



10th ANNIVERSARY BANQUET

A Decade of Impact, **A FUTURE OF JUSTICE**

Saturday, November 22, 2025 | 6:00-9:00 p.m.
University of Massachusetts – Boston

Featuring tonight's guests:



Chris Smalls, Keynote Speaker

Dr. Altaf Husain, Motivational Speaker | Hafiz Othman Ladan, Qur'an Reciter

**Mahsa Khanbabai, Esq., Dr. John Robbins, &
Boston Workers Circle Center for Jewish Culture & Social Justice,
Winners of the Steward of Justice Award**

Maimuna Diallo & Hunan Mian, Winners of the Muslim Youth Leadership Award

Tahirah Amatul-Wadud, Esq., CAIR-MA Director

Mariam Aydah, Esq., Tonight's Emcee



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بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ ﴿١﴾

In the Name of God, the Most Compassionate, the Most Merciful.

مَثَلُ الَّذِينَ يُنْفِقُونَ أَمْوَالَهُمْ فِي سَبِيلِ اللَّهِ كَمَثَلِ حَبَّةٍ أَنْبَتَتْ
سَبْعَ سَنَابِلٍ فِي كُلِّ سُنْبُلَةٍ مِائَةٌ حَبَّةٌ وَاللَّهُ يُضَعِفُ لِمَنْ يَشَاءُ وَاللَّهُ
وَاسِعٌ عَلِيمٌ ﴿٣١﴾

The example of those who spend their wealth in the way of God is like a seed [of grain] which grows seven spikes; in each spike is a hundred grains. And God multiplies [His reward] for whom He wills. And God is all-Encompassing and Knowing. (2:261)

الَّذِينَ يُنْفِقُونَ أَمْوَالَهُمْ فِي سَبِيلِ اللَّهِ ثُمَّ لَا يُتَّبِعُونَ مَا أَنْفَقُوا مَنَّا
وَلَا آذَى لَهُمْ أَجْرُهُمْ عِنْدَ رَبِّهِمْ وَلَا خَوْفٌ عَلَيْهِمْ وَلَا هُمْ
يَحْزَنُونَ ﴿٣٢﴾

Those who spend their wealth in the way of God and then do not follow up what they have spent with reminders [of it] or [other] injury will have their reward with their Lord, and there will be no fear concerning them, nor will they grieve. (2:262)

From Our Executive Director

As-Salaamu 'Alaykum Wa Rahmatullahi Wa Baraktuh.
BismAllahir-Rahman Ar-Rahim.

"By the Token of Time.
Indeed, mankind is in loss—
Except those who believe, and do righteous deeds,
and encourage one another to truth,
and encourage one another to patience."
Qur'an: Surah al-'Asr (103)

My parents took *shahada* when I was a preschooler, and in many ways, I grew up alongside them as new Muslims. One of the first surahs we learned together was *Surah al-'Asr*. I especially loved the phrase "the Token of Time." It sounded beautiful to my young ears.

Working for CAIR-MA, I reflect on the role time played in these last ten years. How people have poured their time, energy, and love into building a chapter that protects and uplifts Muslims. This organization is a living testament to how seriously our board, staff, volunteers, and supporters have treated the *amanah* of time to benefit our community today and plant seeds for those who will come after us.

We live in deep gratitude to Allah and we are indebted to the founders of this chapter, who against the odds, laid the groundwork for our existence. We ask Allah to grant them full reward for every act of

courage, every sacrifice, and every hour of seen and unseen labor. And we ask Him, in His infinite mercy, to erase from their records anything less than excellence in the formation and operation of CAIR-MA.

May Allah extend this *du'a* to every person who has worked here, volunteered, donated, shown up, supported, linked arms with us, or made even one sincere *du'a* for our success. May Allah accept every moment you gave, multiply its benefit, and make it a witness for you on the Day when all of our time is placed on the scale. We look forward to the next ten years with you.

May Allah send His peace and blessings upon our beloved Prophet Muhammad his family, and his companions.

Jazākum Allāhu khayran.

Tahirah Amatul-Wadud, Esq.
CAIR-MA Executive Director



This Evening's Program

Networking (5:30-6:00 p.m.)

Congregational Salaatul Isha (6:00 p.m.)

Open with Holy Qur'an & Du'a for peace

Welcome from CAIR-MA's Board of Directors

Dr. John Robbins, *Award Recipient*

Attorney Tahirah Amatul-Wadud, Esq.,
CAIR-MA Executive Director & Chief Legal Officer

Dr. Altaf Husain, *Motivational Speaker*

Chris Smalls, *Keynote Speaker*

Senator Jamie Eldridge

Mahsa Khanbabai, Esq., *Award Recipient*

Presentation of Awards

Closing Du'a

This Evening's Speakers

CHRIS SMALLS – KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Chris Smalls is an international human-rights defender, a powerful advocate for global justice, and the founder of the Amazon Labor Union (ALU).

In July 2025, Smalls sailed aboard the civilian aid vessel Handala (part of the Freedom Flotilla Coalition), bound for the besieged population of Gaza with baby formula, food, and medical supplies. He was arrested after Israel's naval forces intercepted the vessel in international waters. According to the coalition, Smalls – who was the only Black activist on board – was singled out and physically assaulted in Israeli custody: he was choked, kicked, and left with visible marks. The mission underscored his belief that the struggle for Palestinian freedom is intertwined with global labor and racial justice and is a working-class issue that demands solidarity beyond borders.

Before his flotilla voyage, Smalls gained recognition in the U.S. for leading workers at Amazon to form the ALU which is the first independent and democratic union at Amazon in the United States. His broader work centers on confronting corporate power, advocating for worker rights, and now extending that fight into international human-rights and anti-siege activism.

DR. ALTAF HUSAIN – MOTIVATIONAL SPEAKER

Dr. Altaf Husain is a double alumnus of Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland, Ohio, having earned his B.S. in Biomedical Engineering and his M.S. in Social Work. He received his Ph.D. in Social Work from Howard University in Washington, D.C.

Dr. Husain's research interests include the mental health and integration of immigrant and refugee families, and especially Muslim adolescents, in the United States. He serves as vice president of the Yaqeen Institute for Islamic Research, board member of The Conscious Kid Library, and an advisory board member of the Peaceful Families Project – dedicated to the prevention of domestic violence.

His past service to the community includes serving as vice president of the Islamic Society of North America (ISNA), national president of the Muslim Students Association (MSA National), and an executive committee member of the Muslim Alliance in North America (MANA). Dr. Husain and his family live in Northern Virginia.

Our Staff

TAHIRAH AMATUL-WADUD, ESQ. – EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR & CHIEF LEGAL OFFICER

Tahirah is an experienced litigator, and has over 19 years of experience in corporate, family, and civil rights law. She was honored as a Top Woman of Law and received the Massachusetts Bar Association Community Service Award. She served as a commissioner on the Massachusetts Commission on the Status of Women from 2014 to 2020.

BARBARA DOUGAN, ESQ. – LEGAL DIRECTOR

Barbara is a civil rights attorney with over 40 years of experience. Before joining CAIR-MA, she directed the Project to Combat Racial Violence, helped reform drug sentencing laws, and organized post-9/11 legal responses. Honored by Massachusetts Lawyers Weekly, NAACP, and others, she has dedicated her legal career to serving marginalized communities.

OMAR FARHAN – YOUTH ADVOCACY DIRECTOR

Omar leads CAIR-MA's Muslim youth work. He has years of experience mentoring youth through his longstanding leadership at Al-Huda Society in Chelsea, where he served as a Mentor Development Director. He also brings a background in healthcare Organizational Development and Training, including roles at Mass General Brigham, Spaulding Rehabilitation, and Brigham and Women's Hospital.

MARIAM AYDAH, ESQ. – CIVIL RIGHTS ATTORNEY

Mariam is a Palestinian American Muslim attorney who graduated from Western New England University School of Law. Her Islamic faith inspires her unwavering commitment to justice. She received the James C. Faison Multicultural Leadership Award and the Social Justice Advocacy Award.



Our Staff

NOOR RAHMAN – COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT SPECIALIST

Noor serves as CAIR-MA's Community Engagement Specialist, focusing on youth leadership development, community programming, and organization-wide communications. She helped design and deliver the 2024 and 2025 Muslim Youth Leadership Programs and brings extensive experience in advocacy, public affairs, and strategic storytelling to advancing Muslim community empowerment.

VINCENT WARE – DEPUTY DIRECTOR

Vincent brings over 25 years of experience in community organizing, advocacy, and program management to Massachusetts. He is active with the Muslim American Society of Boston, Greater Boston Reentry Task Force, and NAACP, and currently oversees community outreach at CAIR-MA, focusing on impactful local and national initiatives.

Our Board Members

Yasmin Abdulatheem

Inaash Islam

Sarah Khatib

Othman Ladan

Mouaad Lebeche

Raheela Rahman

Rev. Corey J. Sanderson

Zahid Siddiqui



cairma.org

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Congratulations! Mabrook!

Congratulations to our 2025 award winners!

Muslim Youth Leadership Award winners:

Maimuna Diallo

Hunan Mian

Steward of Justice Award winners:

Mahsa Khanbabai, Esq.

Dr. John Robbins

Boston Workers Circle Center for Jewish Culture & Social Justice

Muslim Youth Leadership Program



Watch the video

Ever wondered what attendees learn during our annual Muslim Youth Leadership Program? Join Simrah and Emaan as they discuss MYLP and share why the youth in *your* life should enroll in this upcoming summer's program!

Watch the video: scan the **QR code** or visit m.youtube.com/shorts/nd9BGK2Wcbw



Muslim Youth Leadership Program



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and for joining us this evening!
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throughout the past decade, and we look
forward to continuing to serve our community.



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