muslim societies. Islam is being misused as a whip to settle political issues. The Qur'an and Hadith are being incorrectly employed to spread hatred and destruction. Does the Qur'an allow such a use of its texts? Absolutely not!

The Qur'anic message is nothing but peace. Allah SWT invites us to enter into peace when He SWT states in Surah al-Baqarah verse 208, "O you who believe! Come, all of you, into peace; and follow not the footsteps of the devil. Lo! he is an open enemy for you." Peace is from Allah SWT while the lack of peace in a given society is a sign of devil's presence there. Therefore we must look inward to see what went wrong in the Muslim world that has resulted in loss and destruction. The answer often times is our lack of understanding of Islam. It is not Islam itself which is the source of our troubles but our lack of it.

Islam declares human life as the most sacred thing upon the face of the earth. Only Allah SWT grants life and only He and He alone can sanction its taking. Taking a human life without due process is among the major sins. The taking of a Muslim life also carries additional sanctity. The Qur'an states: "Never should a believer kill a believer; but (if it so happens) by mistake (compensation is due): if one (so) kills a believer it is ordained that he should free a believing slave and pay compensation to the deceased's family unless they forego it freely. If the deceased belonged to a people at war with you and he was a believer, the freeing of a believing slave (is enough). If he belonged to a people with whom you have a treaty of mutual alliance, compensation should be paid to his family and a believing slave is to be freed. For those who find this beyond their means (prescribed is) a fast for two months running: by way of repentance to Allah: for Allah hath all knowledge and all wisdom." (4:92)

According to the Hadith, murder is equal to making partners with Allah SWT. "Narrated by Anas bin Malik that the Prophet said, "The biggest of Al-Kaba'ir (the great sins) are (1) to join others as partners in worship with Allah, (2) to murder a human being, (3) to be undutiful to one's parents (4) and to give false witness." Killing innocent people expels a person from the fold of Islam. Iman and lack of respect for human life cannot stay together.

Capital punishment is not permitted except in the following three situations enumerated by the Prophet himself. "Narrated by Abdullah, Allah's Apostle said, "The blood of a Muslim who confesses that none has the right to be worshipped but Allah and that I am His Apostle cannot be shed except in three cases: In Qisas for murder, a married person who commits illegal sex, and one who reverts from Islam and leaves the Muslim community (by committing treason)." The Prophet (SAW) is reported to have said that "Destruction of the entire universe is easier upon Allah SWT than the undue death of an innocent believer" Assisting unjust killing makes the person unworthy of Allah's forgiveness and mercy. Intentional killing of a believer accounts for the most chastising punishment as the Qur'an categorically states in Surah al-Nisaa' verse 93 "Whoso slays a believer of set purpose, his reward is hell for ever. Allah is wroth against him and He has cursed him and prepared for him an awful doom."

According to the Qur'an, killing of an innocent soul whether Muslim or a non-Muslim is equal to killing all of humanity and saving a soul is tantamount to saving all of humanity. Preservation of human life is one of the five most cherished objectives of Islamic Shariah. Since Islamic laws and principles against taking innocent life are so clear, one wonders how an individual can call himself a Muslim while causing death and destruction to his own fellow Muslims? How could a person of conscience cause any serious damage to a human life? As said earlier, Iman (faith) and killing are antithetical. Therefore, the terrorists - whether individuals or groups, states or agencies - who instill fear and cause undue death and destruction are not following the principles and tenets of Islam. They are not the Mujahideen (those for struggle in the way of Allah) but the Muharibeen who are fighting against Allah, and against His religion and His creation, and, they must be treated like Muharibeen.



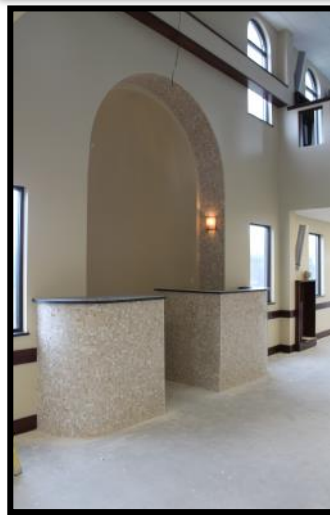
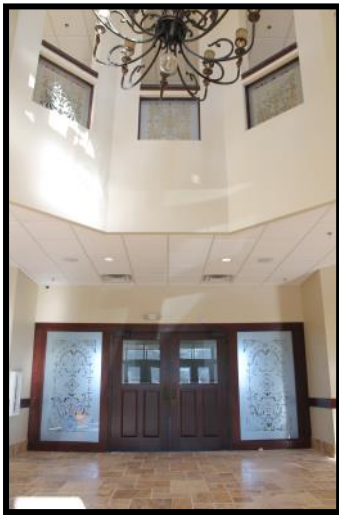
# ISM West Continued...

ISM West Open House  
for Muslim Community

16730 Pheasant Drive Brookfield WI 53005

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 14**

1:00 to 5:00 pm



## Community News

### Congratulations On Your Engagement!

May Allah bless your engagement and grant you a beautiful and happy marriage.

- ♦ Mahmmud Muhamad & Ayatt Askar
- ♦ Maram Farrah & Hameed Jaber
- ♦ Reham Morrar & Fidah Mustafa
- ♦ Ayman Abdelkarim & Nadine Darwish



### Congratulations On Your Newborn!

The ISM would like to congratulate:

- ♦ Mohammad Abuasi & Sabreen Sarsour on the birth of their baby daughter, Sumia.
- ♦ Abderrahim & Jamie El-Manssouri on the birth of their baby son, Zedan.
- ♦ Tariq & Robin Shamali on the birth of their baby son, Zayd.
- ♦ Dr. Shaik Sayeed & Sr. Sabeena Munawar on the birth of their baby son, Abdullah Bajabar
- ♦ Sarie & Douea Ibraheem on the birth of their baby daughter, Sila.
- ♦ Sufyan & Dalal Quran on the birth of their baby daughter, Sujood.

### Congratulations On Your Marriage!

Marriage is equated with “completing half of one’s faith”. The ISM would like to wish our newlyweds a long, happy and healthy life together, inshallah. Congratulations to you and your families!

- ♦ Samer Asad & Karemih Jabbar
- ♦ Cem A Vuruşaner & Uzma Ahmed
- ♦ Huda Mustafa & Saed Nofal
- ♦ Neveen Musa & Omar Saadeldin
- ♦ Patrick Wojciechowski and Moni Haas

## Our Deepest Condolences

Inna Lilahi wa Ina Ilaihi raji'oun. To Allah we belong and to Him we shall return.

The ISM would like to extend its condolences to the families who lost someone dear to their hearts.

We ask Allah (swt) to forgive their sins and bless them with a home in Jannah.

- \* **Sr. Muntaha Saleh** is the wife of Gholme Saleh and the sister of Abdelmonem Asad. Sr. Muntaha also leaves behind nine children and many other relatives in the United States and in Occupied Palestine.
- \* **Br. Ayoub Salman Zaidan**, is the father of Ali Ayoub (Abu Hussein).
- \* **Um Harbi Al-Qaisi**, is the mother of Sr. Elham (Um Husam) and the mother in law of Br. Mohammad Samara.
- \* **Br. Umar Jan**, is the husband of Nisreen Umar and the father of Usman, Ayesha, Zainab and Saadia.
- \* **Sr. Azeez Banu**, is the mother of Saleeha Khaleel and the mother-in-law of Ibrahim Khaleel.
- \* **Br. Yahya Zakaria Habboub (Abu Zakaria)**, is the father of Momen and Zakaria Habboub.
- \* **Sr. Elham Almousa**, is the wife of Br. Nasser Almousa, the sister of Mousa Kanoun and the niece of Mueen Almousa.
- \* **Sr. Nasreen Arshad**, is the wife of Tanzeem A Khan and mother of Umar, Usman, Ali and Siddique.
- \* **Samira Elewa**, is daughter of Mohamed and Itab Elewa.
- \* **Br. Mohammad Tawfeeq Alqam**, is the father of Hana Mohammad Alqam and the father in law of Kamil Samara.
- \* **Br. Sameeh Yousef Qa'dan**, is the father of Brs. Mohammad and Khaled Qa'dan.



## Our Deepest Condolences to the family of Br. Saeed Sharwani

Inna Lillahi Wa Inna Ilayhi  
Raji'oon  
"Verily it is to Allah that we  
belong and to Him we shall  
return."

Our dear brother Saeed  
Sharwani was killed while  
working in Waukesha on the  
night of January 13, 2015.

He was a simple and modest man who was always  
content and grateful to Allah (SWT). He loved to pray  
Jummah at the ISM and to spend time with his  
grandchildren. He was a very kind and caring man who  
always kept a smile on his face.

May Allah (SWT) have mercy on his soul and grant him  
Al-Firdaus (ameen).

Brother Saeed is the husband of Saeeda Perveen Sharwani  
and the father of Babrak, Zarak, Shams and  
Sher Sharwani.

The family of Brother Saeed is grateful for the love and  
support of the community. Please keep Brother Saeed and  
his family in your dua. If there is any contribution you'd  
like to make, please donate to an orphan fund or local  
Masjid in Br. Saeed's name.



## Amazing Faith Dinner Dialogues

The Interfaith Conference of Greater Milwaukee (IFCGM) has piloted a program called the Amazing Faith Dinner Dialogues. A group of people of different faiths and philosophies gather in small groups and share a light meal and participate in a moderated discussion. The exchanges which take place between the participants are related to experiences that they have lived and the role that their faith or spirituality has had in their lives. In the photo below, Imam Ziad Hamdan hosted one of these dinners in his home.

The Islamic Society of Milwaukee is a member judicatory of the IFCGM representing the Muslim community.



## Friday Night Lecture: Do Not Lose Hope in Allah (SWT) with Br. Imran Salha



# College Graduates Winter 2014

## Congratulations College Graduates of 2014!

Congratulations to all of the college graduates of 2014! The ISM wishes you the best in all your future endeavors. We ask Allah (SWT) to provide you with the skills and knowledge needed to achieve success in your future careers. You are the bright future of the Muslim Ummah.

Fauzan Ali, *UW-Milwaukee*

Nada Alzalloum, *UW-Milwaukee*

Tareq Hamed, *UW-Milwaukee (Masters)*

Eman Jaber, *UW-Milwaukee*

Mojib Masum, *UW-Milwaukee (PhD)*

Anum Mohammad, *UW-Milwaukee*

Abrar Musaitif, *MSOE*

Abdul Rahman Najeeb, *UW-Whitewater*

Mahmoud Saed, *Cardinal Stritch (MBA)*

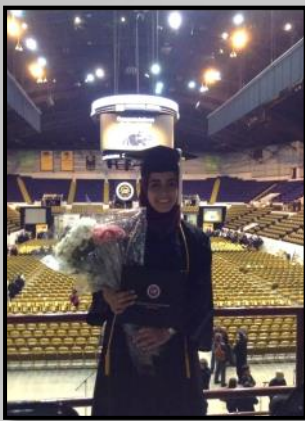
Abbas Sarsour, *UW-Milwaukee*

Baraa Sarsour, *UW-Milwaukee*

Walla Sarsour, *Cardinal Stritch (MSM)*


Syd Qadir, *UW-Milwaukee*

Janeih Yafai, *UW-Milwaukee*




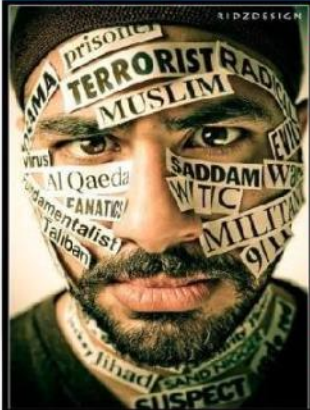


# Salam School's 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Student-Led Convention



## Muslim Identity





**DRIVER LICENSE** Regular

**G555-5555-2555-00**

Class **DMXXX** Endorsements **TPXMX**

Sex **M** Hair **BLK** Eyes **BRO** Height **5'01"** Weight **100**

Restrictions on Back

**DOB 02-28-2015**

Start: **11AM**

End: **8PM**

**Mohammad**

**4707 South 13<sup>th</sup> Street**

**Milwaukee, WI 53221**

**Who do they think I am?**

**Who am I today?**

**Who will I be tomorrow?**



**Imran Salha**



**Tahera Ahmad**



**Ziad Hamdan**



**Othman Atta**



**Rami Bleibel**

**Students: \$15 • Adults: \$20**

**Lunch and Dinner Included!**

**February 28, 2015 • 11A.M. - 8P.M.**

**4707 South 13<sup>th</sup> Street**



# Seerat Un-Nabi Program 2015

On January 16, 2015, the ISM held their annual Seerat Un-Nabi Program. Alhamdulillah, we had a full house with many community members, youth, and children present. The program included impressive speeches given by our youth (including Sana Hamdan, Ufaira Shaik and Omar Saleh), nasheed/na't by Hafiz Shafiq (Imam of Al-Quran Foundation), debka performances by Sanabel Al-Quds and the program also featured special guest Munshid Mesut Kurtis who is originally from Macedonia.



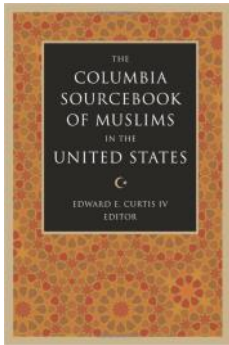


# Seerat Un-Nabi Program Continued...





# Book Corner



## COLUMBIA SOURCEBOOK OF MUSLIMS IN THE UNITED STATES

**Author:** Edward Curtis

**Summary by:** Nabil Salous

Omar Ibn Sayyid, the slave from North Africa, narrated the story of his life; he grew up and received his religious Islamic training in his own City Fut Tur.

In his autobiography he described the darkest chapter in his life “a large army that surrounded my City, they killed many people and took me and brought me to a great sea, and sold me to in to the hands of Christians, who bound me and sent me on board of a great ship and we sailed upon the great sea for month and half. When we came to a place called Charleston they sold me to a small wicked man called Johnson.” Omar was sold a few more times before he settled with the Owen family who treated him much nicer. Omar started to lose track of his religious knowledge. When he asked for a copy of the Quran, he was given a copy of the Bible in Arabic. He continued to practice Islam while reading the Bible. The story of Omar is the story of many Muslims who were brought to this Country against their will. It is also the story of how Islam came to America before and after its inception. Needless to say, the circumstances under which these early Muslims arrived to the US was strange and awkward.

In 1930, in the Detroit area, a mysterious peddler by the name of Muhammad Fard promoted the idea that Islam is the original religion of the black people; he managed to present Islamic values that were badly needed by the enslaved black community, such as justice, equality and freedom. Suddenly, Mr. Fard disappeared. One of his followers, name Elijah Muhammad believed Fard to be God in person and thought of himself to be his messenger. Subsequently, Elijah established the misguided Nation of Islam movement. Elijah preached that the blacks were the original inhabitants on earth, and biologically and historically they were Muslims. He also preached that the white man was a devil in form of a human being, violent in nature. Elijah’s doctrine was anti-Arab, anti-Asian and anti-White, and none of these groups were permitted in his temples or places of worship. He also predicted that the black man would prevail, destroy the white people and rule earth forever. After Elijah Muhammad died, his son, Warith Edddin Muhammad reverted to the true mainstream Islam and instructed all his followers to do the same. Many of his father’s followers joined him while others remained as part of the Nation of Islam or left the faith altogether.

Another follower of Elijah Muhammad was Malcom X. Malcom was a very bright and gifted man who was introduced to the Nation of Islam in prison. While in prison, he learned reading and writing and began to educate himself. He initially adopted the views of Nation of Islam and he emerged from prison as an activist and community leader. Later, Malcolm would begin to discover the weakness and inconsistency in the teachings of the Nation of Islam and its leader, Elijah Muhammad. When Malcolm went to Hajj, he saw people from around the world united in their faith regardless of their color, race or ethnicity. The Hajj had such a profound effect on Malcom that he reverted to mainstream Islam. He played a vital role in advocating for the liberation of black people and he established a large number of followers. He highlighted the plight of the black community and the loss of their heritage and identity.

When Malcom was asked about his impression regarding Islam and Muslims in the present and in the future, he said, ***“Education is a must, especially in this highly technical era. In my opinion, Muslim religious leaders have not stressed the importance of education to the Muslim communities, especially in African countries. When those countries become independent, the non-Muslim areas have the higher degree of educated people who are the best qualified to occupy the newly created positions in the government.”***

When Malcom was challenged about his focus on liberating blacks and bringing about justice and equality to them, he responded: ***“Much to my dismay, until now the Muslim world has seemed to ignore the problem of Black Americans, and most Muslims who come here from the Muslim world have concentrated more effort in trying to convert white Americans than Black Americans.”***

Millions of individuals accepted Islam because of the initial efforts of Muhammad Fard effort who appeared to be engaged in dawah on the margin of his business. The exponential power of dawah is best described in the Quran like the seed that grows into seven ears, in each ear 100 additional seeds. I wonder what the status of Islam would be like in America if the this country had one hundred Muslim scholars. Coming out of slavery, the black community was very hungry for the ideals of justice, freedom and equality which is promoted in Islam. Muslims lost a great opportunity to manage the destiny of Islam in this country. The author of the book insists that Muslims “missed the bus” and should not do so again.”

In addition to African American Muslims, the author of this book discusses a group of Middle-Eastern Muslims. In 1955,

## Book Corner (continued)

the Muslims of Toledo Ohio, who controlled the bar/liquor business in the City, decided to build an Islamic Center for their children (more than for themselves). 80% of the funding for the project coming out of the liquor industry. Not surprising, the bar owners ran the Masjid in a very liberal fashion. Despite the clear Islamic injunctions against gambling, the president of the Center proposed holding bingo sessions to raise funds for the running expenses. Despite the fact that he was not a qualified Islamic Jurist, he issued a "fatwa" doing away with the ritual washing (Wudu) before the formal prayers so as long the person was clean. He also held weddings and dance events at the Center. Despite all of these peculiarities and oddities, a number of Muslim families moved to Toledo from around the country for the purpose of being close to the Islamic Center.

The author of the book also discussed immigration regulations and their impact on the Muslim community. In 1965, President Lyndon Johnson signed a new immigration bill that reversed a 1924 law. The repealed law limited and almost banned non-Whites from immigrating to the US. This was a turning point for Islam in America. Between 1965 and 1990 close to one million immigrants came to the US from South Asia and North Africa. The author stated that: ***"This wave of immigrants changed the face of Islam in America, and they were educated, professional and financially successful. American Muslim artists, writers, and thinkers became better known and Muslims began to make an impact on American society as successful philanthropists and became increasingly involved in all aspects of American society. The number of Islamic organizations, mosques, schools and institutions grew by leaps and bounds."***

As a result of interacting with the new Muslim community, many Americans accepted Islam and excelled in acquiring Islamic knowledge. They travelled abroad to study at Islamic universities and institutions and returned to the US to conduct outreach work to Muslims and non-Muslims alike. Even today, you seldom attend an Islamic conference or convention without coming across keynote speakers and lecturers who adopted and studied Islam and are now recognized Muslim scholars.

It would not be wrong to say that the Muslims "presence" in America is recent. Those Muslim who arrived as slaves lost their religious identity as they were forced to adopt the religion of their slave masters. The bulk of the Muslim community arrived here only decades ago. This group has, like other religious groups who immigrated to the United States, maintained its faith tradition and established houses of worship, schools and other religious institutions.

## UW-Milwaukee MSA

The MSA of UW-Milwaukee worked hard during the Fall semester of 2014 to reach out to the Muslim community on campus as well as to other communities and faith traditions. By the Grace of Allah, the UW-MSA had successful events in which we educated our community about some of the hot topics in our day. In October we brought in Mufti Hussain Kamani and he addressed how, as college students, we can hold onto faith while living in this very fast-paced life. We held another event that discussed the Scientific Miracles of the Holy Quran. This event was conducted by Qari Noman Hussein. In addition to our educational events, we had many other activities for the students on campus. We organized two BBQ's to open up the semester and we organized a "Brunch for Finals" to close the semester. We are very excited for the next semester and really encourage everyone to keep supporting the MSA. Without the support of our community, we can't reach our goals. May Allah bless you all and grant you the best of health and Iman.



## Marquette SJP

Students for Justice in Palestine (SJP) at Marquette University kicked off their semester of events with a display of Palestinian Culture. The event was intended to introduce the campus to Palestinian society and culture. Exhibits included cultural clothing, photos of Palestine and Palestinian society, musical instruments and much more. Guests enjoyed traditional food, a performance by Sanabel Al Quds, henna tattoos, and also learned tatriz and how to write their names in Arabic. SJP also hosted an event to represent the different forms of resistance that make up the movement to free Palestine. Spoken word artist Remi Kanazi, a Palestinian-American poet, performed pieces from his latest book, Poetic Injustice: Writing on Resistance and Palestine. Following the spoken word night, SJP hosted students Dina Jaber and Ziad Rafati from Birzeit University where the students talked about their experiences as youth and students living under occupation. To end the semester, SJP sponsored an event with Josh Rubener, the National Advocacy Director of the US Campaign to End the Israeli Occupation. Josh spoke about the use of U.S. tax dollars for Israeli military aid. SJP Marquette will be hosting a series of events during the Spring semester focusing on Israeli Apartheid and raising the Palestinian voice on campus.

# Salam School NEWS

## ISLAMIC STUDIES SPEECH COMPETITION

The Salam School Islamic Studies Speech Competition was held in late November. The winners were:

### 4th Grade Winners:

Hesham Aljalous 1st Place  
Janine Qoraan 2nd Place  
Summer Mahmoud 3rd Place

### 5th Grade Winners:

Haseeb Hussaini 1st Place  
Duaa Aljalous 2nd Place  
Alina Khawaja 3rd Place tie  
AlRayan Amer 3rd Place tie

### 6th, 7th and 8th grade Winners:

Ameen Atta 1st Place  
Duaa Majeed 2nd Place  
Rida Yazdani 3rd Place

### 9th and 10th grade Winners:

Yasmeen Atta and Zara Munawar 1st Place tie  
Nagham Al Jalous 2nd Place  
Lauren Shalaby 3rd Place

### 11th and 12th grade Winners

Sana Hamdan 1st Place  
Ufaira Shaik 2nd Place  
Nisreen Atta 3rd Place

## FOOD AND CLOTHING DRIVES

Students at Salam School were asked to provide items for needy people in Milwaukee and in outside the United States.

Salam School students and staff collected about 1 ton of food which was donated to the Dawa Center to help their food pantry.

Additionally, families of our students were asked to bring in winter items such as coats, hats, gloves and socks. All those items were placed in the container that was to be shipped overseas. Thanks to all of our families for their generosity.

## NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY

National Junior Honor Society and National Honor Society Induction ceremony occurred on November 26, 2014. Students with high GPAs and good moral character were

recommended to join the Salam School chapters. The following students were inducted as members for this school year at the high School level:

Samira Abdi	Mahrookh Shah
Ghadir Assad	Haroon Shaik
Yasmeen Atta	Lauren Shalaby
Nesreen Hamoudeh	Areej Assad
Lujain Mahmoud	Razan Assad
Hamza Mian	Faezh Dalieh
Ridaa Nowman	Baraa Oweisi

The following students were selected at the middle school level:

Dina Abdeljawad	Emad Khaja
Nada Abduljalil	Syeda Afrah Sultanah
Samawia Akhter	Shaakirah AbdurRahim
Qatada Banifadel	Ranya Abuayyash
Basma Daham	Jameelah Albadawi
Nessrin Hachani	Hanan Ali
Ameera Jaber	Muqtdir Ali
Abdelrahman Kadadha	Nurhayati Ali
Yusra Khaja	Nagham Aljalous
Nadeen Mahmoud	Siti Tamanah Mohammad
Duaa Majeed	Ayub
Maram Saleh	Hala Barakat
Muhammad Hameed	Haneen Mahmoud

## GEOGRAPHY BEE

The National Geographic Geography Bee was held in January in the middle school and winners were as follows: First Place: Sumaya Abdi; Second Place: Bissan Abubaker; Third Place: Safiya Schaub

## CHESS CLUB

The Salam Chess Club has won several trophies during their Saturday tournaments. Salam School will host its very first Chess Tournament on February 7, 2015.

## FATHER-SON BASKETBALL

The Salam School PTA hosted a father/son basketball night on January 17, 2015 that was open for the entire community. The fathers and sons all had a great time!

## ARABIC DAY

Salam School will host its annual "Arabic Day" program on February 11 and 12.



# Salam School Seerat Un-Nabi Program



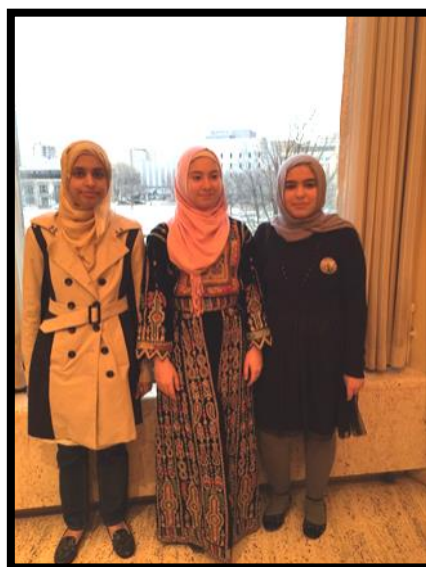


## Martin Luther King Jr. Writing Competition

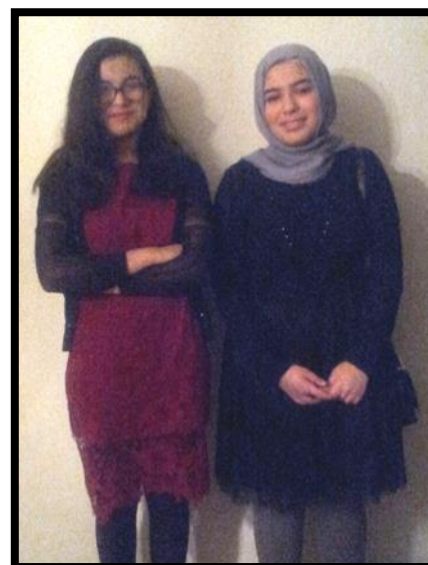
For the past ten years, the Islamic Society of Milwaukee has been a proud sponsor of the annual Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. writing competition and celebration. This year's celebration took place on January 19, 2015. Students from throughout the Milwaukee metropolitan area participated in the writing competition, including students from Salam School, and the winners were recognized during the celebration. Alhamdulillah, two of our Salam School students received special recognition. Layal Khreis won first place in the 7th to 8th grade category. Her essay was titled "A Helping Hand" and was published in a special section of the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel. Ufaira Shaik, also a Salam School student, won third place in the 11th to 12th grade city-wide competition. Ufaira Shaik's essay was titled "Positive work: Starting Small." In her essay, which also was published in the Journal Sentinel, Ufaira Shaik stated that: "The world is nowhere near perfect with violence rampant in certain regions and violations of basic human rights found in other places. However, in order to have a world-wide impact, we need to start small. It is easy to see the problems in the rest of the world, but it's very difficult to see the negatives in our own backyard." **Congratulations to all of our students who participated and those who were recognized. We are proud of all of you!**



Ufaira Shaik



Ufaira Shaik, Ayah Amer and Layal Khreis



Layal Khreis

ACTIVISM • SPIRITUALITY  
**MAS YOUTH**  
TARBIYA



**FRIDAY  
FEB 13<sup>TH</sup>**

# HOW TO ATTAIN HAPPINESS

**Friday Night  
After Isha  
ISM  
Center Hall**

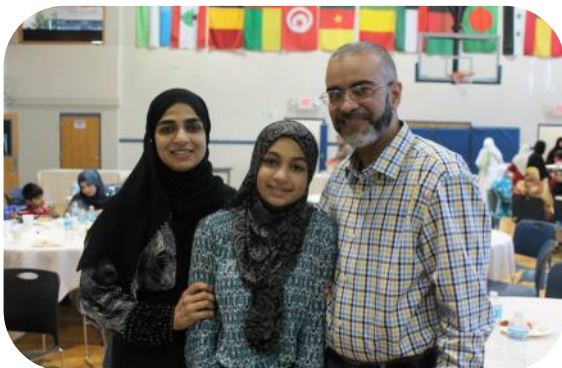


Speakers - Majed Mahmoud

Br. Majed will be delivering the Friday, February 13 Khutba at the ISM and will be presenting at the Qiyam Program that will be held at the ISM on Saturday, February 14.



# Hujjaj Welcome Back Program 2014



## President Obama and the National Prayer Breakfast

On February 5, President Barak Obama addressed a crowd of largely (or exclusively) Christian clergy at the “National Prayer Breakfast”.

One remark that President Obama made at the Breakfast ignited a firestorm of protests from individuals and groups that hate Muslims and Islam. Social media was filled with both, condemnations of President Obama and hate filled vitriol directed against Islam and Muslims.

What did President Obama say that was so offensive? Speaking about atrocities committed in the name of religion, President Obama stated: “Humanity has been grappling with these questions throughout human history. And lest we get on our high horse and think this is unique to some other place, remember that during the Crusades and the Inquisition, people committed terrible deeds in the name of Christ. In our home country, slavery and Jim Crow all too often was justified in the name of Christ.” Basically, President Obama was saying that all faiths (or ideologies) can be exploited by extremists. President Obama also stated: “From a school in Pakistan to the streets of Paris, we have seen violence and terror perpetrated by those who profess to stand up for faith, their faith, profess to stand up for Islam but, in fact, are betraying it. We see ISIL, a brutal, vicious death cult that, in the name of religion, carries out unspeakable acts of barbarism...”

The President’s remarks were apparently intolerable for some self-righteous bigots. How could the President of the United States compare the actions of extremists who claim to be Muslims with the actions of extremists—who claimed to be Christians—and who perpetrated the Crusades, the Inquisition, slavery and Jim Crow. How dare the President try to separate the religion of Islam from the actions of extremists? The attacks against President Obama were harsh. On social media, they were often profane. One example of the rhetoric came from the former republican governor of Virginia who claimed that President Obama’s statement was “the most offensive I’ve ever heard a president make in my lifetime.” (No doubt, some of the remarks are part of the exceedingly nasty partisan politics in our country. However, it is sad that in a highly developed country like the United States, twenty percent of Americans—mainly those from the right—believe that Obama is a secret Muslim and over 40% of Republicans have taken the position that he is not a U.S. citizen!)

Some of the anti-Muslim rhetoric on social media claims that Islam (unlike other faiths) is an inherently evil religion and that those who are committing atrocities (ISIS, Boko Haram, Al-Qaeda, etc.) are accurately following the precepts of the Islamic faith. Others argue that, historically, Christians always acted justly and in self-defense (for example (don’t laugh), during the crusades and the “Christian” inquisition). There were those on social media who acknowledged that atrocities were committed in the name of Christ and Christianity but they claimed that such actions were rejected by the overwhelming majority of Christians or that Christians committed such atrocities centuries ago, but that in our current age, it is only the Muslims who are uncivilized.

Sadly, those who are maligning and denigrating Muslims and Islam today are the rightful heirs of their intolerant and hateful predecessors. They are the heirs of those who wiped out millions of indigenous people in the Americas and justified their slaughter because the natives were regarded as heathens; they are the heirs of those who brought over twelve million slaves to the Americas and the heirs of those who supported and benefited from the slave trade and who regarded the slaves as being less than human; they are the heirs of those who were so intent on upholding slavery, that they took up arms against their fellow Americans and fought a deadly civil war; they are the heirs of those who colonized much of Africa, Asia and the Middle East, killing millions in the process of “bringing the light of Christ” unto those infidels; they are the heirs of those who set up and managed a brutal “Christian” based Apartheid regime in South Africa; they are heirs of those who, although they shared a scripture with Jews, were so intolerant of Jews that they attacked them throughout history, with the Holocaust being the most obscene; they are the heirs of those who slaughtered tens of thousands in the Balkans (in what is considered the second genocide in Europe in the 20th century) and raped over 40,000 women; they are the heirs of those who entered into a war of choice in Iraq (largely at the behest of pro-Israeli neoconservatives) resulting in the unnecessary deaths of thousands of Americans and hundreds of thousands of Iraqi civilians. Were these atrocities carried out by people who come from a Christian background or claim to be Christian? Yes. Were many of their victims other Christians? Yes. Do all of these atrocities represent Christianity. Of course not. Are the atrocities of ISIS, Boko Haram, Al-Qaeda (and others) being carried out by people who come from a Muslim background or claim to be Muslim? Yes. Are most of their victims other Muslims? Yes. Do their atrocities represent Islam? Of course not.

If we want to rid our world of extremists of every background, faith or ideology (including those who claim to be “Muslim”), it is the responsibility of ALL people of faith and conscience to work together to combat the extremists. Attacking or maligning an entire faith community or group based on the actions of an extreme fringe element of that community or group will only help the extremists.

Moderate and sincere followers of different faith traditions have much more in common with one another than they have in common with the extremists who falsely claim to be part of their faith traditions. The moderates of all backgrounds must work together against those who wish to spread hatred, division and destruction.

Muslims are required to stand up for justice and to work with others to promote justice, even if they must take a stand against their own family members. In the Qur’an, Muslims are told: *“O you who believe! Stand out firmly for justice, as witnesses to God, even as against yourselves, or your parents, or your kin, and whether it be (against) rich or poor: for God can best protect both. Follow not the lusts (of your hearts), lest you swerve, and if you distort justice or decline to do justice, verily God is well-acquainted with all that you do.” [4:135]*

# Green Tip of the Month: Toward Zero Waste



## GREEN TIP OF THE MONTH

### Toward **Zero** Waste



Many indicate that we are living in a “disposable” society, which is not progress! The average person generates 4.3 pounds of waste per day. This is 1.6 pounds more than most produced in a day back in 1960. Where does it all go? About 80 percent of that garbage ends up in landfills.

Inspired to do better, those living a sustainable lifestyle are striving to live a zero waste lifestyle as well. What does reducing waste mean? When you avoid making garbage in the first place, you eliminate the disposing of waste or recycling it later. It's the first component of the sustainability concept of the three R's: reduce, reuse, and recycle.

The intention behind a zero waste lifestyle is to reduce consumption, maximize recycling, minimize waste, and ensure that products are made to be reused, repaired or recycled back into nature or the marketplace.

Ready to get started? Check out your trash! Your trash gives you clues as to how to reduce waste, save money, and live a more sustainable lifestyle.

#### Reduce food waste:

- Pre plan your meals, buy in bulk, and prepare **only** what you need. Arrange to donate and use extra or left-over good food.
- Compost and turn your old food into healthy soil.

#### Reduce when you shop:

- Purchase products that are returnable, reusable or refillable. Use reusable and refillable containers instead of disposable items.
- Purchase products with the least amount of packaging.
- Get the most out of what you buy by comparing warranties and cost to repair or replace the item
- Look for products designed with the environment in mind. Organic clothing, sustainable furnishings, and solar powered products are just a few examples



- Rent or borrow instead of purchasing items you will only use once or for a limited time

#### Reduce items at home | work:

- Reduce consumption.
- Find new life for old furnishings, appliances and clothes.

By evaluating the contents of your garbage, there exist the opportunity to make more sustainable purchase choices, to reduce your waste, and to modify behavior to support the environment.



**The Islamic Environmental Group of Wisconsin [Wisconsin Green Muslims]**, a volunteer group formed in 2005, intends to educate its members, the Muslim community and the general public about the Islamic environmental teachings, to apply these teachings in daily life and to form coalitions with others working toward a just, healthy, peaceful and sustainable future.

*Connecting Faith and Sustainability.*

<http://IslamicEnvironmentalGroup.org/>

Contact: [info@IslamicEnvironmentalGroup.org](mailto:info@IslamicEnvironmentalGroup.org)

<https://twitter.com/wigreenmuslims>

Find us on Facebook: Islamic Environmental Group of Wisconsin



## More than 200 Muslim Youth #ActOnClimate in Milwaukee

It's Time To #ActOnClimate ... Cut Carbon Pollution!

In Milwaukee, on November 20, 2014, the Islamic Environmental Group of Wisconsin held a successful Climate Change educational and fun event at the Islamic Society of Milwaukee / Salam School, at which more than 200 Muslim youth participated in writing 'Cut Carbon Pollution' and 'Love Earth' petitions for the health and well-being of current and future generations.

#ActOnClimate #FaithAndClimate #YouthAndClimate #Midwest #Wisconsin

For more information, contact the Islamic Environmental Group of Wisconsin [Wisconsin Green Muslims] at [info@IslamicEnvironmentalGroup.org](mailto:info@IslamicEnvironmentalGroup.org)



# Doors Open Milwaukee

Last fall, the ISM participated in “Doors Open Milwaukee”, a program which allows the public to visit various buildings throughout the City of Milwaukee. Over 25,000 people participated in the program. The ISM had over 600 visitors who were able to learn about our Islamic Center and community. All had a great time and we look forward to the next program which will be held on September 19 and 20.





# ISM Community Outreach

2:213 And mankind is naught but a single nation

## Catholic Memorial High School Students



## Visitors to the Islamic Society of Milwaukee (November-January)

- ♦ Students from Marian Baptist University
- ♦ Students from Marquette University
- ♦ Students from Alverno College
- ♦ Students from Brookfield Academy

If you know of any group that would like to visit the ISM, please contact the ISM at (414) 282-1812 or email us at [ismooffice@ismonline.org](mailto:ismooffice@ismonline.org).

## Iqama Jama'ah Prayer Times at ISM

### February/March

Day	Fajr	Dhuhr	Asr	Maghrib	Isha
<b>February</b>					
1-10	6:15	1:10	3:00	+5 min	8:00
11-20	6:00	1:10	3:15	+5 min	8:00
21-28	5:45	1:10	3:30	+5 min	8:00
<b>March</b>					
1-7	5:30	1:10	3:30	+5 min	8:00
8-20	6:15	1:10	4:30	+5 min	8:30
21-31	6:00	1:10	4:45	+5 min	8:45

ISM Today is a publication of the Islamic Society of Milwaukee, a 501 (c)(3) not-for-profit religious organization.

All articles, news, events, pictures, and other content should be submitted to

[ISMToday@ismonline.org](mailto:ISMToday@ismonline.org)



Bakery, Grocery and Restaurant

مخبز وبقالية ومطعم

# Holyland الأراضي المقدسة

لسنا الوحيدون..... ولكننا المتميزون



قهوة وشاي ومربيات Coffee & Tea



ألبان وأجبان Dairy Products



قسم اللحوم Meat Section



تشكيلة من المعلبات Canned food



الشوكولا والحلويات Sweets



مخللات وزيت Olive oil & pickles



خضار وفواكه Fruits & Vegetables



بهارات متنوعة Spices



أرز Rice

قسم خاص باللحوم الطازجة Fresh Meat

حمص- باب غنوج - سندويش شاورما - فلافل Hummus, Falafel & Shawerma Sandwiches

كنافة ناعمة - خشنة - وربات Sweets

كل ما يلزم لحجوزات الطيران Airline Tickets

يسعدنا تلبية جميع مناسباتكم Home Catering

2755 West Ramsey; Greenfield, WI 53221

Phone: (414) 817.1959