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Sunday, April 06, 2025
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NEW YORK NEWS

The Voice of People

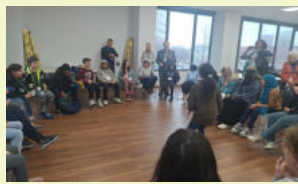
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Picture : Cherry Blossoms

Image Source : U.S. Department of State (IIP Bureau)

Nationwide protest against Trump

Jamshed Mozumder

Thousands of demonstrators gathered in Midtown Manhattan as part of a sweeping national protest on April 5, voicing unified opposition to President Donald Trump's latest economic and immigration policies. The "Hands Off!" movement, which spanned cities from New York to Alaska, was sparked by the administration's recent implementation of steep tariffs and its continued crackdown on immigration. Marchers flooded the streets with signs and chants, beginning at Bryant Park and proceeding up Fifth Avenue to Madison Square Park. Protesters criticized what they see

Protesters marched from Bryant Park to Madison Square Park

Anger over tariffs and immigration policy fuels turnout

Activists warn of rising economic inequality

Demonstrations spanned from New York to Alaska

as harmful economic decisions that could trigger a global trade war and deepen domestic inequality. The mood was both defiant and urgent, with organizers warning that current policies threaten workers, immigrants, and the broader economy. Many called attention

to the shrinking role of government in social safety nets, rising costs due to tariffs, and aggressive immigration enforcement. Participants included labor unions, immigrant advocacy groups, students, and community organizations, all united under the "Hands Off!" banner. Demonstrators emphasized the importance of public resistance, urging elected officials to push back against what they described as reckless governance. The protests marked a significant moment of civil action, reflecting growing unrest over the administration's direction and a call for change ahead of the next election cycle.

U.S. Sanctions South Sudan Over Deportation Refusals

Action heightens diplomatic tension amid civil unrest

Farhana Azmi

The United States has revoked all visas held by South Sudanese passport holders and will block further issuances in response to South Sudan's refusal to accept the repatriation of its citizens deemed to be in the U.S. illegally. The decision, announced by Secretary of State Marco Rubio, marks a significant escalation in diplomatic pressure amid broader immigration enforcement efforts by the Trump administration. Rubio stated that every nation must honor its responsibility to accept returned citizens, accusing South Sudan of exploiting U.S. leniency. "We will be prepared to review these actions when South Sudan is in full cooperation," he said, warning that the transitional government must cease taking advantage of the United States. The crackdown arrives as concerns mount over renewed instability in South Sudan. Civil war fears have resurfaced following the house arrest of First Vice President Riek Machar, a key opposition figure and former rebel leader.

South Sudan warned to comply or face continued sanctions

TPS for 133 nationals still in effect until May 2025

Civil war fears mount after VP Machar placed under house arrest

The conflict between Machar's allies and government forces continues to escalate, especially in the Upper Nile region. While the Biden administration had granted Temporary Protected Status (TPS) to South Sudanese nationals in 2023, allowing 133 individuals to remain in the U.S. legally with protection from deportation, the designation is set to expire on May 3, 2025. Another 140 people are eligible to apply. South Sudan's embassy in Washington has yet to comment on the visa revocations. Meanwhile, international mediators have arrived in Juba in hopes of preventing a return to widespread ethnic conflict, which previously claimed over 400,000 lives between 2013 and 2018.

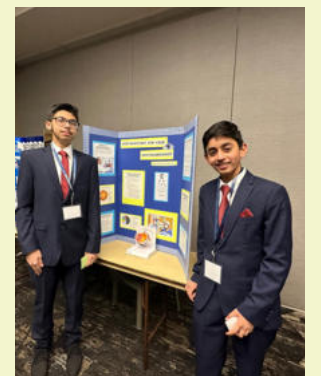
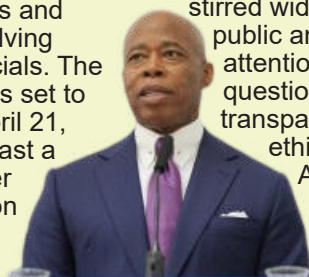


Mayor Adams Faces Federal Trial Amid Reelection

Hamid Abdullah

Mayor Eric Adams is facing federal corruption charges tied to alleged illegal campaign contributions and bribery involving Turkish officials. The trial, which is set to begin on April 21, 2025, has cast a shadow over his reelection campaign and intensified scrutiny of his administration. Adams has pleaded not guilty and has vowed to remain in office while

defending himself in court. The case, involving alleged ties to foreign influence and campaign finance violations, has stirred widespread public and political attention, raising questions about transparency and ethics in City Hall. As the trial approaches, city officials and voters alike are bracing for a legal battle that could significantly impact the future of New York City's leadership and governance.



Education

Al-Mamoor School's HOSA Team Shines at Syracuse Competition, Takes Top Honors



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Federal Trial

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Health Champions

Al-Mamoor School's HOSA Team Shines at Syracuse Competition, Takes Top Honors

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Fakhrul Islam Delwar Honored at New York City Hall

Staff Reporter

A special event was organized at New York City Hall on March 26 to celebrate Bangladesh's Independence Day. In this historic event, mainstream US politician and social worker Fakhrul Islam Delwar was honored with the 'New York City's Best Community Leader' award for his special contribution to social service. Fakhrul Islam Delwar is a well-known face of New York City and a proud

son of Beanibazar. He is the founder and community board member of Jamaica Bangladesh Friends Society. He has actively created a position for himself in mainstream US politics. For the past two decades, he has stood by the expatriates in New York as a community activist and has earned everyone's trust and love. Fakhrul Islam Delwar is the director of Fatema Brothers Group, a famous Bangladeshi business organization in

New York. He is one of the founders of AB Media Group. He is currently serving as the managing director of the group. Fakhrul Islam Delwar said, "For the past two decades, I have been working in the service of the community. I grew up in this community. I have been working with the mainstream to achieve the rights of the Bangladeshi community. Not hoping for any honor or award - being able to do something for the people .

Number 1

Bangladeshi gathering at the residence of the mayor of New York

NYN DESK

Bangladesh Heritage Day was celebrated grandly at the official residence of the mayor of New York City, USA. On the occasion of the reception, the mayor's building at Gracie Mansion was transformed into a gathering of Bangladeshis. The mayor's chief administrative officer, Bangladeshi-American Mir Bashar, welcomed everyone. He thanked the mayor for organizing the Bangladesh Heritage Day event. In the reception,



a cultural program was organized along with a discussion on the unforgettable victory story of Bengalis. There was a Bengali food stall. Many people applauded such an initiative of the mayor of New York, known as the capital of the world. They praised the mayor's sincere relationship with Bangladeshis. Mayor Eric Adams highly praised the Bangladeshis at the reception. He said, "The contribution of Bangladeshis to the development of the city is undeniable. He said that now is the time to raise our voice in the powerful city of the most powerful country in the world." At the ceremony, the mayor presented awards to four individuals for their special contribution to community service. At that time, prominent people from different classes and professions were present. Everyone expects that the Bangladeshi community will work unitedly to protect the honor of the country on US soil.



Healthfirst joined the Darul Uloom Eid Jamat with a special Eid promotion, spreading smiles and support. Their presence highlighted the importance of community wellness during this joyful celebration.

Prayer Time IN New York

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05:07	12:57	04:38	07:29	08:48
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05:02	12:57	04:39	07:34	08:52
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Meet the Press

TOPIC: US Tightens Immigration policy; Impact on Bangladeshi Migrants.
 আমেরিকার বর্ধমান কর্তার ইমিগ্রেশন নীতি; বাংলাদেশীদের উপর প্রভাব ও কল্যাণ।

Key note speaker: **Hon. Moin Choudhury, Esq**
 Attorney at Law, USA
 Chairperson, Immigrants International, USA

মইন চৌধুরী, এল.এ.ই.সি., চুক্তাউ
 ওয়াশিংটন, ডিসি/ইন্টারন্যাশনাল ইমিগ্রেশন, ইউ.এ.সি.

Date: April 13, 2025
 Time: 11 PM
 Place: 107 George Washington Plaza, Dhaka

Environment

A Greener City in Motion: NYC's Biggest Car-Free Earth Day Yet

DOT's bold initiative brings joy, awareness, and unity across neighborhoods

Tayeb Ali

New Yorkers came together in a vibrant display of community spirit and environmental consciousness as the city hosted its largest-ever Car-Free Earth Day on Saturday, April 26. With 54 streets and plazas across all five boroughs transformed into car-free zones, the event marked a bold step forward in New York City's commitment to sustainable urban living. Led by the New York City Department of Transportation (NYC DOT), the event kicked off the Open Streets season and celebrated the 55th anniversary of Earth Day. From midtown Manhattan to the neighborhoods of Brooklyn, Queens, the Bronx, and Staten Island, residents stepped out to walk, bike, and enjoy streets filled not with vehicles but with music, art, and community life. "Car-Free Earth Day is a chance for New Yorkers to enjoy our

city's world-class streetscapes as open spaces for all," said NYC DOT Commissioner Ydanis Rodriguez. "We must all do our part to reduce our carbon footprint and respect our environment." Signature locations included a stretch of Broadway from 17th to 46th Street, Dyckman Street in upper Manhattan, Woodside Avenue in Queens, Brooklyn's 5th Avenue from 40th to 50th Street, and expanded routes in the Bronx and Staten Island. Many of these spaces featured live performances, environmental education, and public art installations that engaged residents of all ages. Among the standout artistic features was Branching, a whimsical illustration honoring New York City's oldest trees, created by illustrator Ishita Jain. The image was displayed on over 300 JCDecaux bus shelters citywide. In addition, sculptural

works like Asphalt Asters by Molly Gambardella, crafted from repurposed plastic bags, and Rising Curtain by Anjali Deshmukh and Ernest Verrett, a beaded curtain mapping global temperature change, offered powerful visual commentaries on the climate crisis. Citi Bike, through a partnership with Lyft, also joined the movement by offering free 24-hour day passes, encouraging residents to try biking as an eco-friendly

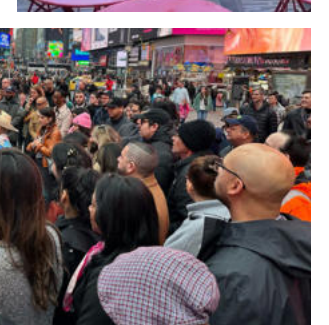
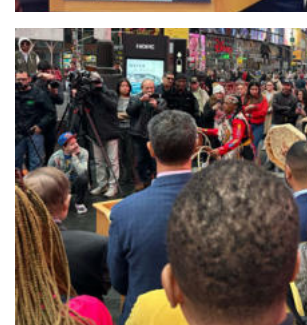
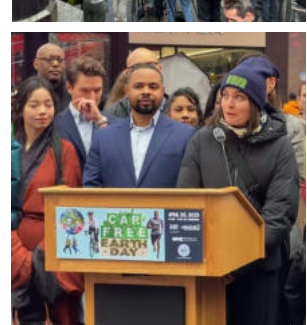
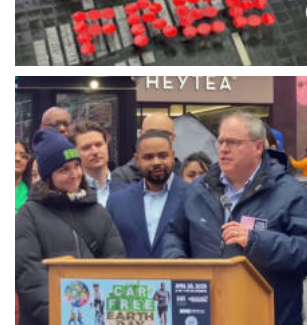
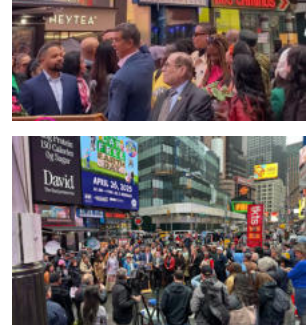
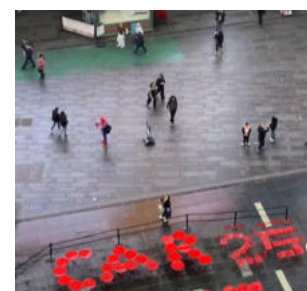
mode of transportation. "Bikeshare programs like Citi Bike are a powerful tool to help cities reduce carbon emissions," said Citi Bike General Manager Patrick Knoth. Elected officials and community leaders praised the event's expansion and its lasting impact. "This Car-Free Earth Day is an excellent reminder to enjoy our city sustainably," said Deputy Mayor Jeff Roth. Brooklyn Borough President Antonio Reynoso added, "It's about reclaiming our streets to create a safe space to build community, culture, and joy." For many, the event

are prioritized over private vehicle traffic. Local advocacy groups like Transportation Alternatives and Open Plans emphasized the economic, environmental, and social benefits of pedestrian-friendly streets. Bike New York contributed by offering free Learn to Ride classes and bike repairs, making cycling more accessible to everyone. The inclusive spirit of the day was also evident in the community-led programming at various locations. In Jackson Heights, Queens, the gold-standard 34th Avenue Paseo Park served as a model for how open streets can transform neighborhoods. On Staten Island, families enjoyed games and performances along an extended route on Port Richmond Avenue. State Senator Robert Jackson noted that car-free events help "signal our city's bold commitment to healthier neighborhoods and

a sustainable future." Meanwhile, Manhattan Borough President Mark Levine encouraged residents to "take a free Citi Bike ride and check out the public art and community programming," calling it a celebration of public space and a call to action for climate resilience. As the warm season begins, the success of Car-Free Earth Day sets a hopeful tone for future public space programming. By turning streets into hubs of culture, sustainability, and togetherness, New York City continues to lead by example—showing what's possible when a metropolis prioritizes people over cars. With momentum building from this event, and more Open Streets programming planned for the months ahead, New Yorkers are poised to embrace a greener, more connected city, one step—and one pedal stroke—at a time.



was more than just symbolic. It represented a tangible shift toward a people-first cityscape—one where residents



Heritage

From Culture to Civic Leadership: Bangladeshis Recognized in New York

Community Leaders and Professionals Honored for Achievements



Abdul Alim

In a groundbreaking celebration of cultural pride and civic inclusion, Mayor Eric Adams hosted the first-ever Bangladesh Heritage Night at Gracie Mansion on April 3, 2025, marking a historic milestone for New York City's vibrant Bangladeshi-American community. The event, organized with the support of the Bangladesh Society, brought together over 400 attendees from across the city, including

community leaders, professionals, public servants, and interfaith representatives. For many, this celebration was not just a festive gathering—it was a symbol of belonging. “Why did it take 110 mayors before the Bangladeshi flag was raised down at Bowling Green? Why did it take so long for you to have a Bangladeshi Day here in Gracie Mansion?” Mayor Adams asked, passionately addressing the crowd. “Just as I

must be substantive, I must be symbolic—because your children are watching.” Throughout the evening, speakers reflected on the contributions of Bangladeshi Americans in shaping the city's cultural, professional, and civic life. Mir Bashar, the highest-ranking Bangladeshi staff member in the Mayor's Office and the event's emcee, welcomed guests by declaring, “Our cultural influence is vivid and can be felt throughout the five boroughs... These local experiences along with our tradition are the testament of the incredible cultural mark Bangladeshi has left on New York City.” Chief Advisor to the Mayor Ingrid Lewis-Martin brought warmth and humor to her remarks, expressing admiration for the attendees' traditional clothing and acknowledging the sacrifices and service of Bangladeshi police officers in the city. “Our minority communities such as the Bangladeshi community believe in law enforcement and believe in safety and public safety,” she said, highlighting their role in upholding the values of the city. Mayor Adams emphasized the

vital contributions of immigrant communities like the Bangladeshis to the American fabric, asserting, “You're not American Bangladeshis. You're Bangladeshi Americans. I'm African American. A Chinese person is Chinese American. You never have to shred all that you bring from your dance, your food, your attire, your culture, your religion, your belief. You're supposed to bring that with you to make this great experiment of inclusiveness that this country represents.” The mayor also highlighted the concrete achievements of his administration, such as improved public safety, economic recovery, and inclusionary appointments across various ethnic communities. “It took too long to have the first Dominican deputy mayor, the first Filipino deputy mayor, the first Korean leading small business services, and so on. We didn't just open the door—we took the door off the hinges so it could never be closed again,” he declared to resounding applause. Several prominent Bangladeshi Americans were honored during the evening. Among them was Ruhin Hossain, founder of Rivertel, the first national telecom

enterprise in the U.S. owned and operated by immigrants. “Rivertel offers unlimited international calling to 180 countries and serves in eight languages. We are launching hundreds of stores next year,” he said proudly. Dr. Shamim Ahmed, a healthcare pioneer, was recognized for his service to the South Asian community through his leadership at Interfaith Medical Center and GetWell Med-Care PC. “We are here as a community to serve and survive in this great country. And I am grateful for this opportunity,” he said humbly. Cultural preservation was spotlighted through the work of honoree Manika Choudhury, founder of Shilpakala Academy USA. She thanked the mayor and her fellow organizers for supporting the arts and ensuring the rich traditions of Bangladesh remain visible among the diaspora. Finally, Abdul Chowdhury, a dynamic entrepreneur in healthcare and hospitality sectors, offered a candid and heartfelt acknowledgment of the journey the community has taken. “We never had access to the Mayor's Office like

before. But we are a hardworking, patient community—and yes, we will ask for more, because we are deserving of it,” he stated. The celebration was more than ceremonial—it marked a renewed partnership between City Hall and one of New York's fastest-growing immigrant communities. From traditional cuisine to community pride, the evening encapsulated what Mayor Adams referred to as “a city we all love and admire... one our children can grow up in and be proud of the legacy we're living.” The Bangladesh Society's initiative, in collaboration with the mayor's office, was hailed as a defining moment in mainstream civic engagement for the Bangladeshi community. As Bashar concluded the event, he said with pride, “This effort will serve as an inspiration for the next generation and strengthen the spirit of cultural pride and community leadership.” The evening closed with music, food, and fellowship—but its message echoed far beyond the walls of Gracie Mansion: Bangladeshi Americans are not just part of New York City—they are helping shape its future.



Business

USBCCI Announces Real Estate Expo 2025, A Platform for Growth

Leaders Stress the Importance of Collaboration and Inclusivity in Real Estate

Faisal Ahmed

The U.S.-Bangladesh Chamber of Commerce & Industry (USBCCI) recently hosted a press conference on April 3rd at Greater Nexus in Jamaica, Queens, to officially announce the USBCCI Real Estate Expo 2025. Scheduled for May 3, 2025, at the New York LaGuardia Airport Marriott Hotel, the event is poised to be one of the most influential gatherings in the real estate sector. Aimed at fostering economic growth, enhancing homeownership opportunities, and driving investment, the Real Estate Expo promises to provide invaluable resources for investors, homebuyers, and industry professionals alike. USBCCI President Md. Liton Ahmed opened the press conference with an inspiring keynote address, underscoring the significance of the upcoming expo. "This expo is more than just an event—it's a platform for building dreams, expanding businesses, and empowering communities," Ahmed stated. He further emphasized the vital role that the real estate sector plays in economic development and highlighted the expo's capacity to bring together stakeholders from various industries to collaborate, learn, and thrive. His speech centered on creating opportunities for



Image Source : theglobaleconomictimes.com

financial prosperity, especially through accessible financing options like interest-free Islamic financing. The expo's focus on financial accessibility was echoed by USBCCI Treasurer Ahad Ali, who spoke about breaking down barriers to real estate investment. Ali highlighted that real estate is a powerful tool for building generational wealth but acknowledged that financial accessibility remains a challenge for many. At the expo, attendees will have access to mortgage programs, down payment assistance grants, and Shariah-compliant financing options, all aimed at making real estate investment more

attainable. He stressed the importance of financial literacy, noting that understanding



financing options is crucial for making informed decisions in today's market. Secretary Ismail Ahmed also took the stage, emphasizing the social and economic impacts of real estate on communities. "Real estate is not just about buying and selling properties—it's about building communities, creating stability, and

fostering long-term economic growth," he explained. He also highlighted the event's commitment to inclusivity, particularly through partnerships with organizations like the Queens Chamber of Commerce and the New York Hispanic Real Estate Association. These collaborations ensure that people from diverse backgrounds can access the same opportunities in the real estate market. The USBCCI Real Estate Expo 2025 will feature over 60 exhibiting companies, offering insights into various sectors such as real estate, lending, legal services, construction, and more. With more than 1,500 attendees expected,

the expo will provide a valuable platform for networking and collaboration. Key panel discussions will include topics such as the impact of AI on real estate, interest-free Islamic financing, the NYC housing market outlook, and strategies for first-time homebuyers. Additionally, the expo will offer exclusive financing options, including low down payment mortgages and a \$15,000 down payment assistance grant, providing attendees with the tools they need to succeed. The event's return in 2025 is anticipated to be even larger and more impactful than the inaugural expo. USBCCI's focus on

accessibility and empowerment is evident in the comprehensive educational programs designed for attendees at all stages of their real estate journey. Whether you are a first-time homebuyer, a seasoned investor, or a real estate professional, the expo promises valuable insights and opportunities to grow and connect with like-minded individuals. In addition to the Real Estate Expo, USBCCI announced two more signature events for 2025, including the USBCCI Business Expo and the USBCCI Women's Entrepreneur Summit, both of which will take place at the New York LaGuardia Airport Marriott. These upcoming events further demonstrate USBCCI's commitment to fostering entrepreneurship and financial empowerment in New York and beyond. Free registration for the Real Estate Expo is now open, but space is limited. Interested parties are encouraged to reserve their tickets early to ensure participation in this game-changing event. For more information or to register, visit USBCCI Real Estate Expo Website. The USBCCI's Real Estate Expo 2025 is set to make a lasting impact on the real estate community, offering unmatched opportunities for growth, collaboration, and empowerment.



ALL Image Source : theglobaleconomictimes.com

Education

Al-Mamoor School's HOSA Team Shines at Syracuse Competition, Takes Top Honors

Students' Dedication and Passion Lead to Victory

Maimuna Chowdury

Al-Mamoor School's Health Occupations Students of America (HOSA) team has claimed an impressive victory at the recent competition in Syracuse, New York, bringing home the first-place trophy. The accomplishment, achieved by both high school and middle school competitors, is a testament to the students' exceptional dedication to health sciences and their ability to work together as a team. The competition, which brings together some of the brightest young minds in the field of health sciences, saw Al-Mamoor School's HOSA competitors demonstrate outstanding skill, knowledge, and

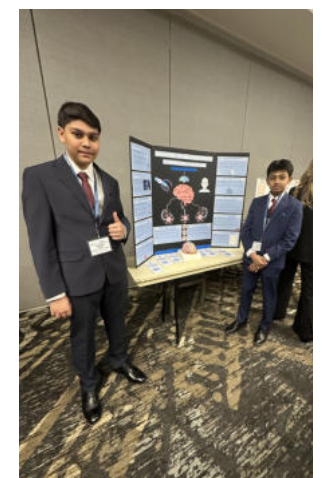
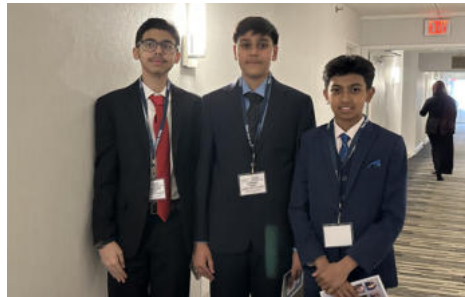
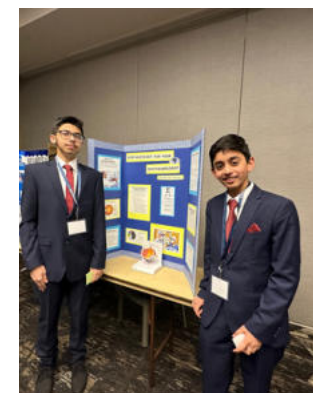
passion. Their hard work paid off in the form of a well-deserved 1st place finish, making the Al-Mamoor community incredibly proud of their achievements. The students' success is a reflection of not only their individual efforts but also the strong foundation of support provided by the school's faculty and the families that cheer them on. "It's truly an honor to see our students succeed in such a prestigious competition," said a proud member of the Al-Mamoor faculty. "This victory showcases the power of teamwork, discipline, and the importance of fostering a passion for learning. These students have worked tirelessly, and their win is a well-earned recognition of their hard

work and dedication." The students who participated in the competition spent months preparing, honing their knowledge of health-related topics and practicing their skills. Their preparation paid off as they faced strong competition from other schools, ultimately earning them the top spot. This victory is not only a personal achievement for the students but also a proud moment for the entire Al-Mamoor School community. The school's leadership celebrated the triumph as a reflection of the institution's commitment to excellence. "We are thrilled for our HOSA team's success in Syracuse," said a school spokesperson. "This achievement highlights

the exceptional talent and dedication of our students and the incredible support they receive from our families and faculty. We are committed to providing opportunities that allow our students to shine and succeed in all areas of their education." The victory has sparked a sense of pride throughout the Al-Mamoor community. Students, faculty, and families alike are celebrating the accomplishment, which serves as a reminder of the importance of fostering academic excellence, teamwork, and a passion for learning. "Our students' success is a reflection of the strength of our community," said a parent involved in the event. "We're proud

of everything they've accomplished, and we look forward to supporting them as they continue their journey in health sciences and beyond." This win has also inspired younger students at Al-Mamoor School, who now see firsthand the potential rewards of hard work and dedication. As the HOSA team continues to grow and achieve, their success serves as a model for future students interested in pursuing careers in health sciences. The Al-Mamoor School HOSA team's first-place finish is an incredible achievement that will undoubtedly have a lasting impact on the students, their families, and the school. It is a powerful reminder

that with passion, perseverance, and a strong support system, students can reach new heights and make their dreams a reality. The entire Al-Mamoor community is looking forward to the team's future successes and is eager to continue celebrating the exceptional talents of these young health science leaders. As the competition season progresses, the Al-Mamoor HOSA team is already preparing for future challenges, aiming to further hone their skills and inspire others to follow in their footsteps. This victory in Syracuse is just the beginning of what promises to be an exciting and successful journey for these talented students.



Faith & Unity

Building Bridges for a More Inclusive Community

Elhaam Academy and Kinneret Day School Students Connect Through Heritage



sparked meaningful conversations about faith, culture, and identity. Through storytelling, students were given the opportunity to express their personal experiences and traditions in a way that was accessible and engaging for their peers. This shared moment of cultural exchange not only deepened the students' appreciation of one another's backgrounds, but it also allowed them to explore similarities and differences in a respectful and open-minded environment. The trip was a powerful reminder of the importance of creating spaces where young people can engage with each other's beliefs and customs in a supportive atmosphere. By allowing students to share their heritage and listen

to others' stories, the event cultivated an atmosphere of empathy, understanding, and curiosity. Both Elhaam Academy and Kinneret Day School are committed to providing students with opportunities to explore cultural diversity, and this interfaith program is an important step in fostering a community of mutual respect. As these young students move forward, they will carry with them the lessons learned during this experience—lessons that will help them navigate a diverse and interconnected world with compassion and open-mindedness. The success of this event stands as a testament to the power of dialogue in promoting social cohesion and building stronger, more inclusive communities.

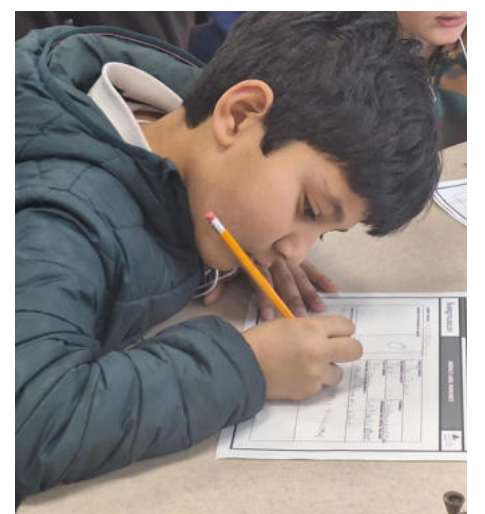
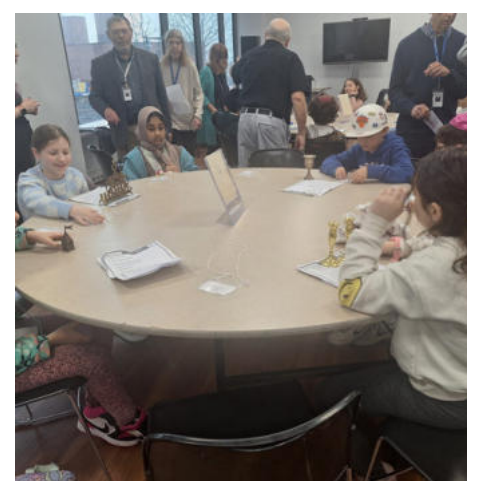
Mirza Hasib

Students from Elhaam Academy and Kinneret Day School recently took part in a unique interfaith program that aimed to foster understanding and

respect for each other's cultures and religions. The event, which was part of a larger educational initiative, brought together 4th-6th graders from both schools for a day filled with storytelling, sharing,

and mutual learning. During the event, students shared meaningful objects that reflected their heritage and faith. These items served as bridges to understanding, as each student explained

the significance of their chosen objects, providing insight into the traditions that shaped their lives. From religious symbols to heirlooms passed down through generations, each object



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SPECIAL THANKS



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United for Justice and Peace

Activists Demand Immediate Action in Washington D.C. to Stop Genocide in Gaza



Habiba Sultana

Thousands of demonstrators filled the streets of Washington D.C. on April 5, 2025, calling for an immediate end to the violence in Gaza and a halt to U.S. support for what organizers described as a genocide. The march, organized by a coalition including ANSWER, the Palestinian Youth Movement, and USPCN, centered on demands for a permanent ceasefire, an arms embargo, and accountability for U.S.-funded military actions in Palestine. Protesters carried banners reading “Ceasefire Now” and “Stop the Genocide,”

HIGHLIGHT

Protesters Demand Ceasefire in Gaza

Thousands Rally for Palestinian Rights

expressing outrage over more than 16 months of bloodshed in Gaza. The recent escalation—where over 500 Palestinians were killed in just 48 hours—fueled public anger and drew thousands from across the country. Speakers condemned U.S. financial and military support for Israel, accusing the government of complicity in the ongoing atrocities. “The horrifying images

from Gaza reveal a deliberate campaign of extermination,” one speaker said. “The American people cannot remain silent while this continues.” The march also addressed the growing repression of pro-Palestinian activism within the U.S. Protesters denounced the Trump administration’s efforts to silence dissent, vowing to resist all attempts to criminalize support for Palestinian rights. The protest showcased a wide coalition—students, healthcare workers, educators, labor unions, and organizations like Jewish Voice for

Peace and Al-Awda—demonstrating unity across backgrounds. Participants made it clear that the fight for Palestinian freedom was far from over. Chants of “Free Palestine” echoed through D.C. as the crowd vowed continued resistance. Organizers promised more actions and urged citizens to demand political accountability and a complete end to U.S. arms sales to Israel. As the march concluded, protesters left with renewed energy, insisting that justice for Gaza and the Palestinian people must remain a national and global priority.



BBC Makes History with Eid Coverage

Move seen as step toward religious inclusion in media

Gazi Selim

In a landmark moment for religious representation in mainstream media, the BBC broadcasted Eid prayers live for the first time from Bradford Central Mosque. The historic event marked a powerful gesture of inclusion, resonating deeply with Muslims across the United Kingdom. For many, it was a moment of pride and emotional significance, as Islamic practices were shared openly with a nationwide audience.

The live coverage of the Eid al-Fitr prayers allowed viewers of all backgrounds to witness the joyful and spiritual celebration that marks the end of Ramadan. By offering an authentic and respectful window into the Muslim community’s traditions,



Image Source: theguardian.com

the BBC moved toward demystifying Islam for the general public and normalizing it within British culture. British Muslims hailed the broadcast as a long-awaited acknowledgment of their faith in public life.

Community leaders, families, and youth expressed appreciation that one of the country’s most prominent media institutions gave space to an event so central to their religious identity. For

many, the broadcast also symbolized progress toward religious inclusivity in national narratives. The BBC’s decision to air the prayers was widely seen as a gesture of respect and an invitation to mutual understanding. It also allowed viewers unfamiliar with Islam to see beyond headlines and stereotypes, witnessing instead a peaceful and communal act of devotion.

As conversations about diversity and representation continue to grow in the UK, the live broadcast of Eid prayers stands as a meaningful milestone—one that may open the door for more inclusive programming in the future.