

RICE UNIVERSITY MUSLIM
STUDENT ASSOCIATION

NEW STUDENT GUIDE

*"So remember Me; I will
remember you." (Quran 2:152)*

2020 EDITION

Message From Co-Presidents

Assalamu'alaikum everyone,

Our names are Naadir Jamal and Zain Imam and we will be your MSA Co-Presidents for this coming year!

As we welcome you to our MSA community, we wanted to share our story with you. For both of us, the MSA has held an important place in our hearts ever since we arrived on campus in 2017. Transitioning to college can be a difficult experience. Fortunately for us, we found a place to call home in the MSA. We met at a MSA Jummah prayer in October 2017. From that moment on, we became best friends, not only with each other, but with so many other people, and we owe that to the MSA. The memories from MSA, whether during Islam Immersion Week or at off-campus outings, will always be in our hearts and will be among our most cherished memories from Rice. We became involved with the board to ensure every other Muslim student on campus has that same experience.

We both hope that you all find a place to call home in the MSA and that you leave Rice with the same special memories we will. We, along with the rest of the board are working diligently to guarantee you that home, whether you are on-campus or remote. All of us are beyond excited to meet you.

Welcome to Rice!

Naadir and Zain

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BOARD MEMBERS

"And verily this Ummah of yours is one Ummah and I am your Lord and Cherisher, therefore fear Me and no other." (Quran 23:52)

Presidents



Naadir Jamal, Co-President:

Assalamu'alaikum, I'm a rising senior from Will Rice majoring in Chemistry. I'm from Southern California and some things I love are the Lakers, Bundu Khan, and fantasy football. This year, we really want to do a better job of recognizing the needs of our diverse community, so feel free to contact Zain or I via Messenger or email at nhj1@rice.edu/zsi1@rice.edu if there's ever anything you need (or if you just wanna talk!). I look forward to meeting you all inshAllah, stay safe.

Zain Imam, Co-President:

Hey guys, I'm from Duncan College and I am a rising senior from Dallas, Texas! Many people know me as the resident Political Science Major in the MSA. I've been active in the MSA since my Freshman year, and without a doubt, it has been the best organization I have been a part of during my years at Rice. I'm looking forward to making this coming year even better and continuing to build our organization through making MSA more inclusive and welcoming to all.



Vice Presidents

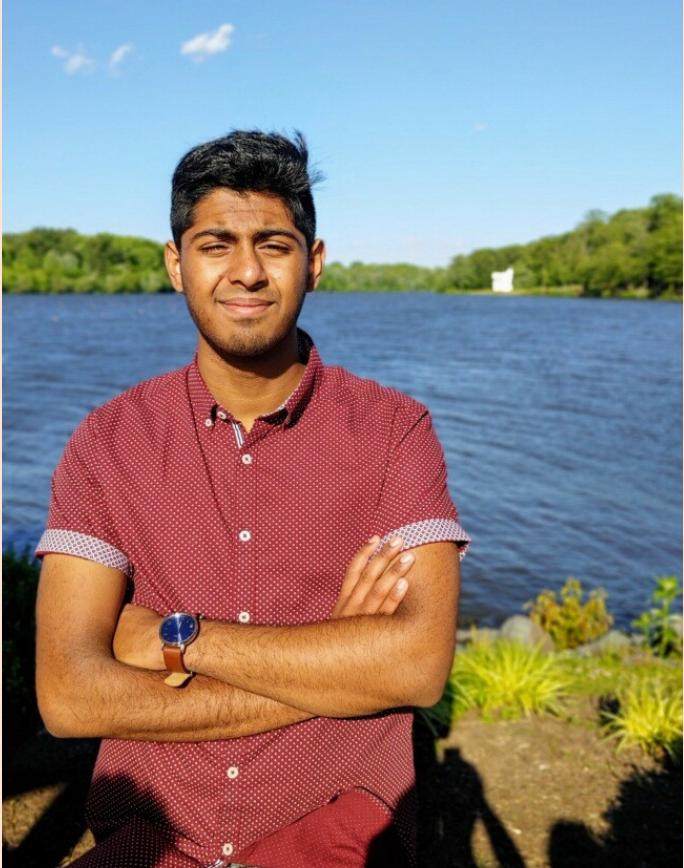


Summer Shabana, Female Vice President:

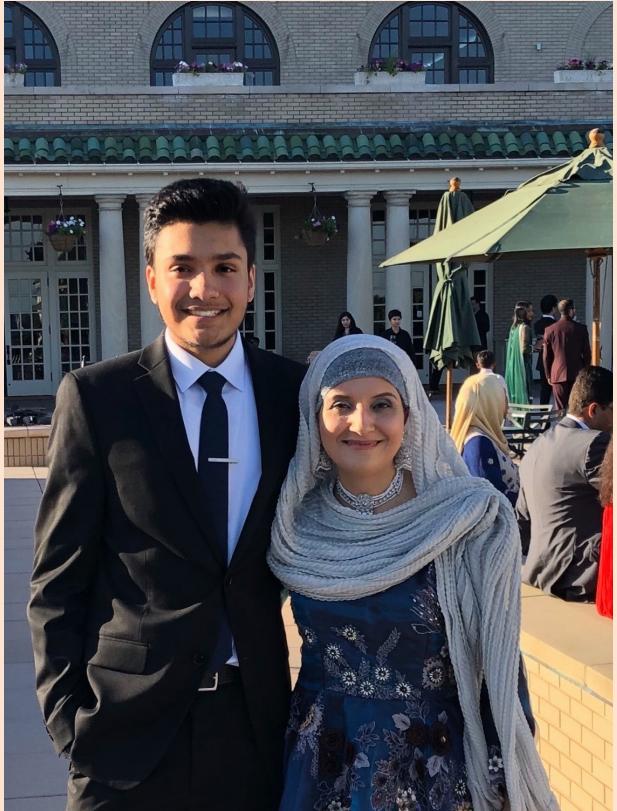
Hey y'all! My name is Summer and I am a rising sophomore at Baker studying Bioengineering, Biochemistry & Cell Biology, and Spanish on the premedicine track. Some things about me: I was born and raised in NYC, I love college football, and I am pretty good at baking. I look forward to serve as this year's VP and am excited to work with the current board to make MSA a more inclusive and tight-knit community. Feel free to hit me up with any ideas, questions, and concerns!

Fayiz Farouk, Male Vice President:

Assalamu Alaikum brothers and sisters! I'm Fayiz Faruk, a rising sophomore at Duncan studying Biochemistry and I will be your Male VP for next year. I'm from Plainsboro, New Jersey, so I'll try my best to bring a little Northeastern flair to our MSA this year. As for my plans for the MSA this year, I'm excited to help our MSA hold even more events than we were able to the previous year, and help make our MSA as inclusive as possible. Hope you're all doing well and staying safe!



The Board



Talha Arif, Secretary:

I hope everyone is doing well—I'm Talha Arif, and I'm really excited to be the MSA secretary for this upcoming year! I'm a rising junior, and I'm a pre-med, Cognitive Science major at Will Rice. I'm from Kingwood, TX (a pretty small town 45 minutes from Rice), so I'm usually around Houston year-round. I'm looking forward to helping the MSA grow further and communicate and advertise relevant events for all members of our community!

Samatar Dalmar, Treasurer:

Assalamualaikum everyone, my name is Samatar Dalmar, a rising sophomore majoring in Electrical Engineering from Will Rice College, and currently living in Houston. As your new treasurer, I plan to focus my efforts on fundraising money in order to support some of the upcoming big projects.



The Board



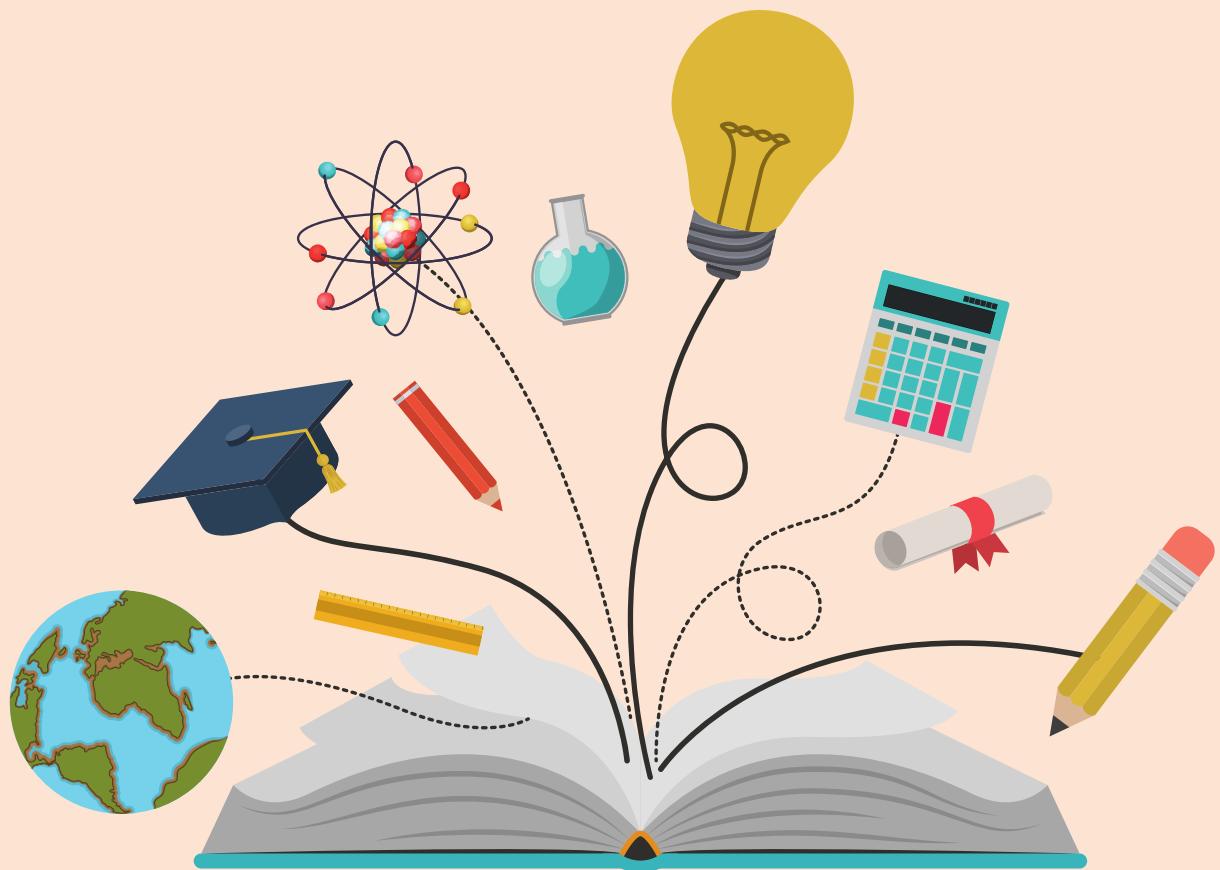
Mahmoud Al-Madi, Jummah Coordinator:

Hey! My name is Mahmoud Al-Madi and I am a sophomore at Jones [ELEC major]. I've served this past year as the Jumaah Coord on the MSA board. It has been awesome setting up the weekly Friday prayers over the past year, giving some Khutbahs, and even trying to enhance a sense of community at Jumaahs by introducing the Al-Kahf group recitation initiative in the Fall semester when my academic schedule permitted that. I also tried to help and support various MSA events where I could. Ultimately, I aim to strive to make Jumaah prayers an event tailored for the interests of everyone in the MSA in order for everyone to benefit from and enjoy.

Ambreen Younas, Outreach Coordinator:

Hello everyone! My name is Ambreen Younas and I will be your Outreach Coord. I am a sophomore at Lovett who's studying Psychology and Religion. I hope to someday be a cardiologist inshaAllah. I am from Frisco, Texas (a little bit north of Dallas) but I am starting to see Houston as my new home. As your Outreach Coordinator, I would like to make the MSA a bit more organized and will continue to plan exciting, engaging events for the upcoming year. As an executive board member, I would like to make the MSA more accepting to all which requires reaching out to everyone and hearing everyone's opinion. Please feel free to contact me at any time about MSA or if you're just looking to make a new friend in general! See you guys soon.





CAMPUS RESOURCES

"My Lord! Increase me with knowledge..."

(Quran 20:114)

MSA Members Across Rice

PAAs

BAKER COLLEGE

Sarah Siddiqui | Class of 2021 | ss160@rice.edu Psychology, Bioc minor; Pre-med

DUNCAN COLLEGE

Zakaria Cherif | Class of 2022 | zyc1@rice.edu
Chemical & Biomolecular Engineering;
Pre-grad

HANSZEN COLLEGE

Syed Shams | Class of 2022 | sss13@rice.edu
Biochemistry and Cell Biology, English;
CCL certificate

SID RICH COLLEGE

Hasham Dhakwala | Class of 2022 | hd25@rice.edu
Asian Studies, Biochemistry and Cell
Biology; Pre-med

WIESS COLLEGE

Leenah Abojaib | Class of 2022 | la29@rice.edu
Biochemistry and Cell Biology, Spanish
and Portuguese Studies; Pre-med
Ridwana Islam | Class of 2023 | rfi1@rice.edu
Neuroscience; Pre-med

WILL RICE COLLEGE

Talha Arif | Class of 2022 | tsa4@rice.edu
Cognitive Science, Bioc minor, Med Hum
minor; Pre-med
Zaid Nathani | Class of 2022 | zin1@rice.edu
Kinesiology, Psychology; Pre-med

DFs

DIVERSITY FACILITATORS

Soha Rizvi | Class of 2022 | Hanszen
College | sar9@rice.edu

Summer Shabana | Class of 2023 |
Baker College | ses12@rice.edu

Talha Arif | Class of 2022 | Will Rice
College | tsa4@rice.edu

Warda Mohamed | Class of 2023 |
Jones College | wam2@rice.edu



Other Campus Resources

Office of Multicultural Affairs (OMA)

- Exists to ensure all students feel comfortable, safe, and accepted at Rice.
 - **Catherine Clack:** OMA Director and Associate Dean of Undergraduates- clack@rice.edu
 - **William Edmond:** OMA Associate Director- whe1@rice.edu

Islam-Related Courses

Note: These classes are not offered every semester

- **Muslims in American Society** | Craig Considine | SOCI 364
- **The Life of the Prophet Muhammad** | David Cook | RELI 221
- **Quran and Commentary** | David Cook | RELI 223
- **Gender and Islam** | Rahnuma Shehabuddin | ASIA/RELI/SWGS 315
- **Major Issues in Contemporary Islam** | RELI 356
- **Golden Age of Islam** | Paula Sanders | HIST/MDEM 281
- **Introduction to Islamic Art and Architecture** | Farshid Emami | HART 221
- **Architecture and Literature in Islamic Cultures** | HART 385/587
- **First to third year Arabic** | Hossam Elsherbiny | ARAB 141, 263, 301



PRAYER ROOM INFO

"And establish prayer and give zakah and bow with those who bow [in worship and obedience]"

(Quran 2:43)

Prayer Room Directions

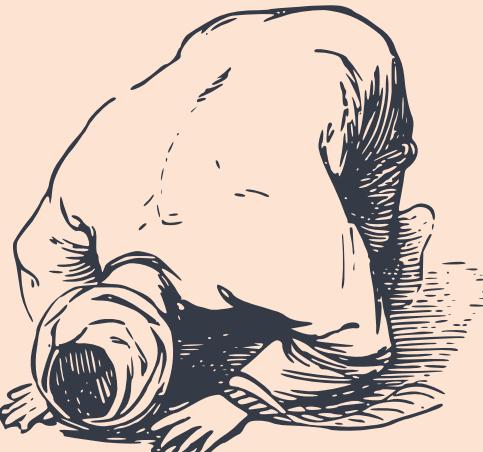
RMC Prayer Room

- Located to the right of the RMC Chapel
 - Starting from the front doors of the chapel, turn right and then turn left at the first walkway to your left. The prayer room door will be the first door on your right.
- If the Prayer Room door is locked on the outside, you can ask the RMC Information Desk to open it.
- [Here](#) is a video of how to find it from the chapel doors

Kyle Morrow Room (KMR)

- Main Jummah prayer location
- Located on the third floor of Fondren library
 - After entering Fondren Library from the front entrance, turn left into the small area, and take the elevator on the left to the third floor. The KMR will be the first set of double doors on your left.

NOTE: Due to COVID-19, Jummah prayers will likely not be held this semester unless an open space is available to the MSA for use.





CONTACT INFO

Contact Info & Social Media

- **Email-** msa@rice.edu
- **Facebook-** @ricemsa
- **Instagram-** @rice_msa
- **Website-** msa.rice.edu
- **MSA GroupMe-**
https://groupme.com/join_group/43232964/6SoMJD
- **Brothers GroupMe-**
https://groupme.com/join_group/43398680/AsaUjk
- **Sisters GroupMe-**
https://groupme.com/join_group/53414506/vNaDzEwb



"And help one another in goodness and piety, and do not help one another in sin and aggression."
(Quran 5:2)





HUNGRY?

FOOD OPTIONS

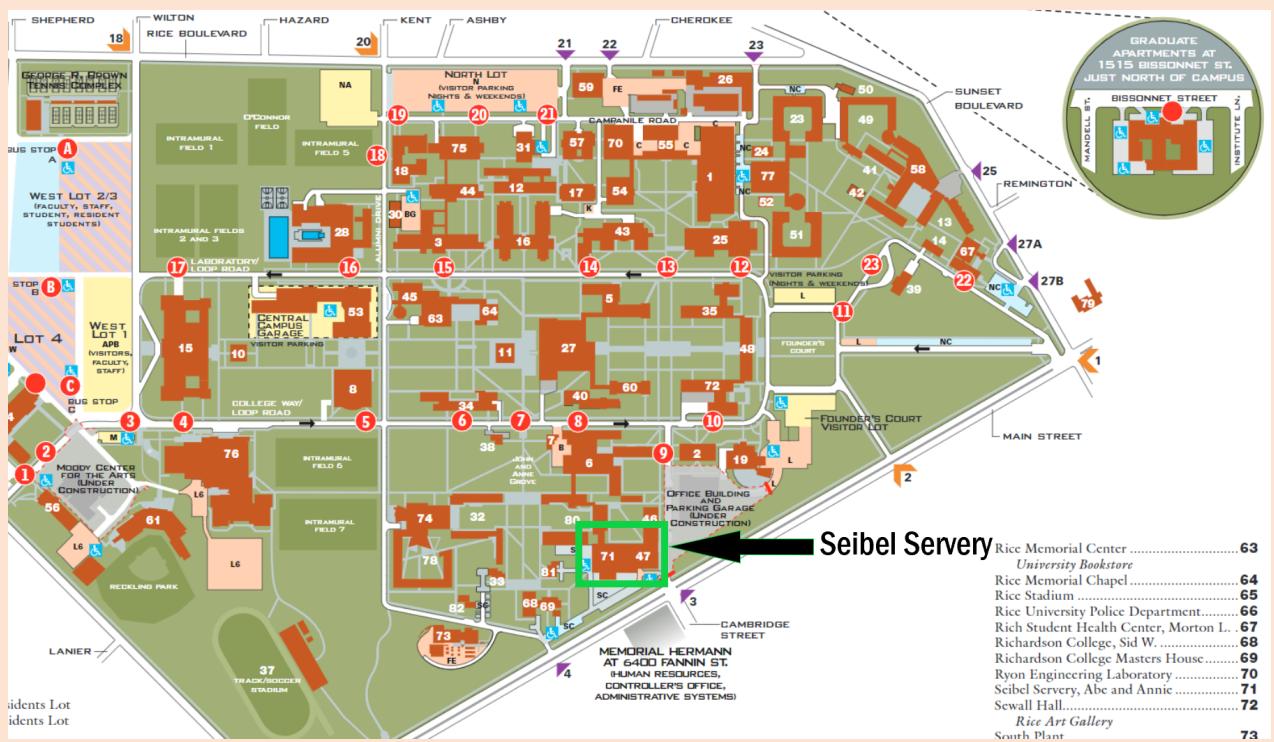
HALAL FOOD ON AND OFF CAMPUS

On Campus Options

SEIBEL SERVERY

- Located between Will Rice and Lovett
- Daily halal chicken options (grilled chicken and chicken salad always available)
- Variable halal options based on the day (halal pho, pizza, sandwiches, beef option, etc.)

Note: students may only eat at their home college servery during this semester due to COVID-19. Accommodations can be made for students that request halal food.



Off Campus Options

WALKING DISTANCE

*MBR = MSA Board Rating - Not biased at all :)

Pasha | Turkish | MBR: 7/10 \$\$

Halal Guys | American/Mediterranean | MBR: 6/10 \$

10 MINUTE DRIVES

M&M Grill | American/Mexican/Mediterranean | MBR: 10/10 \$

- Popular item: Loaded single burger

Abu Omar [Food Truck] | Mediterranean | MBR: 8/10 \$

- Popular item: Chicken shawarma arabi

Gyro Hut | Mediterranean | MBR: 7/10 \$

- Popular item: Mixed platter

Main Chick Hot Chicken (Food Truck) | American | MBR: 10/10 \$\$

- Popular item: Slaw slider

Russo's New York Pizzeria | Pizza | MBR: 10/10 \$\$

- ***Only Kirby Dr. location is halal***

- Popular item: Meat lovers pizza

Pepper Twins | Szechuan | MBR: 9/10 \$\$

- Popular item: Fried spicy chicken cubes



Note: Most of these can be found on Postmates / UberEats for food delivery. You may need to utilize these more during COVID-19.

Off Campus Options

20 MINUTE DRIVES

Aga's | Indo-Pak | MBR: 10/10 \$\$\$

- Popular item: Goat chops

888 Beijing | Chinese | MBR: 7/10 \$\$

- Popular item: Chicken lo-mein

Pinkerton's | American BBQ | MBR: 10/10 \$\$

- Note: Call to make sure halal meat available that day

Peri Peri | South African | MBR: 9/10 \$\$

- Popular item: 1/2 chicken breast

Phoenicia Specialty Foods | grocery - halal meat available to purchase | \$\$

Tourão Brazilian Churrasqueria | unlimited steak | MBR: 9/10 \$\$\$

- Note: Call beforehand to reserve a table for halal only

Thai Gourmet | Thai | MBR: 8/10 \$\$

- Popular item: Pad Kee Mao

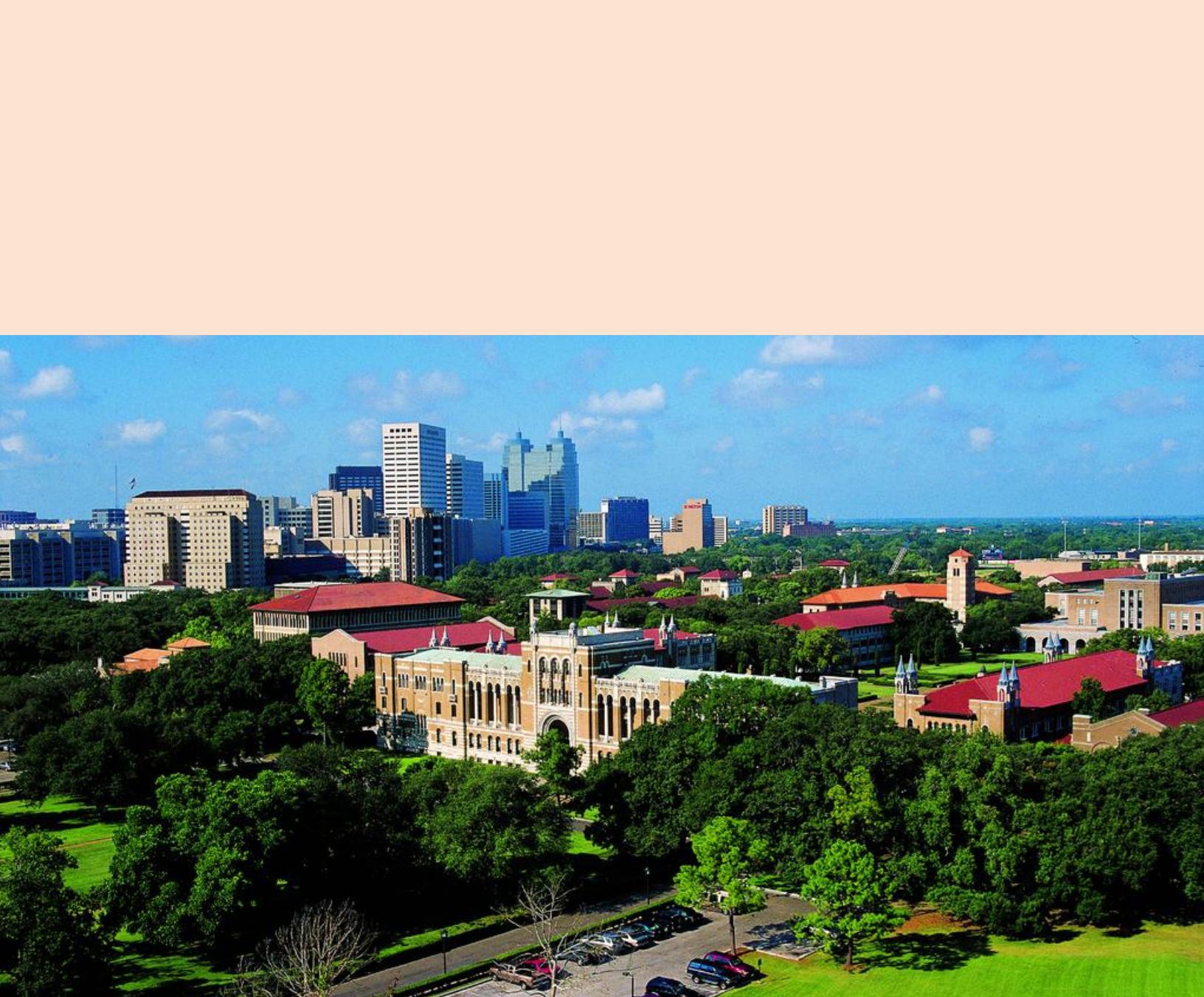
Hillcroft: dozens of halal restaurants within 2 blocks of each other

30 MINUTE DRIVES

Bundu Khan | Indo-Pak | MBR: 10/10 \$\$\$

Bonsai Fusion Japanese Steakhouse | Japanese/Hibachi | MBR: 10/10 \$\$\$

- Note: Reserve a table beforehand



THE GREATER HOUSTON AREA

MASJIDS

LOCAL MASJIDS

- River Oaks Islamic Center: [3110 Eastside Street](#)
- Islamic Education Center: [2313 S Voss Road](#)
- Al-Ghadeer: [9260 S Course Road](#)

