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Photo: Demonstrators march during a May Day protest in Los Angeles, on Thursday. Image Source: Jae C. Hong/AP/ cnn.com

Public Resistance Intensifies

Jamshed Mozumder

Protesters across the United States took to the streets on May 1 in a powerful display of resistance against the Trump administration's immigration policies, labor rollbacks, and executive overreach. Organized under the 50501 Movement—symbolizing 50 protests in 50 states, one movement—the May Day demonstrations drew crowds from Los Angeles to New York City, united in their call for justice. In Union Square, chants of "Free Palestine" and "Hands Off Our Unions" echoed as demonstrators condemned the

Over 1,000 protests erupted nationwide on May 1 as part of the 50501 Movement. Demonstrations opposed President Trump's policies on labor, immigration, and government restructuring.

administration's crackdown on immigrants and federal workers. The rally later moved to the steps of the New York Public Library, where speakers decried mass deportations and U.S. military aid to Israel. Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez energized the crowd, warning that the visibility of mass protests

unsettles politicians in Washington. Simultaneously, Sen. Bernie Sanders addressed thousands in Philadelphia, declaring that "this country belongs to all of us, not the billionaire class." With protests also erupting in Chicago, Denver, and DC, the nationwide mobilization underscored growing public frustration. Demonstrators demanded an end to deportations, voiced solidarity with students under threat, and called for constitutional protections to be upheld. As the 50501 movement gains traction, the message from the streets was unequivocal: "enough is enough."

End of an Era: Buffett to Leave Berkshire Helm

Investment titan prepares to hand over reins after decades of leadership

Hamid Abdullah

Warren Buffett, the legendary investor and CEO of Berkshire Hathaway, announced at the annual shareholder meeting in Omaha that he will retire by year's end. The 94-year-old billionaire named Vice-Chairman Greg Abel as his successor, a move that reportedly caught Abel by surprise. "The time has arrived," Buffett said, adding, "Greg should become chief executive." Despite stepping down, Buffett vowed not to sell any shares. "I have no intention, zero, of selling one share. It will get given away," he told a cheering crowd of 40,000. Addressing

Warren Buffett, 94, will retire as CEO of Berkshire Hathaway by year's end

Greg Abel, Vice-Chairman, will take over leadership of the \$1.16 trillion firm

Buffett reaffirmed his long-term commitment to not sell any shares global tensions, he cautioned, "Trade should not be a weapon," warning that tariffs and economic isolation could harm U.S. interests. Buffett, who transformed Berkshire from a struggling textile firm into a \$1.16 trillion powerhouse with stakes in Apple, Coca-Cola, and Geico, leaves a legacy praised by peers, including Apple CEO Tim Cook. "There's never been someone like Warren," Cook said. The transition marks the close of a monumental chapter in American business.

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Calls for Justice as Minister Tours U.S.

Demonstrations highlight deep divisions in Jewish communities

Farhana Azmi

Israeli National Security Minister Itamar Ben-Gvir's visit to the United States ignited a wave of protests and sharp political backlash, particularly in New York City. The far-right minister, long criticized for his incendiary rhetoric and ties to extremist figures, faced immediate opposition throughout his multi-stop U.S. trip. At a private event Thursday afternoon in a Manhattan steakhouse,

Six arrests and one reported assault during a protest at Chabad-Lubavitch headquarters in Brooklyn. Several members resign from a Jewish society at Yale over the event

protester Gabriel DeFazio burst in after hiding in a bathroom for two hours, shouting at Ben-Gvir to "get the (expletive) out of New York." Meanwhile, a demonstration at Brooklyn's Chabad-Lubavitch headquarters turned violent, with six arrests and one woman reportedly injured. Earlier in the week, Ben-Gvir's appearance near Yale University prompted several

resignations from the hosting Jewish society, with David Vincent Kimel comparing the event to hosting the Ku Klux Klan. The backlash continued Thursday with U.S. Rep. Jerry Nadler calling Ben-Gvir a "racist, terrorist, Jewish supremacist," and pledging to introduce legislation addressing violence in the West Bank. While some Jewish groups welcomed him, others emphasized the visit revealed deepening rifts in American Jewish identity. Several planned events were canceled following the controversy, underscoring the divisive impact of Ben-Gvir's U.S. tour.



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Rising Sisterhood

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Bangladesh Day and Bengali New Year Celebrated In Capitol Hill

Staff Reporter

Like every year, Bangladeshi immigrants celebrated Bangladesh Day at the initiative of the State Assembly and Senate on Capitol Hill in Albany, the capital of New York. In addition, for the first time, Bangla New Year was celebrated on the same day on Capitol Hill. Organized by the Bronx Bangladesh Community, more than 150 Bangladeshi expatriates reached Capitol Hill in Albany, the capital of New York, on April 28 to celebrate Bangladesh Day. At that time, State Assemblymen and Senators elected from the Bronx welcomed the Bangladeshis. In the afternoon, public representatives held a meeting with the Bangladeshi community on the third floor of the Senate building on Capitol Hill to exchange views on Bangladesh Day. Under the chairmanship of

Abdus Shahid, chairman of the Bangladesh Day organizing committee, and moderated by Shamim Mia, member secretary, State Senator Luis Sepulveda, State Senator Nathalie Fernandez, Assemblywoman Karnage Rayaz, Bangladesh Society President Ataur Rahman Selim, community activist Junaid Chowdhury, Abdur Rahim Badsha, Mahbub Alam, Abdul Hasib Hasnu, Samad Mia Zakerin, N. Islam Mamun, Jalalabad Association of America Acting General Secretary Rokon Hakim, Mamun Tutorials Principal Sheikh Al Mamun, and Swadhin Bangla Betar Kendra artist Rathindra Nath Roy spoke. At that time, prominent figures of the community, including Siraj Uddin Ahmed Sohag, Advocate Nasir Uddin, Journalist Habib Rahman, Zakir Chowdhury CPA, Shakhawat Ali, Farida Yasmin, Saidur Rahman Lincoln, and more than 150

expatriate Bangladeshis were present. After the meeting, lunch was organized at the Senate Building. Later, when the Senate session began, Senate Majority Leader Andrea Stuart Cousins welcomed the Bangladeshis to Capitol Hill. In the session, State Senator Luis Sepulveda, State Senator Jamal T. Bailey, State Senator Nathalia Fernandez raised proposals highlighting the history of Bangladesh's Independence Day on March 26 and the sacrifice of millions of martyrs, and the tradition and culture of the Bengali New Year, Pahela Boishakh. In light of their statements, all the state senators present supported the proposal. Meanwhile, at the initiative of NRB Worldwide President Biswajit Saha, a Pohela Boishakh recognition ceremony was organized for the first time on Capitol Hill by celebrating the Bengali New Year in collaboration with the State Assembly and Senate.

Photo exhibition of Bangladeshi Children For autism Awareness



Reporter

On the occasion of Autism Awareness Day, an exceptional photo exhibition has started at New York City Hall. The exhibition organized in the rotunda of City Hall has featured photos and profiles of children with autism.

Where the lives and personalities of Bangladeshi and Bangladeshi-American children with autism are highlighted. It is known that this exhibition will be open to visitors at New York City Hall until the end of May. After that, it will be placed

in a major museum. So that more people can know the stories of these children. Each photo displayed is accompanied by the children's story. Which tells about their dreams, struggles and

successes. The photos of the exhibition were taken by renowned artist Jaya Karim. She said, through this exhibition, I want to tell the world that autism is not a limitation.

Prayer Time IN New York

FAJR	DHUHR	ASR	MAGHRIB	ISHA
04:22	12:53	04:46	07:56	09:22
04:21	12:52	04:46	07:57	09:24
04:19	12:52	04:46	07:58	09:25
04:18	12:52	04:46	07:59	09:26
04:16	12:52	04:47	08:00	09:28
04:15	12:52	04:47	08:01	09:29
04:13	12:52	04:47	08:02	09:31

Number
150

MUNA Education Camp Held in New York

NYN DESK

The lives of the Sahaba are full of elements to follow for the Muslim community and especially for the workers of the Islamic movement. The lives of the companions of the Messenger of Allah (PBUH) contain the best path for us. Imam Delwar Hossain, National President of the Muslim Ummah of North America (MUNA) said these things while speaking at the chief guest at the New York North Zone Education Camp.



The two-day education camp was held at the Muna Center of Jamaica (Mosque R Rayyan) on April 26 and 27. It was presided over by Mohammad Rasheduzzaman, President of the New York North Zone. It was conducted by Mominul Islam Majumdar, General Secretary of the Zone. In the presence of more than 150 senior members and members, the subject-specific discussion was held by Munar National Vice President Abu Ahmed Nuruzzaman, National Vice President Harun Or Rashid, National Executive Director Arman Chowdhury, National Assistant Executive Director Professor Dr. Mohammad Ruhul Amin, Central Majlis-e-Shura member Abusamiha Sirajul Islam, Maulana Towaha Amin Khan, Dr. Ataul Osmani, Safayet Hossain Safa, National Assistant Finance Director Sheikh Jalal Uddin, Zone Assistant General Secretary Didarul Alam were present on the stage. National President Imam Delwar Hossain said that his religion is alive on the land of Allah due to sacrifice and hardship. The contribution of the sacrificed servants of Allah behind reaching the noble message of Islam to the horizons of the world is undeniable. The tireless work and sacrifice of the Prophets and their devoted followers have been immortalized in the pages of history. He said, the lives of the Companions are full of elements to follow for the Muslim nation and especially for the workers of the Islamic movement.

Bangladesh Day and Bengali New Year celebrated in Capitol Hill

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Unity

ICNA-MAS Opens Convention with Unity and Reflection

Imams and Leaders Convene in Queens for Launch of Milestone Event



emphasized the value of creating such intimate spaces to foster direct conversations between those at the helm of community guidance and advocacy. The dinner provided an opportunity to build stronger personal and organizational relationships—especially important in an era where faith leaders are increasingly called upon to address a wide range of social challenges. Helping Hand for Relief and Development was a primary sponsor of the evening, joined by other notable partners such as WhyIslam, ILF, ICNA Council for Social Justice, ICNA Sisters, Embrace, ICNA Relief, Young Muslim Brothers, and Young Muslim Sisters. These organizations, each deeply involved in education, justice advocacy, outreach, and service, collectively reflected the breadth and depth of ICNA's mission. Coordinators Dr. Abdul Jabbar and Tariqur Rahman ensured smooth execution of the evening, encouraging attendees to engage

with one another and prepare for the busy days ahead at the convention. Their roles in outreach and logistics helped create a space that was as welcoming as it was purposeful. This year's ICNA-MAS Convention represents a major milestone—50 years of dedicated service and commitment to fostering Islamic values, social justice, and civic engagement. The leadership dinner not only celebrated this legacy but also reaffirmed a shared vision for the future. As the national convention continues through the weekend, the themes of unity, community development, and faith-centered leadership remain central. With thousands expected to attend sessions covering everything from social issues to spiritual growth, the Imams and Leadership Meeting served as a powerful reminder of the foundation upon which ICNA stands: sincere collaboration among those who lead with faith and serve with heart.

Maimuna Chowdury

A spirit of unity and purpose filled Shirazi Restaurant in Fresh Meadows, Queens on Friday, May 2nd, 2025, as dozens of imams, community leaders, and organizers gathered for a special Imams and Leadership Meeting marking the opening of ICNACON 2025, the 50th Annual ICNA-MAS Convention. Hosted by the Islamic

Circle of North America (ICNA) and the Muslim American Society (MAS), the private dinner served as a meaningful kickoff to one of the largest Muslim conventions in North America. Attendees, including key figures from mosques, relief organizations, and youth groups, came together to honor half a century of collaboration, education, and grassroots leadership

in Muslim American communities. The evening featured fellowship, networking, and forward-looking discussion, with an emphasis on unity, inter-organizational cooperation, and strengthening community ties. While the national convention spans an array of lectures, panels, and family programming, this leadership gathering aimed to focus

specifically on those who shepherd their communities daily—offering them a space for shared reflection and strategic alignment before the broader public sessions begin. The event was held at Shirazi Restaurant, located at 183-10 Horace Harding Expressway, where guests were welcomed with a warm atmosphere and a full dinner service. Organizers



Faith

A Day of Prayer, A City of Faith

New Yorkers Celebrate Spiritual Commitment and Civic Harmony

Faisal Ahmed

Across New York City, communities of faith came together in a powerful expression of unity, prayer, and shared purpose during a day-long observance that brought religious leaders, congregants, and public officials into collective spiritual reflection. This citywide participation in the National Day of Prayer served as a living portrait of New York's interfaith vitality. One of the day's focal points was an evening gathering hosted by the New York City Mayor's Office of Faith-Based and Community Partnerships at the Christian Cultural Center in Brooklyn. With Mayor Eric Adams in attendance, and spiritual leadership provided by Rev. A.R. Bernard and Pastor Jamaal Bernard, the event offered a platform for both prayer and civic encouragement. "When we pray together,



we rise together," one participant shared, emphasizing the link between faith and public life. Held on Thursday, May 1, 2025, the events unfolded throughout the five boroughs, from mosques and churches to temples and public parks. At Makki Masjid on Coney Island Avenue, a 7:45 PM community prayer gathered Muslims for a peaceful reflection

on spiritual guidance and urban harmony. Meanwhile in Queens, the Community Interfaith Council organized a sequence of hourly prayers at Redfern Houses, Beach 20 Street Plaza, and Beach 17 Park, ensuring accessibility and visibility in local neighborhoods. Early in the day, the Hindu Temple Society of North America in Flushing conducted a series of traditional

prayers beginning with Upanishad Pārāyanam and followed by sacred rituals including Śri Śiva Abhishekam and Divyaprabandha Pārāyanam. These ceremonies blended ancient tradition with contemporary spiritual relevance, offering a serene start to the day's multi-faith offerings. Elsewhere in the city, prayers echoed from the Heavenly Vision Christian Center in

the Bronx, Goshen Temple of Seventh Day Adventists in Brooklyn, and Rissho Kosei Kai on the East Side of Manhattan. The Chabad World Headquarters in Crown Heights welcomed morning worshippers, while the Darul Uloom NY Mosque and Save the People Center in Jamaica, Queens, hosted a midday session emphasizing service and devotion. A highlight of the observance was the Virtual National Interfaith Prayer Service, hosted by Religions for Peace USA. Streaming between 2:00 and 3:00 PM, the online gathering centered on the theme "Protecting Democracy: Role of Faith." It brought together religious thinkers and community leaders from across the nation, illustrating the ongoing influence of spiritual values in democratic life. The session, accessible via Zoom and Facebook, underscored inclusivity and modern connectivity.

Organizers across all boroughs noted the significance of such a coordinated interfaith effort. "This day shows us that spiritual leadership isn't bound by walls or denominations," one faith leader commented. "It flows into the streets, into communities, and into the shared vision of a better city." For many, the National Day of Prayer served not just as a call to personal faith, but as a reminder of the collective strength found in religious diversity. It offered a moment to pause, reconnect, and recommit—to each other and to the city they call home. As evening descended over New York and the final prayers rose into the night, the day left a quiet imprint of unity, compassion, and shared hope—proving once more that in a city of millions, faith continues to be a powerful force of connection and inspiration.



Civic Engagement



Standing in Honor, Kneeling in Prayer

Blue Mass at St. Peter's Celebrates Courage and Service of Law Enforcement

Tayeb Ali

The towering stone walls of St. Peter's Roman Catholic Church in Lower Manhattan echoed with solemn reverence on Thursday morning as members of the law enforcement community gathered for the 4th Annual FBI New York Blue Mass. Hosted in recognition of National Police Week, the service provided a moment of quiet reflection and heartfelt tribute to those who serve and protect the public, often at great personal risk. As the clock struck 10:00 a.m., uniformed officers, agents, chaplains, and family members filled the historic pews of the church at 22 Barclay Street, joining in a

collective gesture of prayer, gratitude, and remembrance. The ceremony, organized by the Federal Bureau of Investigation's New York Field Office, has become a symbolic occasion to honor the sacrifices and steadfast commitment of law enforcement personnel across all levels of government. The Blue Mass tradition, observed in various cities nationwide, traces its roots back to 1934. Its purpose remains consistent: to offer spiritual support and communal appreciation for those whose duties place them in harm's way. The New York iteration of this Mass continues to grow in both attendance and significance, particularly

as it bridges the gap between faith and public service. This year's gathering was no exception. Clad in dress uniforms and ceremonial regalia, attendees stood together not just in honor of fallen officers, but also to uplift those currently serving in the line of duty. The Mass included scripture readings, hymns, and prayers for peace and protection, echoing the themes of unity and resilience that have long defined the law enforcement community. Although the service was rooted in Catholic liturgy, the message transcended denominations, appealing to a broad spectrum of faith traditions and moral

convictions. The event was a reminder that behind every badge is a human being—someone



with family, values, and a sense of duty not only to the law, but to their fellow citizens. Throughout the ceremony, there was a palpable sense of gratitude and humility. As one FBI official remarked following the service, "This Mass is

a moment to pause—not only to remember those we've lost, but to strengthen our resolve and remind ourselves of why we serve." The church's historic ambiance, paired with the poignant tones of organ music and reverent silence between prayers, underscored the depth of emotion shared by all in attendance. For many, the Blue Mass is not simply a ritual, but a source of spiritual renewal in the face of the daily challenges inherent to law enforcement work. The public was invited to attend, and many civilians did, standing shoulder to shoulder with law enforcement in a show of solidarity. In an era marked by both

praise and scrutiny for policing institutions, the Mass provided an opportunity for mutual understanding and renewed commitment to justice, compassion, and service. As the ceremony concluded and attendees filtered out into the bustling city streets, there was a sense of quiet dignity. The FBI's Blue Mass served not only as a ceremonial tribute, but also as a call to continue the mission of service with integrity and heart. With heads bowed and spirits lifted, New York's law enforcement community left with the knowledge that their dedication had not gone unnoticed—and that they do not walk their path alone.



Religion

Strength Through Faith: NYC Marks Day of Prayer

Hundreds benefit from partnership between nonprofits to fight food insecurity.



Sakin Auhin

Faith leaders and community members gathered at the Darul Uloom NY Mosque and Save the People Center in Jamaica, Queens, on Thursday to mark the New York City Day of Prayer, a solemn yet uplifting occasion that brought together representatives of diverse religious traditions in a show of unity, compassion, and spiritual reflection. Held from 1:00 to 2:00 PM on May 1, the event

was co-hosted by Darul Uloom NY Institute of Islamic Studies and the NYC Mayor's Office of Faith-Based and Community Partnership. This annual observance, rooted in the long-standing tradition of the National Day of Prayer, served as a moment for New Yorkers of all backgrounds to come together and reaffirm the role of faith in both personal and communal life. Spiritual leaders from across the religious spectrum addressed

the crowd, offering prayers and reflections that emphasized peace, mutual respect, and hope. Among the speakers were Sheikh Barkatullah, Pastor Phillip T. Falayi, Imam Muhammad Shahidullah, and Rabbi Bob Kaplan—each sharing messages that celebrated the strength found in diversity and the power of prayer in uncertain times. While each faith leader brought a unique perspective, a common theme resonated

throughout the gathering: that in a city as vibrant and complex as New York, spiritual unity and shared moral values can serve as a guiding light through challenges and triumphs alike. The presence of multiple faith traditions, standing side by side under one roof, embodied the pluralism that defines the city. Adding to the significance of the event, Mayor Eric Adams issued an official proclamation honoring the New York City Day

of Prayer. His message highlighted the deep role that houses of worship and religious leaders play in shaping the city's character and resilience. "Faith, and especially prayer, offers guidance and rejuvenates the spirit," the proclamation read, noting that "through prayer, many individuals have found clarity in the mysteries of the world, compassion for others, and courage in the face of great challenges." The mayor's remarks acknowledged the enduring impact of faith communities across the five boroughs, particularly in recent years, as spiritual and religious leaders have helped communities heal and persevere through crises. His words were met with appreciation by attendees, who welcomed the city's recognition of their ongoing contributions to public life. The timing of the event, coinciding with the first Thursday in May—the date federally designated for the National Day of Prayer since President Ronald Reagan's declaration in 1988—underscored its broader civic relevance. This year's celebration took on added meaning, as it marked nearly 250 years since the

first National Day of Prayer, established by the Second Continental Congress in 1775. For those present, the hour-long program was more than a ceremonial observance; it was a powerful demonstration of what it means to live in a community that values freedom of religion, civic engagement, and the bonds that unite rather than divide. The gathering not only honored tradition but also reflected the evolving nature of interfaith collaboration in one of the most diverse cities in the world. As the event concluded, participants expressed a renewed sense of purpose, inspired by the messages of hope and solidarity. Many left with the firm belief that prayer—regardless of faith—remains a vital force for healing, justice, and collective well-being. In an age marked by uncertainty and division, the New York City Day of Prayer at Darul Uloom NY stood as a moving testament to the enduring power of spiritual unity, and to the belief that, together, New Yorkers can continue building a more compassionate and united future.



COPO Youth Career Day! Join in Find Out!

May 17, 2025 Saturday
10:00am to 3:00pm

NYPD POLICE ACADEMY

130-30 28th Ave, Queens, NY 11354
Entrance on College Point Ave

Halal lunch will be served & gift bags will be given out

Find out about
Federal, State and City agencies
Career opportunities!

For further information contact:

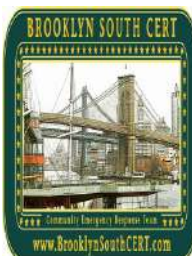


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Participants: Darul Uloom NY- Save the People-Afghan School-Jamil Foundation for Children & Youth - Mehrovar-Alfadila Community Services - African Cultures Promotions-Albanian Islamic Cultural Center-AI-Ihsan Academy-AI-Iman School-AI-Iman Saturday School-AI-Mehdi Mosque-American Council of Minority Women-BASTI-Council of African Imams-Islamic Leadership School-Jamaica Muslim Center-Khyber Society-Masjid Al-Hikmah-Masjid Al Gafar -Masjid Fouta Masjid Hummah - Masjid Taqwa-Masjid Salam-Masjid Sidiki-Masjid Saqfi-Masjid Yankasa - Makki Mosque-Masjid Ali-Miraj Islamic School-Moroccan Society of NY-Muslim Day Parade-Razi School-Moroccan American Council to Empower Women-UAMA Fatih Mosque Brooklyn-Yemeni American Association of NY-Yonkers Islamic Center-United Africa Football Club-Yemeni Women's Association- New York State Chaplain Task Force



Publication

Islamic Scholars and Community Leaders Celebrate New Publication

Second book in Tafsir-e-Gazinagari series launched with reflections and aspirations



Mirza Hasib

In a gathering that reflected both spiritual devotion and literary appreciation, the second volume of the Tafsir-e-Gazinagari series was officially launched in New York City on Saturday, April 26, 2025. Titled Humul Muflihoon, the new work was unveiled in a modest yet meaningful ceremony organized by the Muhaddis-e-Gazinagari Foundation USA. Held under the guidance of Maulana

Hamidur Rahman Ashraf, Principal of Darul Ahnaf New York, the event brought together an array of respected scholars, community leaders, and educators. Attendees included the book's author and prominent Islamic thinker, Sheikh Hammad Gazinagari, alongside Sheikh Azir Uddin, Khateeb of Baitul Aman Jame Masjid in the Bronx, and Sheikh Rafique Ahmad Refahi, President of the United Imams and Ulama Council USA. Their

presence underscored the deep spiritual and academic significance of the publication. The ceremony was enriched by the participation of writer Rasheed Jamil, social welfare secretary of Bangladesh Society Inc. USA Jamil Ansari, educationist Hafiz Mashkur Ahmad, and Secretary General of Hufaz Foundation of New York, Hafiz Maulana Nazmul Hasan Numan. Young leaders such as Nahidul Islam Nafi of the Bangladeshi

Students Union of New York and Ahmad Zareer were also present, reflecting the intergenerational resonance of the work. Though unable to attend in person, prominent scholars like Sheikh Abul Kasem Yahya, Principal of Darul Hadith Latifiya USA, and Hafiz Maulana Aatur Rahman of Masjid Mission Center, joined the event via phone, lending their support to the project and acknowledging its value. Speakers at the event praised Humul Muflihoon for offering a concise and accessible guide to success in both this world and the hereafter. Delivered in simple language, the text aims to serve as a spiritual compass for Muslims seeking to align their lives with Islamic principles. As one speaker noted, "Everything a believer needs to attain success in this life and the next is found here, clearly and practically explained." The release of Humul Muflihoon follows the widely acclaimed

success of Hudallil Muttaqeen, the first book in the Tafsir-e-Gazinagari series, published in 2023. That initial volume drew attention for its clarity, depth, and relevance to contemporary Muslim life. Building on that foundation, Humul Muflihoon is expected to further the series' mission of making Qur'anic interpretation more accessible and applicable for the modern believer. The series is authored by Sheikh Hammad Gazinagari, whose scholarly work continues to attract growing interest among both Bangladeshi diaspora communities and broader audiences in the West. Attendees expressed their gratitude for his contributions, which they believe are bridging the gap between traditional Islamic scholarship and the lived realities of Muslims in the diaspora. In a promising announcement during the event, representatives from the Muhaddis-e-Gazinagari

Foundation USA confirmed that the third volume of the series is already in development. Titled Hudallin Naas, the upcoming book will offer a concise tafsir of the entire thirty Juz' (sections) of the Qur'an, continuing the series' commitment to clarity and accessibility. As the ceremony concluded, participants left with a renewed sense of purpose and connection to Islamic scholarship. For many, Humul Muflihoon represents more than just a book—it's a spiritual companion, a learning resource, and a testament to the enduring relevance of Qur'anic wisdom in daily life. The launch reaffirmed the vibrant intellectual and spiritual life of New York's Muslim community, highlighting its commitment to nurturing both traditional knowledge and future generations. With continued support and engagement, the Tafsir-e-Gazinagari series appears poised to leave a lasting legacy in Islamic literature.



Women

The Future Is Muslim, Woman, and Rising

Malikah's Power100 Initiative Begins with Powerful Night of Unity and Purpose



Taslima Haque

In a bold and celebratory step toward uplifting Muslim women leaders, nonprofit organization Malikah launched its Power100 Muslim Women initiative with a landmark event in New York City. On Friday evening, 100 Muslim women from across the five boroughs gathered for the first time in a powerful show of unity, purpose, and sisterhood. The event, held at the Islamic Center at NYU (ICNYU), marked the beginning of a transformative journey aimed at fostering connection, leadership,

and collective care among Muslim women changemakers. Malikah, a grassroots organization dedicated to building safety and power in communities, curated this initiative to recognize and elevate the impact of Muslim women who are shaping the city's neighborhoods, institutions, and social movements. From public servants and entrepreneurs to artists, healers, and organizers,



the women brought together represent a broad spectrum of talent, leadership, and community dedication. The evening was not only a celebration but also a call to action. Attendees broke bread, shared stories, and began forming bonds that will continue to grow over the course of the year through two more in-person gatherings and an ongoing virtual community. The initiative's structure is designed to provide both emotional support and professional empowerment in a space that centers joy, faith, and solidarity.

"This was nothing short of historic," said Malikah in a statement following the event. "We broke bread, built bonds, and began a journey to grow a new kind of sisterhood, rooted in community, joy, and collective care." Organizers emphasized that this is just the beginning — a pilot that will expand and evolve, supporting a larger vision of Muslim women's leadership grounded in justice and healing. The Power100 event was made possible with the support of several generous sponsors, including Ben & Jerry's,

Sanzo, Lush, Moka Café, Fable and Mane, Vela Scarves, and ICNYU. Their backing allowed Malikah to host a space that was as nourishing and intentional as it was celebratory. Though the night was the first official gathering, it felt more like a reunion — a testament to the strength and readiness of Muslim women across the city to come together and lead. By acknowledging their work and creating a structured space for continued growth, Malikah is setting the foundation for lasting impact, not just within

the Muslim community, but across New York's broader civic and cultural landscape. With two more in-person events to follow and a year-long virtual network taking shape, the Power100 Muslim Women initiative is poised to deepen relationships, amplify voices, and empower action in ways that reflect the urgent needs and dynamic contributions of Muslim women today. As Malikah noted in their closing reflection, "The future is Muslim, woman, and rising." With this initiative, that future has officially begun.



Awareness

Rights, Safety, and Sisterhood

Elhaam Academy Hosts Safety Workshop with Human Rights Experts



Tamzida Mushfiq

In the heart of Jamaica, Queens, a unique and timely community event brought together Muslim women and children to learn, connect, and stand strong in the face of growing concerns over safety and discrimination. On Saturday, May 3, the Elhaam Academy hosted a free training session featuring two impactful workshops: a Bystander Intervention training led by Malikah and a Know Your Rights session delivered by the NYC Commission on Human Rights. The event, held at

87-41 165th Street, was presented in collaboration with Save the People, ASHO, Malikah, Elhaam Academy, and received support from Council Member Nantasha Williams. With safety and empowerment at its core, the program was designed to provide Muslim families with the knowledge and tools to navigate increasingly challenging social environments. Malikah, a grassroots organization focused on gender justice and community resilience, began the afternoon with a workshop on bystander intervention.

Attendees engaged in practical exercises and discussions about how to safely intervene in instances of harassment or threats against community members. The training emphasized real-life scenarios, helping participants understand when to act, how to de-escalate tense situations, and ways to support victims without compromising their own safety. Following this, the NYC Commission on Human Rights offered a Know Your Rights presentation tailored to the needs of New York's diverse communities. The session highlighted

the legal protections afforded to individuals under New York City human rights law, covering key topics such as housing, employment, and public accommodations. Attendees also learned how to report discrimination and access available resources if their rights are violated. To enhance the welcoming atmosphere, the event offered free henna art to the participants, bringing a touch of culture and celebration to an afternoon rooted in advocacy and learning. This thoughtful

gesture helped set a warm, inclusive tone, encouraging participation and dialogue among attendees. Organizers stressed the importance of creating safe spaces where education, empowerment, and community building go hand in hand. The event served as a reminder that knowledge is power—particularly for marginalized groups who often face additional barriers to safety and justice. Through practical training and legal education, participants left not only better

equipped to protect themselves and others but also with a renewed sense of confidence and community strength. As social and political climates continue to shift, events like these play a crucial role in fostering resilience and solidarity among New York's vibrant Muslim population. By reinforcing core values of justice, compassion, and self-advocacy, the initiative reflected the deep commitment of local organizations and leaders to ensure every New Yorker feels seen, supported, and safe.





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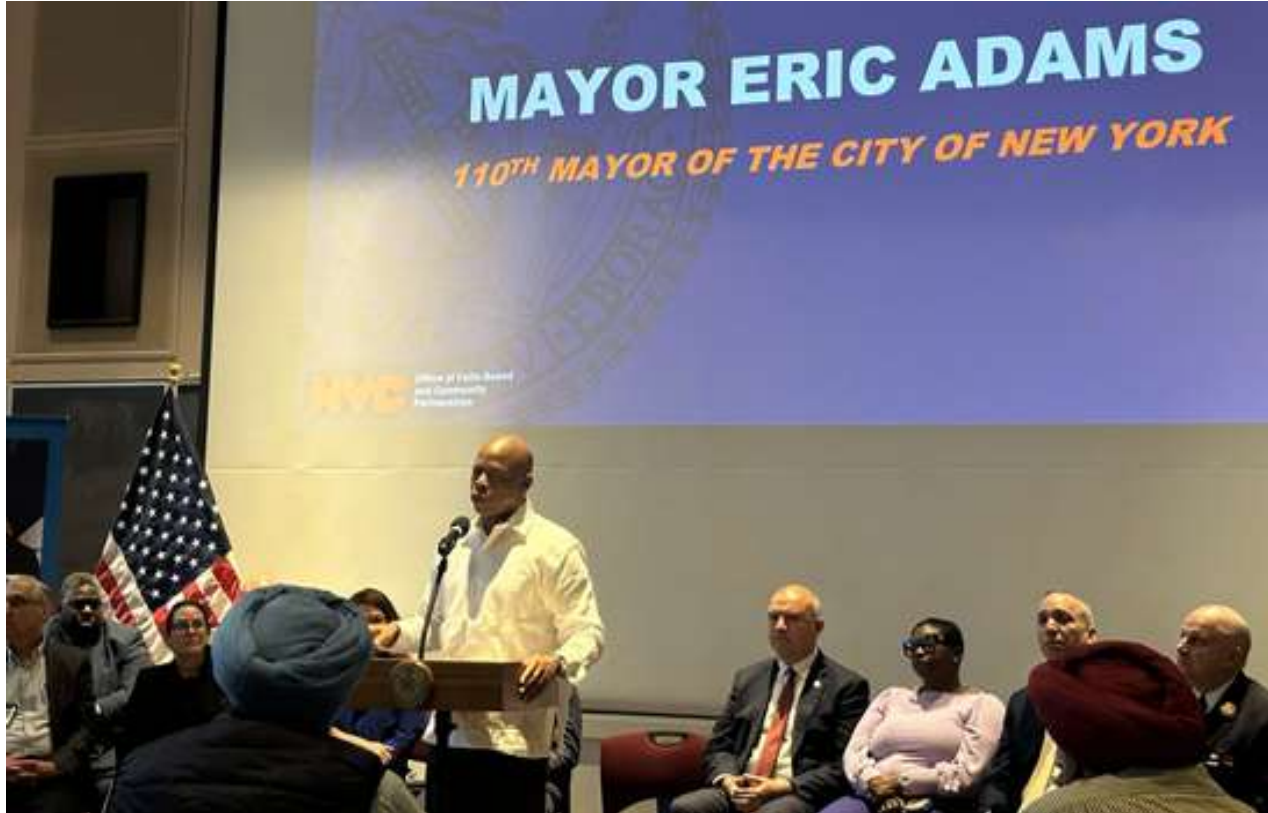
Borough Of Queens

Uniting Boroughs Through Faith

Mayor Adams Hosts Queens Gathering to Bridge Faith and Public Resources

Mehedi Hassan

A crowd of faith and community leaders filled Queens Hall at Queens College on Monday, April 28 at 5:30 PM for the latest installment of the Faith in Your Borough (5 Boro Tour & Evening of Faith) initiative. Hosted by the Mayor's Office of Faith-Based and Community Partnerships (OFCP), the event aimed to connect houses of worship and nonprofit organizations with key city agencies to address borough-specific concerns and expand community access to public services. With Mayor Eric Adams and senior administration officials in attendance, the gathering emphasized the vital role religious institutions play in neighborhood cohesion and social resilience. Leaders from churches, synagogues, mosques, temples, and a variety of local organizations joined the conversation on how to better serve their communities with the support of municipal infrastructure. As part of the bi-monthly five-borough tour, this Queens stop brought together representatives from crucial



solutions to urban challenges often begin at the local level—and that faith-based leaders are pivotal in building healthy, safe, and thriving communities. This edition of Faith in Your Borough exemplified the city's ongoing efforts to not only honor the diverse spiritual traditions represented throughout New York City, but to actively involve them in shaping policy and service delivery. In a city as vibrant and complex as New York, strengthening partnerships between government and faith institutions has proven to be a valuable step toward inclusive civic engagement and community empowerment. The event concluded with an invitation for attendees to continue participating in future borough events and to collaborate with city departments on ongoing projects and initiatives. As the 5 Boro Tour & Evening of Faith continues, it promises to deepen connections across neighborhoods while reinforcing the message that faith and governance can work hand in hand to build a better New York.

agencies including the Department of Education (DOE), Department of Buildings (DOB), Department of Finance (DOF), the Fire Department of New York (FDNY), and the Department of Youth and Community Development (DYCD). These entities provided technical assistance, offered insights on city services, and responded to inquiries regarding neighborhood development, safety, and educational

programming. The purpose of the Faith in Your Borough initiative is to ensure that local faith communities—often among the first responders during times of crisis—have the tools they need to continue supporting their constituents effectively. Many faith-based organizations serve as food pantries, educational hubs, and community shelters, especially in underserved areas. Ensuring their access to

resources, streamlined communication with city departments, and up-to-date regulatory guidance is essential to enhancing their impact. During the event, attendees had the opportunity to speak directly with city personnel about permitting issues, youth programming, fire safety compliance, and other concerns that directly affect houses of worship and the neighborhoods they serve. By creating space for two-way

dialogue, the initiative also helped identify systemic challenges that can now be addressed through interagency cooperation. The Queens gathering demonstrated a model of inclusive governance that prioritizes listening to the grassroots and equipping them with tangible support. By embedding these sessions across each borough, Mayor Adams and the OFCP underscore the city's recognition that



Real Estate

Breaking New Ground in Islamic Finance

Industry Experts Discuss Shariah-Compliant Real Estate Solutions



that eliminate interest, emphasize shared risk, and ensure asset-backed security. These structures offer viable alternatives for Muslims seeking to purchase homes or invest in real estate without compromising their faith. A major highlight of the seminar was the introduction of Islamic Real Estate Investment Trusts (iREITs)—faith-compliant versions of conventional REITs. These investment vehicles allow individuals to pool their money in income-generating properties while avoiding industries and transactions prohibited in Islam, such as alcohol, gambling, and interest-based lending. iREITs must undergo stringent ethical screening and be governed by a Shariah advisory board to ensure compliance with Islamic commercial law. Speakers and attendees also discussed emerging Islamic finance platforms in North America, such as Sukoon REIT in the U.S. and Manzil Mortgage Fund in Canada, which are pioneering halal financial

solutions in a Western regulatory environment. These efforts are paving the way for Muslims in the West to participate in wealth-building through real estate in ways that align with both their values and financial goals. Other themes included the broader benefits of Islamic finance for financial inclusion, its alignment with sustainability and ethical investment principles, and the global growth of sukuk (Islamic bonds) used in real estate and infrastructure development. The seminar highlighted the urgent need for continued education, regulatory frameworks, and cross-border collaboration to support the expansion of Islamic finance in real estate markets. The session concluded with a shared recognition that Islamic finance—rooted in transparency, ethics, and real economic activity—is not just a niche alternative but a responsible and practical framework that can serve a diverse, modern society.

Humayun Azad

In an era of growing demand for values-driven investing, the USBCCI Real Estate Expo 2025 marked a turning point for the Muslim community and ethical investors alike. Held on April 28 at the New York LaGuardia Airport Marriott, the event featured a landmark seminar titled "Introduction to Islamic Finance in Real Estate" that explored

how Islamic financial principles can be successfully applied to the American real estate market. Moderated by Muhammad Shahidullah, the seminar

Ayaz Shah, Member of the Policy Council at Darul Uloom New York; Sheikh Mufti Manzoor Ahmad, Resident Mufti at Darul Efta, Darul Uloom NY; and Mufti

Sheikh Saad Haque,



drew a diverse crowd of professionals, scholars, and investors eager to learn about faith-based financial alternatives. Featured speakers included Mufti Dr. Syed

Religious Director at ZIA and a noted Islamic finance researcher. Dr. Mufti Yousuf Sultan, CSAA, Founder & CEO of ADL Advisory in Malaysia, contributed a

virtual presentation that was screened during the session, enriching the conversation with insights from abroad. This was not just an academic discussion. Attendees explored practical, Shariah-compliant models for property financing and development. Key topics included Murabaha (cost-plus sale), Ijara (lease-to-own), and Diminishing Musharakah (co-ownership partnerships)—financial instruments



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- USAF Preparation Course

Real Estate

Real Estate's Future on Display at USBCCI Expo 2025

Thousands gather to explore investment strategies, innovation, and Islamic finance



Sourav Hasan

A dynamic wave of thought leadership, innovation, and ethical finance swept through the real estate community as the USBCCI Real Estate Expo 2025 brought together more than 1,000 industry stakeholders at the New York LaGuardia Airport Marriott. Organized by the U.S. Bangladesh Chamber of Commerce & Industry (USBCCI) and presented by MortgageDepot Team Bailey, the event served as a pivotal forum for professionals across all segments of the real estate sector—from first-

time buyers to seasoned investors, developers, and policymakers. The expo commenced with a well-attended networking breakfast at 10:00 AM, setting the tone for a packed schedule of panels, exhibits, and workshops. More than 50 exhibitors filled the venue with interactive booths and displays, offering attendees a chance to engage with products, services, and projects shaping the future of the housing market. Throughout the day, panels offered deep dives into topics like 2025 market trends, real estate development strategies, first-time

home buying, and career opportunities within the industry. One of the most compelling aspects of the expo was its focus on Islamic finance and ethical investment. Moderated by Muhammad Shahidullah, Director of Islamic Finance Academy and Advisory Services (IFAAS) USA, the session titled Understanding Islamic Finance in Real Estate addressed critical themes such as Shariah-compliant home financing, Islamic Real Estate Investment Trusts (I-REITs), and faith-based financial inclusion. Panelists

including Mufti Dr. Syed Ayaz Shah, Sheikh Mufti Manzoor Ahmad, Dr. Mufti Yousuf Sultan, and Mufti Sheikh Saad Haque offered a nuanced perspective on the intersection of finance and faith, attracting significant engagement from attendees interested in interest-free alternatives. A standout moment came during the 4:15 PM workshop led by Jay Tsao, which drew a capacity audience eager for insights into innovation and entrepreneurial strategies in the modern real estate market. Earlier, the 1:00 PM opening ceremony

welcomed guests with remarks from top organizers and collaborators, while the 5:30 PM closing offered a reflective wrap-up of key takeaways and forward-looking statements from USBCCI leadership. The event also featured high-profile speakers such as Fameem Hossain (Guaranteed Rate), Nabil Syed (SBT Realty), Hussam Qutub (Guidance Residential), Lisa Pinhas (Citizens Bank), and Sardar M. Asadullah of the NYC Mayor's Office. Their contributions offered a robust blend of policy insight, financial guidance, and community-building strategies that resonated across the spectrum of attendees. Collaborators included industry leaders such as HGAR, LIBOR, REBNY, OneKey MLS, and the Queens Chamber, with media and technology support from Daily News and USB Digital Solutions. The organizational synergy demonstrated the power of cross-sector partnerships in addressing housing challenges and expanding economic

opportunity. According to USBCCI organizers, the expo is expected to generate over 1 million media impressions and was covered by more than ten media outlets, underscoring the growing influence of this annual event. "This was more than a conference," noted a USBCCI representative. "It was a catalyst for community engagement, ethical investment, and sustainable growth across the real estate spectrum." The event's impact extended beyond brand promotion and business leads. It offered a genuine space for learning, inclusive dialogue, and strategic partnerships. Participants walked away with not just new contacts, but new perspectives on the possibilities of ethical and community-focused real estate development. With an eye toward innovation, collaboration, and inclusion, the USBCCI Real Estate Expo 2025 reaffirmed its role as a cornerstone event for professionals ready to shape the future of real estate in New York and beyond.



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Real Estate



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END PAGE

Islamic Contributions Acknowledged in New York's Cultural Calendar

CAIR-NY and lawmakers push back against discrimination with month-long observance

Habiba Sultana

In a milestone for inclusivity and cultural recognition, the New York State Senate has passed Resolution 257, officially designating May 2025 as International Muslim Heritage Month. The resolution recognizes the invaluable contributions of Muslim Americans to the fabric of American society and sets the stage for a series of educational and cultural events across the state. The initiative, strongly supported by the Council on American-Islamic Relations New York (CAIR-NY), reflects a broader statewide commitment to countering Islamophobia and promoting diversity. It marks the first time the state has formally established a month dedicated to honoring Islamic heritage on such a scale. "This resolution embodies the New York

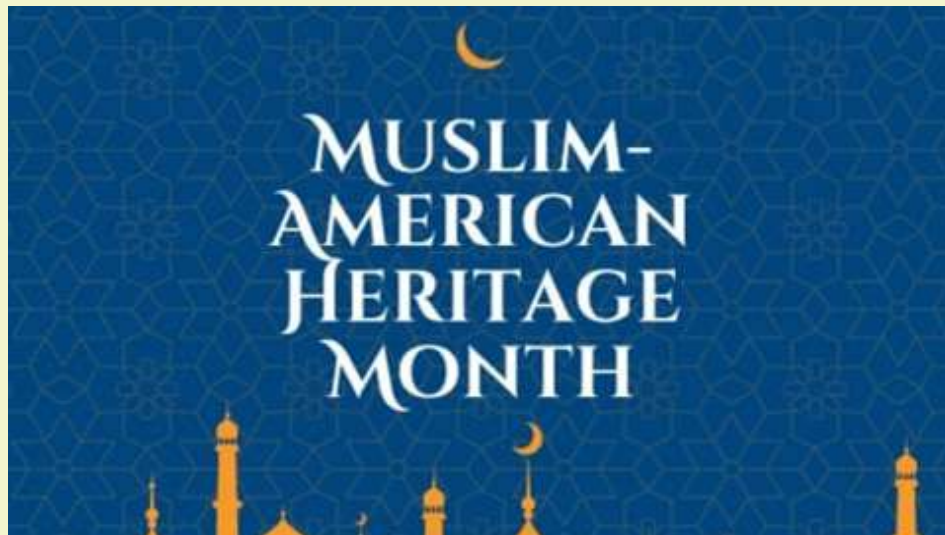


Image Source: cair.com

spirit of openness and offers a precious lever against prejudice," said Afaf Nasher, Executive Director of CAIR-NY. "It allows us to amplify American Muslim voices in the face of persistent discrimination." The resolution outlines a multifaceted approach to the observance, including the exploration of authentic Islamic history, the celebration

HIGHLIGHT

- New York State Senate passed Resolution 257, declaring May 2025 as International Muslim Heritage Month.
- The move celebrates Muslim contributions to American society and promotes cultural inclusivity.

of notable Muslim figures, recognition of contributions to society, and the strengthening of intercultural dialogue. These pillars are intended not only to educate the broader public but also to create spaces for Muslim communities to express identity, resilience, and civic pride. As part of the statewide initiative, schools, libraries,

community centers, and local governments are expected to host events that foster greater understanding of Islamic traditions, achievements, and values. The month also presents an opportunity for Muslims across New York to highlight their roles in various sectors—from healthcare and education to arts, business, and public service. CAIR-NY, one of the nation's most prominent Muslim civil rights organizations, views the Senate's action as more than symbolic. It is, according to Nasher, "a concrete step toward building a society where equity and justice are not ideals but realities." She called upon local communities and leaders to embrace the opportunity by organizing events, workshops, and public forums that reflect the rich diversity of Muslim heritage. The declaration

comes at a time when many Muslim Americans continue to face bias and misrepresentation. Advocates hope that International Muslim Heritage Month will serve not only as a celebration but also as a platform for dialogue, education, and solidarity. While this resolution marks a significant achievement for advocates of cultural recognition, it is also a reminder of the work that remains. The commitment shown by the New York State Senate offers a model for other states to follow in acknowledging the histories and identities of minority communities. Throughout May 2025, New Yorkers from all walks of life are joining the celebrations, deepening their understanding of Islam's global legacy, and strengthening the shared values that bind diverse communities together.

Rain, Crashes, and a McLaren One-Two: Miami Sprint Shakes Up F1

Norris wins as Verstappen falters in dramatic Miami Gardens sprint race



Photo: Lando Norris wins Formula 1 sprint race in Miami

Image Source: nbcnews.com

Shoaib Akther

In a wet and wild Formula 1 sprint race at the Miami Grand Prix on Saturday, May 3, Lando Norris delivered a standout performance to claim victory, navigating a chaotic field of crashes, penalties, and rain delays. The McLaren driver surged to the front in the early corners and capitalized

on a flurry of pit lane drama to secure his first sprint win of the season. Norris started the race in third and immediately jumped to second at the first turn, tailing teammate Oscar Piastri. A crucial series of pit stops near the end allowed Norris to emerge in front, and with the race finishing under a safety car due to debris from

multiple collisions, he cruised to the checkered flag. "Lovely job. Well done boys," Norris said calmly over the team radio after the win, a moment of quiet confidence following a stretch of underwhelming results in the championship. While he closed the gap slightly to Piastri in the standings, the Australian

retains the top spot. Piastri's consistent showing earned him second place, reinforcing McLaren's recent momentum. Ferrari's Lewis Hamilton, in his first year with the Italian outfit, crossed the line third, marking a high point in what has otherwise been a turbulent season. "I'm so happy with that,"

HIGHLIGHT

- Lando Norris wins the Sprint Race at the Miami Grand Prix on Saturday, May 3, under rainy conditions.
- Oscar Piastri finishes second, Lewis Hamilton claims third for Ferrari.
- Max Verstappen drops from third to 17th due to a 10-second penalty.
- Kimi Antonelli makes history as the youngest pole-sitter but finishes 7th.

Hamilton said. "It's been a tough year so far." The race's early moments were marked by heartbreak for Kimi Antonelli, who made history on Friday by becoming the youngest-ever pole-sitter in any F1 format. His dream start unraveled almost immediately as he lost positions in a first-corner tussle and was later struck in the pit lane by Max Verstappen, who was penalized for an unsafe release. Verstappen, the Red Bull world champion, was handed a 10-second penalty, which dropped him from third to 17th place. The weather wreaked

havoc before the race even began. Heavy rainfall delayed the start and contributed to a string of incidents. Charles Leclerc of Ferrari spun into a wall on his lap to the grid and didn't start. Carlos Sainz retired mid-race with a punctured tire. In the closing stages, Fernando Alonso was involved in a high-speed crash with Liam Lawson of Racing Bulls, prompting the deployment of the safety car. Despite the sprint race ending under neutral conditions, fans witnessed no shortage of drama. The chaos set the stage for an unpredictable main race on Sunday, May 4 at 4:00 p.m. local time, where Verstappen will start on pole, followed closely by Norris, Antonelli, and Piastri. With unpredictable weather still looming over Miami Gardens, and tensions running high across the grid, Sunday's main event promises another round of high-stakes action in what has become one of the most unpredictable weekends of the 2025 F1 season.