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NEW YORK NEWS

The Voice of People

From New York

Trump-Zelenskyy Clash Over Military Aid Sparks Global Concern

Future of U.S.-Ukraine Relations in Question

Trump Era Sparks Arab American Political Rise

Hamid Abdullah

Jamil bin Muhammed

A highly contentious meeting between U.S. President Donald Trump and Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy on February 28 at the White House ended abruptly without resolution, leaving U.S.-Ukraine relations at a critical juncture. The discussions, which were intended to address ongoing military cooperation, took a dramatic turn when Trump accused Zelenskyy of "gambling with World War III." The remark underscored the growing frustration between the two leaders and raised concerns about the future of U.S. military aid to Ukraine. The meeting, which was initially seen as an opportunity to strengthen ties, quickly devolved into a heated exchange. Trump's stark warning reflected his administration's unease with Ukraine's military strategy, particularly its reliance on Western support to counter Russian aggression. Zelenskyy, however, stood firm, emphasizing Ukraine's need for robust international



Image Source : France24.com

backing to maintain its sovereignty. The abrupt end to the talks has left many questioning whether the U.S. will continue its role as a key ally to Ukraine. European leaders have rallied behind Zelenskyy, expressing strong support for Ukraine's position. German Chancellor Olaf Scholz and French President Emmanuel Macron were among those

HIGHLIGHT

- February 28 White House meeting between Trump and Zelenskyy ended abruptly.
- Trump accused Zelenskyy of "gambling with World War III."
- European leaders express strong support for Zelenskyy.

who reaffirmed their commitment to Ukraine's defense, highlighting the growing divide between the U.S. and its European allies. This rift could have far-reaching implications for NATO's unity and the broader geopolitical landscape. The fallout from the meeting has sparked global concerns, with analysts warning that a fractured U.S.-Ukraine alliance could embolden

Russia and destabilize Eastern Europe. As tensions mount, the international community is left to grapple with the potential consequences of this diplomatic breakdown. The question now is whether the U.S. and Ukraine can bridge their differences or if this confrontation marks a turning point in their relationship.

Arab Americans are increasingly engaging in U.S. politics, a shift largely driven by the political landscape under President-elect Donald Trump. This rising involvement is exemplified by figures like Michael Boulos, the Lebanese billionaire's son and husband of Tiffany Trump, as well as notable Arab American appointments like Janette Nesheiwat and Marty Makary. Despite Trump's controversial policies, including travel bans targeting Muslim-majority countries, some Arab Americans find themselves supporting him. Discontent with the Democratic Party, which many feel alienates them, has prompted a shift toward Republican politics. Arab Americans like Yahya Basha and Casey Askar are now seeking influence within the Republican Party, viewing it as a platform to have a say in policy and to push for meaningful change. This complex political shift signals an evolving dynamic for Arab Americans in the U.S., as they navigate a political landscape that increasingly embraces their presence.

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CAIR Settles Lawsuit Amid Scrutiny Over Funding Sources

Lawmakers Demand Greater Transparency from CAIR



Image Source : msn.com

Farhana Azmi

The Council on American-Islamic Relations Foundation

Inc. (CAIR), one of the most prominent Muslim advocacy organizations in the U.S., has settled a lawsuit to avoid disclosing its funding sources. The legal dispute stemmed from a defamation complaint filed by former board member Lori Saroya, who alleged misconduct within the organization. The settlement came

after a judge ruled that CAIR's assets could be examined, raising concerns about the group's financial transparency. The organization has previously faced scrutiny due to alleged links to Hamas and the Muslim Brotherhood, accusations that CAIR has repeatedly denied. However, the legal battle has intensified calls for a federal investigation into

the nonprofit's funding and its potential ties to antisemitic rhetoric. Lawmakers have responded to the controversy by urging further scrutiny into CAIR's activities. Some have called for stricter oversight of nonprofit organizations to ensure financial accountability and prevent foreign influence. Meanwhile, CAIR continues to assert that it remains

committed to civil rights advocacy and protecting the interests of Muslim Americans. The case has sparked broader debates about the role of advocacy groups in political discourse and the need for transparency in nonprofit funding. With increased public and political attention, CAIR now faces heightened pressure to clarify its financial operations and address ongoing concerns about its affiliations.

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Community News

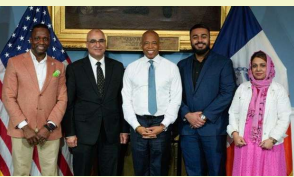
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Quran Competition

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CAIR Lawsuit

CAIR Settles Lawsuit Amid Scrutiny Over Funding Sources

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Ramadan Arrives!

Welcome Ramadan at Elhaam Academy

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Mark Levine Meets Bangladeshi-American Professionals

NYN DESK

Manhattan Borough President Mark Levine, a candidate for NYC Comptroller, met with Bangladeshi-American young professionals at Mehman Restaurant in Jamaica. Organized by the Community United Democratic Club (CUDC), the event provided a platform for dialogue on economic equity, financial oversight, and minority representation in city governance. Levine, known for his work in housing, public health, and immigrant rights, emphasized his commitment to fiscal accountability and

HIGHLIGHT

•The event was hosted by the Community United Democratic Club (CUDC) at Mehman Restaurant. •Levine discussed his vision for financial oversight, economic equity, and minority representation.

improving public services. He assured attendees that their concerns—ranging from small business challenges to housing affordability and civic engagement—would be integral to his policy framework.

The Bangladeshi-American community plays a vital role in NYC's economy and cultural landscape. Their growing political engagement reflects an increasing influence in shaping the city's future. Levine's outreach underscored the importance of inclusive leadership and financial policies that benefit all communities. As the Comptroller race continues, Levine's engagement with underrepresented communities signals his dedication to ensuring a government that reflects the needs of all New Yorkers.

Eid ul-Adha Recognized in Queens School Calendar



NYN DESK

Queens school districts have officially added Eid ul-Adha to the academic calendar, granting students and teachers a holiday starting in June 2025. This decision acknowledges the significance of the Islamic celebration,

which marks the culmination of Hajj and is widely observed by Muslims worldwide. The move reflects the growing recognition of religious diversity in New York City's public schools. By granting a day off for Eid ul-Adha, school officials ensure that Muslim students and

educators can fully participate in their religious traditions without academic conflicts. Community leaders and advocates have long called for this inclusion, citing the need for equal recognition of all faiths. Many have praised the decision as a progressive step toward a more inclusive and representative school

system. As New York City continues to celebrate its cultural diversity, this addition reinforces the importance of acknowledging the traditions of all communities. The recognition of Eid ul-Adha as a school holiday reflects the city's commitment to fostering respect and inclusion in education.

Prayer Time IN New York

FAJR	DHUHR	ASR	MAGHREB	ISHA
05:13	12:08	03:18	05:49	07:04
05:11	12:08	03:18	05:50	07:05
05:10	12:07	03:19	05:51	07:06
05:09	12:07	03:20	05:52	07:07
05:07	12:07	03:20	05:53	07:08
05:06	12:07	03:21	05:54	07:09
05:05	12:07	03:22	05:55	07:10

Number 34

Dr. Abu Jafar Advocates Against CDPAP Shutdown in Albany

NYN DESK

Dr. Abu Jafar, a dedicated advocate for home care services in New York's Bangladeshi community, met with representatives of Albany senators to discuss urgent actions against the proposed shutdown of the Consumer Directed Personal Assistance Program (CDPAP). The initiative, which provides essential home care services for elderly and disabled individuals, has sparked concerns among community members and caregivers. The meeting took place on Monday at the Governor Nelson A. Rockefeller Empire State Plaza in Albany, where Dr. Jafar engaged with multiple assembly members. Among them was James Toner, Chief of Staff to New York State Senator



Nathalia Fernández (District 34). Senior officials, staff, and beneficiaries from his organization—the first Bangla CDPAP Services for the Bangladeshi community—were also in attendance, alongside representatives from Allegra Home Care. During the discussions, Dr. Jafar emphasized the critical role of CDPAP in supporting immigrant families and vulnerable individuals who rely on home care services. He urged lawmakers to take necessary steps to prevent the program's shutdown, highlighting the potential negative impact on both caregivers and recipients.

The advocacy efforts aim to ensure continued access to home care services for New York's diverse communities, reinforcing the importance of legislative support for programs that uphold dignity and independence for those in need.

Law & Justice

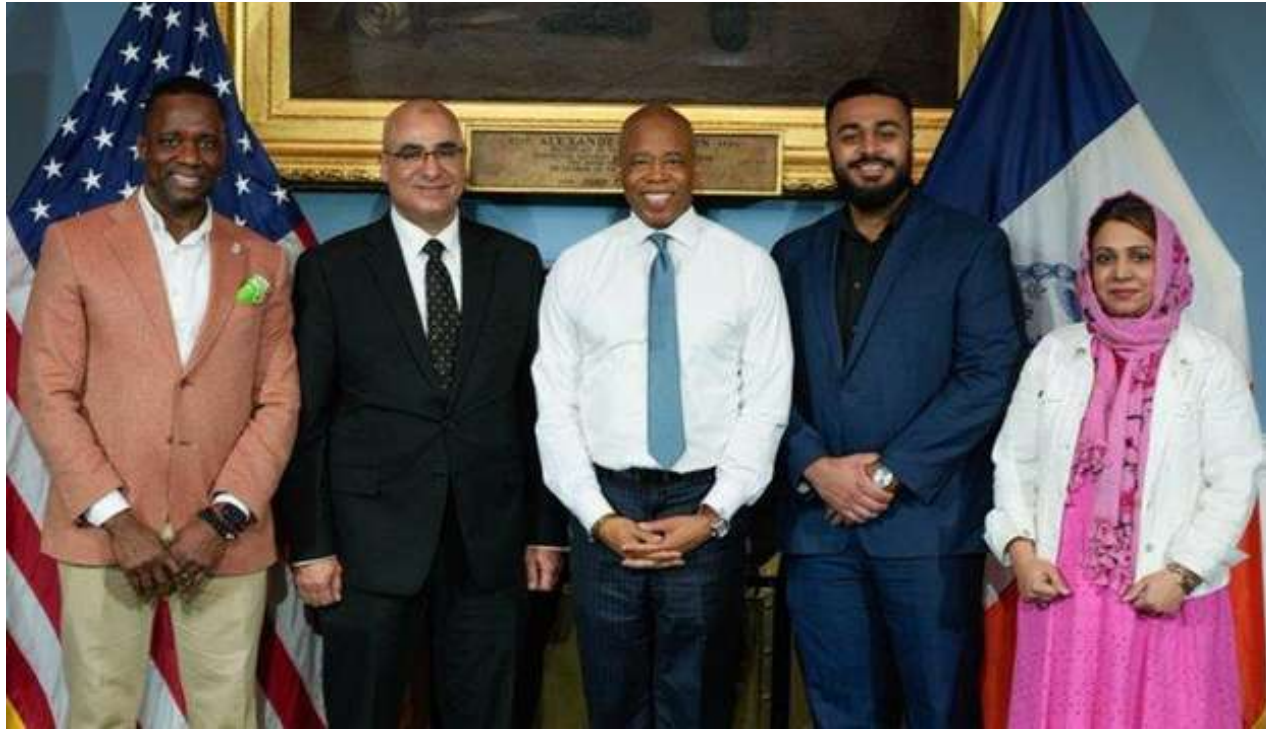
Muslim Leaders Appointed to Key NYC Government Roles

Building a More Inclusive Future

Abdul Alim

New York City Mayor Eric Adams reaffirmed his commitment to diversity and inclusion by announcing key appointments to the Mayor's Community Affairs Unit (CAU) that will enhance representation for the city's Muslim community. The appointments, announced on February 27, include Detective Mohamed Amen as Muslim Senior Advisor, Mahedi Hasan as Muslim Liaison, and Famod Konneh as Deputy Commissioner for Ethnic Outreach. Atia Shahnaz will continue her role as Muslim Women Liaison.

Mayor Adams emphasized that these appointments reflect his administration's dedication to ensuring all communities have a voice in city leadership. He highlighted that New York City's strength lies in its diversity and that these appointees will play a crucial role in making the city safer, more affordable, and inclusive for all residents. Commissioner Fred Kreizman of CAU echoed this sentiment, stating that these individuals bring invaluable insights and leadership that will help strengthen engagement with Muslim New Yorkers. Detective Mohamed Amen, a highly respected NYPD



officer with 18 years of service, was appointed as the Muslim Senior Advisor. His expertise in cultural engagement and interfaith relations has made him a trusted figure in bridging relationships between law enforcement and diverse communities. Amen expressed his gratitude for the appointment, noting that as a proud Muslim and immigrant from Egypt, he is honored to serve in this role and ensure Muslim voices are represented at the highest levels of city government. Mahedi Hasan, a Bangladeshi-American community leader with extensive experience in business engagement

HIGHLIGHT

- **Mohamed Amen named Muslim Senior Advisor, Mahedi Hasan as Muslim Liaison.**
- **Famod Konneh promoted to Deputy Commissioner for Ethnic Outreach.**
- **Atia Shahnaz continues her advocacy as Muslim Women Liaison.**

and public service, was appointed as the Muslim Liaison. Hasan previously worked at the NYC Department of Small Business Services, where he played a key role in supporting small businesses and community outreach efforts. He expressed

his enthusiasm for the opportunity to serve, emphasizing that the Adams administration is committed to fostering representation and inclusion for all New Yorkers. Famod Konneh was elevated to Deputy Commissioner for Ethnic Outreach. With over a decade of city government experience, Konneh has held various leadership roles, including associate commissioner at CAU and outreach director at the Mayor's Office of Ethnic and Community Media. As an African Muslim, Konneh highlighted the importance of having diverse voices in government and

thanked Mayor Adams and Commissioner Kreizman for entrusting him with this expanded role. Atia Shahnaz, a dedicated advocate for Muslim women's empowerment, will continue her role as Muslim Women Liaison. With over 15 years of activism and leadership in nonprofit organizations, Shahnaz has been a champion for social justice and women's rights. She expressed her deep commitment to amplifying the voices of Muslim women and working towards a more inclusive and equitable society. The announcement was met with praise from community

leaders, including Sheikh Musa Drammeh, who highlighted the significance of these appointments in uplifting the African and Muslim communities in New York City. He commended Mayor Adams and Commissioner Kreizman for recognizing the contributions of these leaders and ensuring that their voices are represented in city governance. These appointments mark a significant step in strengthening the relationship between the city government and Muslim New Yorkers. As one in nine New Yorkers identifies as Muslim, having strong representation in leadership positions ensures that the community's concerns and priorities are addressed. The new appointees will play a vital role in fostering community engagement, promoting interfaith dialogue, and working towards policies that benefit all residents. With these key appointments, Mayor Adams continues to build an administration that reflects the rich cultural and religious diversity of New York City. The commitment to inclusivity, representation, and community-driven leadership reinforces the city's status as a beacon of opportunity for people of all backgrounds.



Faith and Unity



Queens Borough President Hosts Faith Leaders Roundtable

Collaboration Aims to Tackle Quality of Life Challenges

Adnan Zahid

Queens Borough President Donovan Richards hosted a Faith Leaders Roundtable on February 26 at Union Plaza Care Center in Flushing. The gathering brought together religious leaders from various faith communities and representatives from NYC agencies to discuss pressing quality-of-life and public safety issues affecting Northeast Queens. The event was part of the "Borough Hall on Your Block" initiative, which aims to bring city leadership closer to the people by directly engaging with community stakeholders. Richards opened

the discussion by emphasizing the essential role faith-based institutions play in building strong and resilient communities. He acknowledged the influence of religious leaders in fostering unity, providing critical social services, and serving as bridges between local government and residents. The Borough President underscored his administration's commitment to addressing key issues such as public safety, affordable housing, and community resources. Representatives from various NYC agencies, including the NYPD, the Department of Housing Preservation and Development, and the Mayor's Office of Community Affairs, were present

HIGHLIGHT

- The event aimed to strengthen collaboration between government and religious communities.
- Discussions focused on public safety, quality of life, and the role of faith institutions.
- NYC officials addressed community concerns and pledged support.
- Attendees emphasized unity and proactive engagement in addressing local challenges.

to answer questions and listen to concerns raised by faith leaders. Public safety emerged as a primary focus of the conversation, with religious leaders

expressing concerns over rising incidents of hate crimes, security at places of worship, and the need for stronger partnerships with law enforcement. A key theme throughout the discussion was the necessity of collaboration between faith institutions and city officials to effectively address these challenges. Attendees highlighted the importance of proactive measures such as community engagement programs, interfaith initiatives, and mental health support services to create a safer and more inclusive environment for all residents. Richards assured the faith leaders that his office would continue to advocate for their

concerns and work closely with city agencies to implement tangible solutions. He emphasized the significance of grassroots leadership and urged attendees to remain active in shaping policies that impact their communities. The event also served as a platform for faith leaders to share best practices in addressing social issues, from homelessness and food insecurity to youth mentorship programs. Many attendees stressed the importance of strengthening interfaith dialogue to promote mutual understanding and cooperation among diverse religious groups in Queens. The roundtable concluded with a renewed sense of

unity and commitment to community-driven solutions. Faith leaders expressed appreciation for the opportunity to directly engage with city officials and called for continued dialogue to ensure their voices are heard in policymaking decisions. As Queens continues to evolve as one of the most diverse boroughs in New York City, events like the Faith Leaders Roundtable highlight the power of collaboration in addressing complex challenges. Borough President Richards reaffirmed his dedication to fostering partnerships that uplift communities and ensure that all residents, regardless of background or belief, feel safe and supported in their neighborhoods.



Peace & Unity

Castle Hill Shines Bright with Ramadan Lights Ceremony

SBS and Council Member Farias Supports The Initiative

Farhana Sharif

Castle Hill Business Development District in the Bronx illuminated the streets with a vibrant Ramadan Lights ceremony, bringing together community members for a night of celebration, reflection, and unity. The event, held on Friday at 6 PM, marked the beginning of the holy month of Ramadan with a special lighting ceremony, symbolizing hope, togetherness, and spiritual renewal. The initiative was made possible through the generous funding of the Small Business Services (SBS) and the continued support of Council Member Amanda Farias. Their contributions ensured that Castle Hill could create an inclusive and festive atmosphere for its Muslim residents while also fostering a greater understanding of Ramadan among the broader community. Residents from all backgrounds gathered to witness the lighting ceremony, embracing the spirit of Ramadan and sharing in the joy of



residents while allowing non-Muslim neighbors to join in the festivity and learn more about the traditions of Ramadan. Business owners in Castle Hill also expressed their appreciation for the initiative, noting how such events foster a welcoming environment and encourage foot traffic in the district. By celebrating Ramadan publicly, the neighborhood reaffirmed its commitment to diversity and inclusivity, setting an example for how communities can come together to honor and respect different faiths. As the Ramadan Lights initiative continues throughout the month, the glowing decorations will serve as a beacon of unity and faith, reminding everyone of the values of kindness, generosity, and reflection that define Ramadan. The Castle Hill Business Development District's celebration is a testament to the strength of community spirit in the Bronx, ensuring that all residents feel seen, heard, and valued.

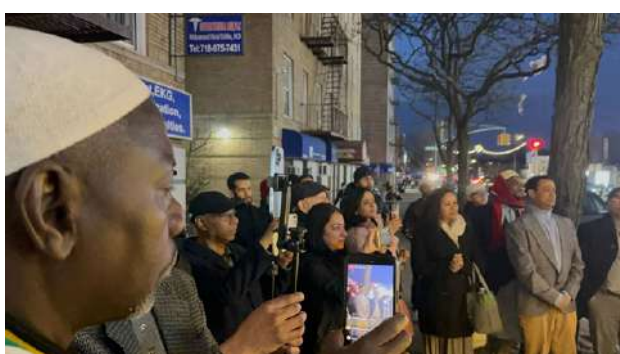
HIGHLIGHT

- Castle Hill Business Development District hosted the Ramadan Lights ceremony.
- Event took place in the Bronx on Friday at 6 PM.
- Community members gathered to mark the beginning of

the occasion. Families, business owners, and faith leaders stood side by side as the district lit up in a dazzling display, highlighting the importance of cultural celebrations in strengthening community bonds. Speakers at the event emphasized the significance of Ramadan, a month of

fasting, prayer, and charity observed by millions of Muslims worldwide. Local leaders spoke about the importance of inclusivity in New York City's diverse neighborhoods and how initiatives like the Ramadan Lights help build bridges between communities. The lighting ceremony served as a powerful

reminder of the Bronx's rich multicultural fabric. For many, the event was not just about illumination but about recognition—an acknowledgment of the city's Muslim community and the role they play in the social and economic life of the borough. The celebration brought a sense of pride and belonging to Muslim



Faith

ITVUSA Covers Bangladesh Society's Inspiring Quran Competition in Queens

Community Leaders Support Young Participants



Ahmed Latif

Bangladesh Society, Inc. hosted the Queens chapter of the prestigious Quran Competition 2025 at the Jamaica Muslim Center, bringing together young participants, religious scholars, and community leaders for a day of spiritual enrichment. This annual

HIGHLIGHT

- Bangladesh Society, Inc. organizes Quran Competition 2025 across all NYC boroughs.
- Queens chapter held at Jamaica Muslim Center on March 1st.

competition, organized across various boroughs in the United States,

aims to inspire a deeper connection to Islamic teachings among Muslim youth. The Queens event, held on Saturday, March 1st, featured Quran recitations by participants of different age groups, showcasing their dedication to memorization and proper pronunciation of the holy scripture. The

event was attended by Bangladesh Society's Secretary Mohammad Ali, Jamaica Muslim Center's Imam Abu Zafar Begh, and its Secretary General Aftab Mannan. ITV CEO Imam Muhammad Shahidullah, who played a key role in organizing and hosting the event, emphasized the importance of such

gatherings in nurturing the next generation's faith and understanding of Islamic values. With competitions set to take place in every borough, the initiative highlights the strong presence of the Bangladeshi-American Muslim community and their commitment to religious education. The participants not only demonstrated their exceptional skills in Quran recitation but also expressed their gratitude for the opportunity to take part in an event that strengthens their faith and unity. Leaders present at the event praised the initiative, recognizing its role in fostering a sense of community among young Muslims. They emphasized the importance of instilling Islamic knowledge in children and ensuring that cultural heritage is preserved for future

generations. The competition served as a reminder of the importance of religious and cultural identity in a diverse city like New York. Events like these not only allow young people to engage with their faith but also provide a platform for intergenerational learning, mentorship, and community bonding. As the Quran Competition 2025 continues across various boroughs, anticipation builds for the final rounds where the top contestants from each chapter will compete for top honors. The event has already left a lasting impact on participants and attendees alike, reinforcing the significance of faith-based education and collective support in strengthening the Muslim community.



Religion & Education

Welcome Ramadan at Elhaam Academy





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RAMADAN 2025 CALENDAR

THE DAYS OF MERCY

RAMADAN	DATE	DAYS	STOP EATING	FAZAR	SUNRISE	ZUHR	ASR	IFTAR	ISHA
1	01-MAR	SAT	5:09AM	5:14 AM	6:29 AM	12:08 PM	4:04 PM	5:48 PM	7:03 PM
2	02-MAR	SUN	5:07AM	5:12 AM	6:27 AM	12:08 PM	4:05 PM	5:49 PM	7:04 PM
3	03-MAR	MON	5:06AM	5:11 AM	6:26 AM	12:08 PM	4:06 PM	5:50 PM	7:06 PM
4	04-MAR	TUE	5:04AM	5:09 AM	6:24 AM	12:08 PM	4:07 PM	5:51 PM	7:07 PM
5	05-MAR	WED	5:02AM	5:07 AM	6:23 AM	12:08 PM	4:08 PM	5:52 PM	7:08 PM
6	06-MAR	THU	5:01AM	5:06 AM	6:21 AM	12:07 PM	4:09 PM	5:53 PM	7:09 PM
7	07-MAR	FRI	4:59AM	5:04 AM	6:19 AM	12:07 PM	4:10 PM	5:55 PM	7:10 PM
8	08-MAR	SAT	4:58AM	5:03 AM	6:18 AM	12:07 PM	4:11 PM	5:56 PM	7:11 PM
9	09-MAR	SUN	5:58AM	6:03 AM	7:18 AM	1:07 PM	5:11 PM	6:56 PM	8:11 PM
10	10-MAR	MON	5:56AM	6:01 AM	7:16 AM	1:07 PM	5:12 PM	6:57 PM	8:12 PM

THE DAYS OF FORGIVENESS

RAMADAN	DATE	DAYS	STOP EATING	FAZAR	SUNRISE	ZUHR	ASR	IFTAR	ISHA
11	11-MAR	TUE	5:54 AM	5:59 AM	7:15 AM	1:06 PM	5:13 PM	6:58 PM	8:13 PM
12	12-MAR	WED	5:53 AM	5:58 AM	7:13 AM	1:06 PM	5:14 PM	6:59 PM	8:14 PM
13	13-MAR	THU	5:51 AM	5:56 AM	7:11 AM	1:06 PM	5:14 PM	7:00 PM	8:16 PM
14	14-MAR	FRI	5:49 AM	5:54 AM	7:10 AM	1:06 PM	5:15 PM	7:01 PM	8:17 PM
15	15-MAR	SAT	5:48 AM	5:53 AM	7:08 AM	1:05 PM	5:16 PM	7:02 PM	8:18 PM
16	16-MAR	SUN	5:46 AM	5:51 AM	7:06 AM	1:05 PM	5:17 PM	7:03 PM	8:19 PM
17	17-MAR	MON	5:44 AM	5:49 AM	7:05 AM	1:05 PM	5:18 PM	7:04 PM	8:20 PM
18	18-MAR	TUE	5:43 AM	5:48 AM	7:03 AM	1:04 PM	5:19 PM	7:05 PM	8:21 PM
19	19-MAR	WED	5:41 AM	5:46 AM	7:01 AM	1:04 PM	5:19 PM	7:07 PM	8:22 PM
20	20-MAR	THU	5:39 AM	5:44 AM	7:00 AM	1:04 PM	5:20 PM	7:08 PM	8:24 PM

THE DAYS OF EMANCIPATION

RAMADAN	DATE	DAYS	STOP EATING	FAZAR	SUNRISE	ZUHR	ASR	IFTAR	ISHA
21	21-MAR	FRI	5:37 AM	5:42 AM	6:58 AM	1:04 PM	5:21 PM	7:09 PM	8:25 PM
22	22-MAR	SAT	5:36AM	5:41 AM	6:56 AM	1:03 PM	5:22 PM	7:10 PM	8:26 PM
23	23-MAR	SUN	5:34AM	5:39 AM	6:55 AM	1:03 PM	5:23 PM	7:11 PM	8:27 PM
24	24-MAR	MON	5:32AM	5:37 AM	6:53 AM	1:03 PM	5:23 PM	7:12 PM	8:28 PM
25	25-MAR	TUE	5:30AM	5:35 AM	6:51 AM	1:02 PM	5:24 PM	7:13 PM	8:29 PM
26	26-MAR	WED	5:28AM	5:33 AM	6:50 AM	1:02 PM	5:25 PM	7:14 PM	8:31 PM
27	27-MAR	THU	5:27AM	5:32 AM	6:48 AM	1:02 PM	5:26 PM	7:15 PM	8:32 PM
28	28-MAR	FRI	5:25AM	5:30 AM	6:46 AM	1:01 PM	5:27 PM	7:16 PM	8:33 PM
29	29-MAR	SAT	5:23AM	5:28 AM	6:45 AM	1:01 PM	5:27 PM	7:17 PM	8:34 PM
30	30-MAR	SUN	5:21AM	5:26 AM	6:43 AM	1:01 PM	5:28 PM	7:18 PM	8:35 PM

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GRADE KG - 7





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Event Details:

- Date:** Thursday, March 6, 2025
- Time:** 5:30 - 7:30 PM
- Venue:** Dreiser Loop Community Center, 177 Dreiser Loop, Co-op City, NY 10475

RSVP:

muslimadvisorycouncil@gmail.com

Inquiry:

718-822-5555



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Ramadan Quest 2025

Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday

Allahumma inni laka sumtu wa ala rizq-ika-aftartu
O Allah! I fasted for You and I break my fast with your sustenance.

اللَّهُمَّ إِنِّي لَكَ صُمتُ وَعَلَى رِزْقِكَ أَفطَرْتُ



01
Shaykh Waleed Elbatrawish
Welcome Ramadan

 <p>02 Dr. Omar Suleiman Ramadan Preparation</p>	 <p>03 Late Imam Abdul Baqi Islam & Muslims in America</p>	 <p>04 Imam Abdul Azeez Ramadan Series</p>	 <p>05 Dr. Sabeel Ahmed Who is Allah?</p>	 <p>06 Dr. Suzy Ismail The Three Stages of Tarbiyah</p>	 <p>07 Qari Nazrul Islam Correcting Our Quran Recitation</p>	 <p>08 Dr. Imam Shamsi Ali Davira chairunnisa Challenge and Opportunity</p>
 <p>09 Mustafa Yaseen Abdelrehem Youth Talk</p>	 <p>10 Dr. Suzy Ismail Youth Struggles of Social Media, Pornography, and Addiction</p>	 <p>11 Imam Abdul Azeez The Goals of Ramadan</p>	 <p>12 Imam Abdul Azeez Develop Self Censorship</p>	 <p>13 Professor Dr. Hamud Silwi Ramadan Talk</p>	 <p>14 Sheikh Qari Nazrul Islam Correct Your Recitation</p>	 <p>15 Afaf Nasher, Esq Our Faith, Our Right</p>
 <p>16 Dr. Debbie Almontaser Ramadan Reminder</p>	 <p>17 Shreen Mahmood Welcome Ramadan</p>	 <p>18 Imam Al Amin Abdul Latif Ramadan Life</p>	 <p>19 Hafiz Qari Shareeful Islam Quran Recitation</p>	 <p>20 Qari Jahirul Islam Our Ramadan</p>	 <p>21 Najla Khass Dr. Suzy Ismail Balancing Deen and Dunya</p>	 <p>22 Imam Hassan Akber Our Prosperous Ramadan</p>
 <p>23 Dr. Imam Shamsi Ali Understanding Tolerance in Islam</p>	 <p>24 Houria Abdelrehem Prepare Your Heart for Ramadan</p>	 <p>25 Dr. Janan Sarwar Nazmeen Salfarlie Our Prosperous Ramadan</p>	 <p>26 Shaykh Faisal Mi'raaj Un Nabi</p>	 <p>27 Dr. Mohammad Wahedur Rahman Ramadan and Quran</p>	 <p>28 Maryam Masud Quran with Maryam Masud</p>	 <p>29 Imam Siraj Wahhaj Our Ramadan</p>
 <p>30 Imam Hassan Akber Advising Youth</p>	 <p>31 Aquib Chowdhury Do Not Belittle Any Good</p>					



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COPO Brings Community Together for Annual Ramadan Lighting Ceremony

Elected Officials and Leaders Stand in Solidarity



Habiba Sultana

Brooklyn's diverse community came together last night as the Council of Peoples Organization (COPO) hosted its highly anticipated annual Ramadan Lighting Ceremony. The event, held in the spirit of unity and reflection, marked the beginning of the holy month of Ramadan and was attended by prominent city leaders, elected officials, and local residents. The ceremony was graced by the presence of Mayor Eric Adams, Assembly Member Bobby Carroll, Assembly Member Rodneyse Bichotte Hermelyn, and Council Member Mercedes Narcisse.

HIGHLIGHT

- Mayor Eric Adams, Assembly Members Bobby Carroll and Rodneyse Bichotte Hermelyn, and Council Member Mercedes Narcisse attended.
- Leaders and residents gathered to mark the beginning of the holy month.
- COPO continues its mission of fostering inclusivity and interfaith harmony.

Their attendance highlighted the city's commitment

to recognizing and celebrating the religious and cultural diversity that defines New York City. Alongside these officials, community leaders and residents gathered to welcome this sacred month of fasting, prayer, and spiritual growth. The Ramadan Lighting Ceremony has become an annual tradition for COPO, serving as a powerful symbol of togetherness, faith, and shared values. The event showcased the beauty of Ramadan, a time when families and communities unite in acts of devotion, generosity, and gratitude. For many, it was not just a celebration but also a reminder of the

importance of fostering understanding and strengthening the bonds between different communities. During the event, Mayor Eric Adams addressed the crowd, reaffirming his administration's commitment to supporting Muslim communities across New York City. He praised the contributions of Muslim New Yorkers in shaping the city's cultural and economic landscape. "Ramadan is a time of reflection, resilience, and giving back. It is inspiring to see so many gathered here tonight in the spirit of unity," said Mayor Adams. Assembly Member Bobby Carroll echoed these sentiments, emphasizing the significance of standing together as a diverse city. "Events like this remind us of the power of community and the importance of ensuring that all New Yorkers feel valued and represented," he stated. Council Member Mercedes Narcisse expressed her appreciation for COPO's efforts in bringing people together during Ramadan. "This lighting ceremony symbolizes more than just the start of Ramadan; it

is a testament to the strength and unity of our community," she said. Community members in attendance expressed their gratitude for the recognition of Ramadan in such a public and meaningful way. Many noted that the presence of elected officials signified a broader commitment to inclusivity and religious tolerance in the city. The event also underscored COPO's longstanding dedication to serving the community. Beyond organizing cultural and religious events, the organization provides essential services, advocacy, and support to immigrants and

As the Ramadan lights illuminated the evening sky, attendees took a moment to reflect on the deeper meaning of the holy month. Ramadan is not only a time for fasting but also for spiritual renewal, self-discipline, and acts of kindness. The lighting ceremony served as a reminder of these values, reinforcing the idea that faith and service go hand in hand. The annual event concluded with prayers, words of encouragement, and a shared commitment to fostering peace and understanding among different faith communities. As the city enters the sacred month of Ramadan, events like COPO's lighting ceremony continue to shine as beacons of unity, inclusivity, and hope. New York City remains a place where diverse traditions are celebrated, and communities come together to uplift one another. The Ramadan Lighting Ceremony hosted by COPO once again demonstrated the strength of solidarity and the importance of recognizing and respecting the beliefs of all residents.



underserved populations in Brooklyn and beyond. Through initiatives like food distribution, educational programs, and outreach efforts, COPO continues to be a vital pillar in the community.



Iftar Meals in NYC



Image Source: nycforfree.co

Jamshed Mozumder

BEEF UP NOODLE invites the community to enjoy a free Iftar at all its locations throughout Ramadan. Guests can gather for a warm meal, good company, and a welcoming atmosphere. Iftar will be served promptly at sundown, with dates provided. Participating locations include BEEF UP

NOODLE (350 3rd Ave), Mi Chinese Halal Kitchen, Tangy Noodle, and Old Sport Food. The menu features rotating cold dishes, hot meals like Big Plate Chicken and Curry Beef, as well as staple foods like rice and noodles. Join in for a meaningful community gathering and a delicious meal this Ramadan!