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## CONVENTION INFO

### CONVENTION VOLUNTEERS

MAS Minnesota extends a special "THANK YOU" to all our behind the scenes volunteers who have worked tirelessly and selflessly to organize a convention we hope is worthy of Allah's acceptance. May Allah reward them for their sacrifice and effort.

### ACTIVITY LOCATIONS

- Exhibit Hall A Lecture
- Room L101 J Workshops
- Exhibit Hall A Prayers and Bazaar
- Room L100 BCD Daycare (Ages 1-8)
- Room L101 EFGHI Quran Competition

### BREAK TIMES

12:45 – 02:00 PM Dhuhra Prayer & Lunch  
03:45 – 04:15 PM Asr Prayer  
06:00 – 07:45PM Maghrib/Isha Prayers & Dinner

### DAYCARE DROP OFF & PICKUP TIMES

#### Daycare Morning

Drop Off: 09:30 – 10:00 AM  
Pick Up: 12:45 – 1:00 PM

#### Daycare Afternoon

Drop Off: 01:45 – 02:00 PM  
Pick Up: 06:00 – 06:15 PM

#### Daycare Evening

Drop Off: 07:30 – 07:45 PM  
Pick Up: 10:30 – 11:00 PM



**TOGETHER FOR A  
BETTER TOMORROW**  
12th Annual MAS MN Convention

## CONVENTION PROGRAM

**MINNEAPOLIS CONVENTION CENTER**  
1301 2ND AVE S, MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55403  
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2017  
10AM-10PM

**#MASCONVENTION**



## OUR SPEAKERS



Ustadh Ammar Alshukri is a poet from Queens, New York City. He began his study of the Arabic language at an early age and has been working to translate works of classical and contemporary Arab poets. He began seeking knowledge in New York with a wide variety of teachers in Quran, Hadith, Aqeedah, Fiqh and Tafseer. Beyond the tri-state he was able to benefit from scholars throughout the United States such as Shaykh Al-Sawy, Dr. Hatem El-Haj, Shaykh Mamdouh Mahmoud, and extensive study with Vice-President of AlMaghrab Institute, Shaykh Waleed Basyouni. He holds a Bachelor's Degree in Islamic Sciences with AlMaghrab Institute.

Ust. Ammar  
AlShukry



In 1992, Ustadha Ismahan Abdullahi and her family escaped war-torn Somalia to have a life of hope and opportunity in America. This experience has shaped her to advocate for refugees in San Diego. In her work with the Muslim Student Association and the Muslim American Society, Ustadha Ismahan has worked to address hate crimes in community, develop leadership and civic engagement among youth in San Diego, and continues to work on issues that address racial disparities and inclusion for refugees. She received her Bachelors in Human Biology from UCSD and a MA in Education with concentration in Counseling from SDSU. She currently serves as the Director of Community Partnerships and Civic Engagement at the Partnership for the Advancement of New Americans.

Ust. Ismahan  
Abdullahi



Sheikh Kammal El Mekki has been dubbed the Black Belt of Da'wah. With decades of experience in the Da'wah scene, Sheikh Kamal combines his ground-breaking teaching style with his own dash of humor, certain to leave students feel at ease & entertained, but above all skilled and empowered. He is best known for his workshop "How to Give Shahadah in 10 Minutes", a 6-hour workshop designed to empower MSAs and Dawah organizations in the art of Da'wah. His lectures and online videos (targeting contemporary challenges) have also gained popular fame and positive impact among Muslims and non-Muslims alike. Educated at the hands of numerous prominent Islamic scholars from across the world, Sheikh Kamal also has dynamic experience in the secular world.

Sh. Kamal  
El Mekki



Sheikh Yusuf Rios was born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. While studying to be a Catholic priest at Borromeo Seminary in Cleveland OH., Sheikh Yusuf Rios discovered the path to Islam. He began studying with scholars in Cleveland, Ohio before receiving a work-study contract with the Islamic American University. He then traveled to Cairo, Egypt where he resided for five years. In Cairo he studied Arabic and focused on the basics of Qur'anic recitation and the fundamentals in Islamic sciences at Diwan Institute and Sibawayh Institute. He graduated with a BA in Western Philosophy and Sociology and is working on a Masters in Education. He currently serves as an instructor in Islamic Sciences with Al Huda University in Houston and is the director of Shaukani Institute and part-time chaplain in Cuyahoga County Juvenile Facility.

Sh. Yusuf  
Rios



Sheikh Yusuf Estes was born in 1944 in Ohio and grew up in Texas. He is an American convert to Islam and former National Muslim Chaplain for the United States Bureau of Prisons and Delegate to the United Nations World Peace Conference for Religious Leaders. He was brought up in Houston in a Protestant Christian family; members of the Disciples of Christ. Since 2004, Sheikh Yusuf Estes has been regularly appearing on Islam Channel in the UK, as well as Peace TV and on Huda TV which are 24/7 Islamic channels broadcasting in many countries around the globe, via satellite and the website WatchIslam.com TV Channels.

Sh. Yusuf  
Estes

## TOGETHER FOR A BETTER TOMORROW - 12TH ANNUAL MAS MINNESOTA CONVENTION

### SESSION # 1: 10:00 AM – 11:00 AM TOPIC: TOGETHER FOR A BETTER TOMORROW

Speaker(s): Imam Walid Shadi, Sheikh Kamal El Mekki & Sheikh Yusuf Rios.

Description: "United we stand, divided we fall," clearly summarizes the spirit of our Ummah and the attitude we must embody to continue growing together. We need to reevaluate our priorities, engage in conversations and foster collaboration to preserve and develop the characteristics that make us a great Ummah. We're the future! And we need to seize the opportunity brought together by our differences and driven by our ambition for a better tomorrow.

### SESSION # 2: 11:10 AM – 12:45 PM TOPIC: BUILDING A BETTER MINNESOTA (GUBERNATORIAL CANDIDATE FORUM)

Speaker(s): Mayor Chris Coleman, Rep. Erin Murphy, Mr. Keith Downey, State Auditor Rebecca Otto, Congressman Tim Walz, Rep. Tina Liebling. Moderated by Rep. Ilhan Omar.



Description: Racism, discrimination and inequality are among the major challenges we face. We must take specific action to change the environment in which racism and inequality thrives. We must commit ourselves to policies and practices that respect the human rights and dignity of everyone in society. How do we build a Better Minnesota?

A Knowledge Contest Quiz will be held in Session 2

### DUHR PRAYER @ 1:00 PM | LUNCH BREAK

### SESSION # 3: 2:00 PM – 3:45 PM TOPIC: THE HUMBLE HEART (TALK SHOW)

Speaker(s): Ustadh Ammar Alshukri, Sheikh Kamal El Mekki. Hosted by Ustadha Eman Haymour.

Description: How do we bring to Allah a humble heart? Imam Ibn Al Qayyim said: "The key to the heart is reflecting upon the Quran, being humble before Allah in secret, and abandoning sins". Our speakers will reflect on the meaning of the humble heart and its characteristics.

A Knowledge Contest Quiz will be held in Session 3

### SESSION # 3: 2:00 PM – 3:45 PM TOPIC: CLIMBING THE CORPORATE LADDER

Speaker(s): Mr. Farid Currimbhoy, Mr. Mohammad Islam, Mr. Salman Ali, Dr. Shakeer Abdullah, Mr. Tabaruk Chowdhury. Hosted by Imam Asad Zaman.

Description: This panel discussion & networking opportunity will feature V.P. level executives at major corporations. They will discuss their career progression and provide tips on how to rise in corporate management. This session is designed for director & manager level employees in a corporate setting.



### ASR PRAYER @ 3:50 PM | BAZAAR TIME

### SESSION # 4: 4:15 PM – 5:15 PM TOPIC: HONORING OUR LEGACY, EMPOWERING OUR FUTURE

Speaker(s): Sheikh Yusuf Estes, Sheikh Yusuf Rios.

Description: We build upon the accomplishments of those who have come before us. As Muslims, we have inherited a strong legacy of scholarship, activism and accomplishment. How can we embrace and honor our legacy and empower our future?

A special gift will be given to those who attend this session.

### SESSION # 4: 4:15 PM – 5:15 PM TOPIC: HALAL HOME BUYING INFORMATION SESSION FOR FIRST TIME HOME BUYERS

Speaker(s): Sr. Ayan Abdinur, Sr. Johanna Osman.

Description: Learn the process of buying a home, overcome common barriers to home ownership, understand how to find financing & shop for a home that is right for your family and appropriate to your income. Get introduced to the "Home stretch program" that can qualify you for a first time home buyer credit assistance.

### SESSION # 7: 8:30 PM – 10:00 PM TOPIC: UNITED MINNESOTA

Speaker(s): Ustadh Ammar Alshukri, Sheikh Yusuf Estes.

Description: Allah says in the Quran, "Indeed this, your Ummah, is one Ummah, and I am your Lord, so worship Me." Speakers from different Muslim organizations give insights on ways to foster collaboration between our organizations to develop and preserve the characteristics that make us a great Ummah.

Session 7 will feature Dabka & Spoken Word Poetry  
Quran Competition Prizes will be awarded in Session 7  
A Knowledge Contest Quiz will be held in Session 7



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IS TO MOVE PEOPLE  
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