



Proposals for Times Square, Hudson Yards casinos rejected

page-02



Justice and Faith Leaders in Conversation in Queens

page-05



Building Bridges for Peace in New York

page-08



Back to School Carnival Draws Hundreds in Jamaica

page-12

Sunday, SEPTEMBER 21, 2025

nyn.press

Rabi ul Awal - 1447

+1646 444 6644

info@nyn.press

NEW YORK NEWS

The Voice of People

From New York

Britain, Canada, Australia Recognize Palestine

Historic move deepens Israel's global isolation

Lily Anderson

In a significant diplomatic shift, Britain, Canada, and Australia formally recognized the State of Palestine on Sunday, signaling growing frustration over Israel's ongoing war in Gaza and the lack of progress toward a two-state solution. The coordinated announcements from three of Israel's closest allies mark a turning point in international efforts to pressure Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's government, which has continued its military campaign in Gaza despite mounting civilian casualties and global condemnation. British Prime Minister Keir Starmer, delivering a video address, emphasized the symbolic and strategic weight of the decision. "In the face of growing horror in the Middle East, we are acting to keep alive the possibility of peace," he said. Canadian Prime Minister Mark Carney echoed that message, stressing the recognition aims to empower peaceful Palestinian leadership

and marginalize extremist groups like Hamas. More than 140 nations already recognize Palestine, but the entry of long-time Israeli allies into that group escalates the stakes. France, Belgium, and Luxembourg are expected to follow suit during the UN General Assembly this week, increasing pressure on the U.S., which remains firmly opposed and is likely to block any Security Council resolution on full UN membership for Palestine. Israel has denounced the recognitions as rewards for terrorism, citing Hamas's October 7, 2023 attacks. But for many international observers, the move reflects growing concern over Israel's actions in Gaza, where over 65,000 Palestinians have reportedly been killed. While symbolic, the recognition may revive international engagement in a peace process that has long stalled, but key questions remain over Palestinian leadership, territorial boundaries, and unity between Gaza and the West Bank.



Photo: British Prime Minister Keir Starmer, Canadian Prime Minister Mark Carney and Australian Prime Minister Anthony Albanese announced recognition of Palestine on Sunday. Image Source: Getty Images/ Reuters/ CNN



Photo: Donald Trump shaking hands with Charlie Kirk. Image Source: Cheney Orr / Reuters / File/ CNN

Charlie Kirk Remembered

Trump, Vance, and thousands gather for high-security funeral

Alexandar Sullivan

A sea of mourners filled State Farm Stadium on Sunday to honor Charlie Kirk, the 31-year-old conservative activist whose assassination has shaken the political landscape. The founder of Turning Point USA, Kirk was remembered not only as a provocative figure in American conservatism but as a force who mobilized a generation of young Christians and helped propel Donald Trump's return to the White House in 2024. The memorial, attended by President Trump, Vice President JD Vance, and dozens of senior administration officials, featured

HIGHLIGHT

•Charlie Kirk, 31, was fatally shot on September 10 during an appearance in Utah.

•A memorial service was held at State Farm Stadium in Glendale, Arizona on September 15.

emotional tributes from allies and family, including Kirk's widow, Erika Kirk, who has now assumed leadership of Turning Point. "The movement my husband built will not die," she declared, promising to expand his vision. The September 10 shooting at a Utah college, allegedly

by 22-year-old Tyler Robinson, remains under investigation, but prosecutors cited politically charged motivations. Trump blamed "radical leftists" for fostering a climate of violence and condemned Democrats who opposed a House resolution honoring Kirk. The event, held under Special Event Assessment Rating Level 1 security, included performances by Christian artists and remarks from officials like Robert F. Kennedy Jr., Tulsi Gabbard, and Stephen Miller, who vowed federal retribution against individuals and groups celebrating Kirk's death. Kirk's legacy continues

to polarize. While some critics cite his history of controversial remarks, supporters see him as a visionary who empowered conservative youth. His organization has seen a surge in interest, with over 62,000 new student engagement requests since his death. In her first remarks since the tragedy, Erika Kirk issued a fiery call to action: "You have no idea the fire you've ignited within this wife... We will grow stronger." The memorial served not just as a farewell, but as a pivotal moment in reshaping the conservative movement Kirk helped define.

The Short

Woman fatally struck by 18 wheeler truck in Brooklyn

page-02

Muhammad's ('alaihi salaam) Legacy for a Better World

page-03

Rosh Hashanah Celebration Strengthens Ties in Queens

page-04

A Beloved Brother Remembered

page-10

John Paul

Former Meta executive Sarah Wynn-Williams is facing possible bankruptcy after publishing Careless People, a memoir exposing alleged misconduct by the tech giant. The book, which includes claims about Meta's ties to China, teen mental health issues, and workplace harassment, triggered

Meta Critic Silenced

Author fined \$50K per breach after exposé



Photo: In her book Careless People, Wynn-Williams alleges misconduct. Image Source: AP Photo/Mark Schiefelbein

legal action from the company. Meta secured a gag order

penalizing her \$50,000 for each breach of a non-disparagement

agreement she signed upon leaving in 2017. In the UK Parliament, MP Louise Haigh said Meta is using arbitration to "silence and punish" Wynn-Williams, who testified before the U.S. Senate earlier this year. Meta denies all allegations and asserts she was dismissed for "poor performance and toxic behavior." While Meta says she hasn't paid any fines yet, the financial threat

looms. Despite selling 150,000+ copies, Wynn-Williams has been barred from promoting her book and remains silent. Her lawyer says she is "on the verge of bankruptcy."

NEW YORK NEWS

Sunday, SEPTEMBER 21, 2025

ISSUE-46

Please send news to

info@nyn.press

Published by NYNN

New York News Networks



Building a World of Equality: Reducing Inequalities for a Shared Future

Page-03

COMMUNITY NEWS

Proposals for Times Square, Hudson Yards casinos rejected



Staff Reporter

Proposals for two separate casino plans in Manhattan were both rejected by the Community Advisory Committee considering their future on Wednesday morning. Both the Caesars Palace Times Square and Avenir at Hudson Yards were rejected in separate votes.

Only two members on the six-person committee voted to approve moving either project forward to the state. Four rejected the plan. "I'm shocked by the result. We're putting forth a project in a location that could really use this type of complex: jobs, housing, a hotel, restaurants - these are all things we heard from the community,"

said Dino Fusco, COO of Silverstein Properties. That leaves six competitors bidding for three slots. The remaining proposed casinos include Coney Island (Brooklyn), Aqueduct Racetrack (Queens), Citi Field (Queens), United Nations/East Side (Manhattan,) Ferry Point (Bronx) and Yonkers Raceway. One of the proposals involves MGM Resorts - the owner of Empire City in Yonkers. The casino wants to expand gaming to add live tables by obtaining one of the available licenses, and on Tuesday, Yonkers Mayor Mike Spano says the city council approved a community benefits package followed by overwhelming community support. The Times Square proposal had been a hot-button issue, especially among the Broadway

community. The building that's currently home to the Minskoff Theater and "The Lion King" would keep the show, but everything above it would have been overhauled to make way for the Caesars Palace if the plan had become a reality. "This was a vote to protect the magic of Broadway for the one hundred thousand New Yorkers who depend on it for their livelihoods, and for the tens of millions who come from around the world to experience it," said Jason Laks, President of The Broadway League. "A casino can go anywhere, but Broadway only lives here. We are so filled with gratitude for the committee members and the local elected officials-State Senator Liz Krueger, Assembly Member Tony Simone, Borough President Mark Levine and Council

Member Erik Bottcher - who looked at the facts, listened to the residents, and stood up for this neighborhood and the theater community." That includes residents like Dolores Rubin who's lived near Times Square her whole life. "For me personally, this was really about recognizing that the casino cannibalizes a lot of what's already here, and it takes away from Broadway which is the star of this area," Rubin said. Jay-Z and his entertainment company Roc Nation was involved in the plan that included a nightclub, almost 1,000 hotel rooms and 150,000 square feet of gaming space. Developer SL Green had promised the Times Square casino would bring in \$7 billion in taxes for the city and state, and hundreds of millions in investments into the neighborhood.

Student found with loaded gun in Queens high school after threat



NYN DESK

A student, who was in possession of a gun, was arrested Thursday after allegedly making threats against fellow students at a high school in Queens, according to officials. The incident happened around 10:15 a.m. at Benjamin Cardozo High School in Bayside. Authorities say a 16-year-old boy in the 10th grade posted

an image to Instagram, showing a piece of school work and words in white text saying, "Ts Gmt... boutta shoot the school up." Authorities believe the letters stood for, "this (expletive) gets me tight," in other words, "makes me angry." "Someone saw the post from the student and did what we ask all New Yorkers to do. If you see something, say something, but most importantly do something, and that is what

they did," Mayor Eric Adams said. What they did was tip off the FBI. It identified the phone number behind the Instagram account, geo-tagged it to the school, and alerted the NYPD, which says school safety officers then found the 16-year-old sophomore, who has no criminal history. His phone rang when they called that number. Officials say they removed him from the classroom, brought him to an empty classroom and searched his belongings after receiving consent from a parent. "One of the student's parents was then contacted and consented to a search of the subject's belongings," NYPD Commissioner Jessica Tisch said. "In his backpack, officers recovered a black semi-automatic handgun, a 9mm Taurus GX4. The gun was loaded with 13 rounds in the magazine."

Permits filed for residential building with 36 units in Kingsbridge

Staff Reporter

Permits have been filed for the construction of a 4-story residential building with 36 housing units at 2738 Kingsbridge Terrace in the Kingsbridge section of the Bronx. The proposed building would be 55 feet tall and span 18,905 square feet. With an average unit scope of 525 square feet, the 36 residences will most likely be rentals. Other planned features for



the development include a penthouse and a rear yard 20 feet in length. The property is within close proximity to bus stops for the Bx3, Bx9, Bx22, Bx32 and BxM3 lines. Other notable features in the area include the Jerome

Park Library, the Fort #4 Playground, the Strong Street Playground, the Riverbend Playground, P.S. 86 The Kingsbridge Heights School, P.S. 310 Marble Hill and P.S. 315 Lab School. The building applications were submitted by Renato Marinaj of SMR of NY Corp. The applications list Noel T. Wong of ADB Associates as the architect of record. Demolition permits were filed earlier in September.



Woman fatally struck by 18 wheeler truck in Brooklyn

NYN DESK

A woman was fatally struck by a large truck in Brooklyn early Friday morning. The woman was hit by an 18-wheel truck on eastbound Eastern Parkway in Crown Heights just after 5:20 a.m. She was pronounced dead at the scene. Police are looking for the truck, which did not stay at the scene. The driver may not have known the pedestrian was struck. The woman's identity has not yet been released, but people in the community say that the victim is an older woman who would often beg drivers for money on Eastern Parkway. A local grocer shared with Eyewitness News that his surveillance video captured the woman in the street, even as the light turned

green. He said she was right next to the bumper of a large truck and he believes that the driver might not have even seen her. "It is horrific, you know. Like it's always somebody passing away on these two intersections on East Parkway and it's right in front of a school," he said. Residents are concerned about the apparent pattern. Police say a 56-year-old man, who was reportedly panhandling on Eastern Parkway at Schenectady, was killed in October of 2022. Just six months earlier, authorities say a police van struck and killed Ronald Smith while he was panhandling at the same intersection. There are a number of cameras in the area that police have accessed as part of their investigation including a local market.

Prayer Time IN New York

FAJR	DHUHR	ASR	MAGHRIB	ISHA
05:28	12:48	04:14	06:53	08:08
05:29	12:48	04:13	06:51	08:06
05:30	12:48	04:11	06:49	08:04
05:31	12:47	04:10	06:47	08:03
05:32	12:47	04:09	06:46	08:07
05:33	12:47	04:08	06:44	07:59
05:35	12:46	04:07	06:42	07:58

OPINION

Muhammad's ('alaihi salaam) Legacy for a Better World

– Imam Shamsi Ali

As we remain in the month of Rabi'ul Awwal, believed to be the month of the Prophet Muhammad's birth, it's essential to reflect on his legacy. Despite differing opinions on celebrating his birth, one thing is certain: knowing the Prophet (Ma'rifatul Rasul) is crucial. By knowing him, our love for him grows, and based on that love, we build our commitment to follow and obey him. The Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) was sent as a mercy to all worlds (rahmatan lil-alamin), guiding humanity towards goodness and happiness. He is the way, the path of guidance and righteousness. As a human like us, he lived a life of perfection and set the best example. The Prophet's role as a messenger

was to convey the message of Allah, and he fulfilled this responsibility perfectly. However, his role didn't stop there. He was also a role model (uswah hasanah) for all humanity, embodying the beauty of the message he preached. Many non-Muslim scholars such as Bernard Shaw, La Martin, Michael Hart, and many more have praised the Prophet Muhammad's character and achievements. Karen Armstrong for example, in her book "Muhammad: A Prophet of Our Time," highlights the universality and timelessness



— Imam Shamsi Ali :
 Director of Jamaica Muslim Center

of his teachings. In this reflection, I'd like to emphasize three essential aspects of the Prophet's legacy that are highly relevant in today's world: First, Human dignity. The Prophet established a clear path to building dignity for all humans, going beyond mere slogans. He demonstrated this in his life, ensuring justice for all, even if it meant going against his own interests.

Second, Valuing human life and peace. The Prophet prioritized human life and peace, never seeking to sacrifice them for personal gain. He ensured that

his actions promoted peace and minimized harm. Third, Economic balance. The Prophet built an economy that wasn't just about accumulating wealth but about creating a comfortable, secure, and dignified life for all. He showed that true wealth lies not in material possessions alone but in the richness of the soul. These three aspects of the Prophet Muhammad's legacy are desperately needed in today's world. We need a leader who upholds universal values, respects human life, and promotes peace. We need a leader who builds an economy that provides dignity and a sense of fulfillment for all. May these reflections inspire us to strive for a better world. Amin!

“

“The Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) was sent as a mercy to all worlds (rahmatan lil-alamin), guiding humanity towards goodness and happiness.”



Photo: Arabic Calligraphy of Kalima/Shahada

“

“True wealth lies not in material possessions alone but in the richness of the soul.”

Building a World of Equality: Reducing Inequalities for a Shared Future

– Imam Muhammad Shahidullah



Inequality remains one of the most pressing challenges of our time. Despite the rapid growth of technology, expanding opportunities, and rising global wealth, millions around the world continue to be excluded from the benefits of progress. Sustainable Development Goal

10, which calls for reducing inequalities within and among countries, is not just a moral imperative—it is a necessity for global peace, justice, and sustainability. Reducing inequality means addressing the structural barriers that prevent people from accessing opportunities based on race, gender, religion, disability, or socio-economic background. The Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him) once reminded us that no Arab has superiority over a non-Arab, nor does a non-Arab have superiority over an Arab, except in piety and good action. This



— Imam Muhammad Shahidullah
 Vice President, United Nations Association of the USA (UNA-USA), Queens Chapter

timeless teaching resonates deeply with the essence of SDG 10: human dignity must never be compromised by systems of discrimination or exclusion. The world today witnesses staggering wealth gaps, where the richest few own more resources than billions combined. Such disparities fuel resentment, social unrest, and weaken the foundation of shared prosperity. SDG 10 emphasizes not only reducing income inequality but also ensuring fair access to education, healthcare, social protection, and opportunities for decent work.

Equality must be both a guiding principle and a lived reality. As Vice President of the United Nations Association of the USA, Queens Chapter, I firmly believe that reducing inequality requires collaboration at every level—local, national, and global. Governments must craft inclusive policies, businesses must ensure ethical practices, and communities must foster solidarity. It is not enough to speak of justice; we must build systems that protect it. If humanity is to advance toward peace and prosperity, we must commit to building societies where no one is left behind. True progress cannot be measured by the success of the privileged few but by the dignity and opportunity afforded to all.

UNITED NATIONS

UN at 80: Leaders Renew Call for Unity and Multilateralism

General Assembly High-Level Week begins with historic reflections and global commitments



Daniel Matthew

The halls of the United Nations Headquarters in New York opened this week to mark a historic milestone: the 80th session of the General Assembly, a gathering that comes at a time of profound global challenges and opportunities. With the theme “Better together: 80 years and more for peace, development

and human rights,” world leaders are setting the stage for urgent dialogue on peace, climate, sustainable development, and multilateral reform. In his opening reflection, UN Secretary-General António Guterres recalled the organization’s founding in 1945, describing it as “a seed of hope” planted in the ashes of war. Just days earlier, on

September 9, 2025, he tied that vision to today’s realities by invoking the Pact for the Future, adopted last year: “Eight decades on, we can and must continue rising above division and working together — to make our world a better, more peaceful and prosperous place for all.” His message underscored the urgency of this year’s assembly and the moral

weight carried by its deliberations. The session began on September 21 with preparatory meetings, including the EU-UN-African Union trilateral and the EU-UN principals meeting. For António Costa, attending his first UNGA as President of the



UNITED NATIONS

European Council, the anniversary provides a pivotal moment to reassert the European Union’s role on the world stage. “We need multilateralism more than ever. We need international law, we need common institutions, and we need the UN,” Costa emphasized, warning

that “the alternative would be chaos and war.” Costa will represent the EU in key discussions during the week, including the International Conference for the Peaceful Settlement of the Question of Palestine on September 22, co-chaired by France and Saudi Arabia, and will deliver the EU’s address during the General Debate on September 25. He is also expected to speak at the UN Security Council on September 24 and host a dialogue with leaders of Pacific Island nations later in the week. High-Level Week will feature a packed agenda: the SDG Moment on September 22 will spotlight progress and setbacks in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals; a Climate Summit on September 24 will rally commitments ahead of

COP30 in Brazil; and new conversations on AI governance and youth engagement will reflect both emerging challenges and future possibilities. The commemorative atmosphere of this year’s assembly is underscored by the urgency of its agenda. From conflicts in the Middle East to the triple planetary crisis of climate, biodiversity loss, and pollution, leaders are expected to confront realities that test the very foundation of the multilateral system. As the General Debate opens on September 23 with statements from Heads of State and Government, the world will be watching to see whether the UN, now in its eighth decade, can still deliver on its founding promise of peace, justice, and shared progress for all.



CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

Justice and Faith Leaders in Conversation in Queens

DA Katz and clergy discuss strengthening community ties

Jessica Morgan

At a time when collaboration between civic institutions and faith leaders is more important than ever, Queens District Attorney Melinda Katz welcomed members of the Clergy Advisory Council for a roundtable discussion on Thursday, September 18, 2025, at the Queens District Attorney's Office in Kew Gardens. The gathering brought together religious leaders from across Queens, reflecting the borough's diverse faith landscape, to engage in a candid dialogue about justice, community safety, and policy priorities. Events like this are designed to ensure that prosecutors, clergy, and neighborhood advocates are working hand in hand to address challenges ranging from



criminal justice reform to community trust. The session featured Theresa Shanahan, Executive Assistant District Attorney for the Criminal Practice and Policy Division, as guest speaker. Shanahan offered insight into how policy initiatives are shaping the day-to-day administration of

justice in Queens, from courtroom practices to broader community-focused strategies. Her remarks highlighted ongoing efforts to balance public safety with fairness and equity, a theme that resonated with the clergy in attendance. District Attorney Katz emphasized the

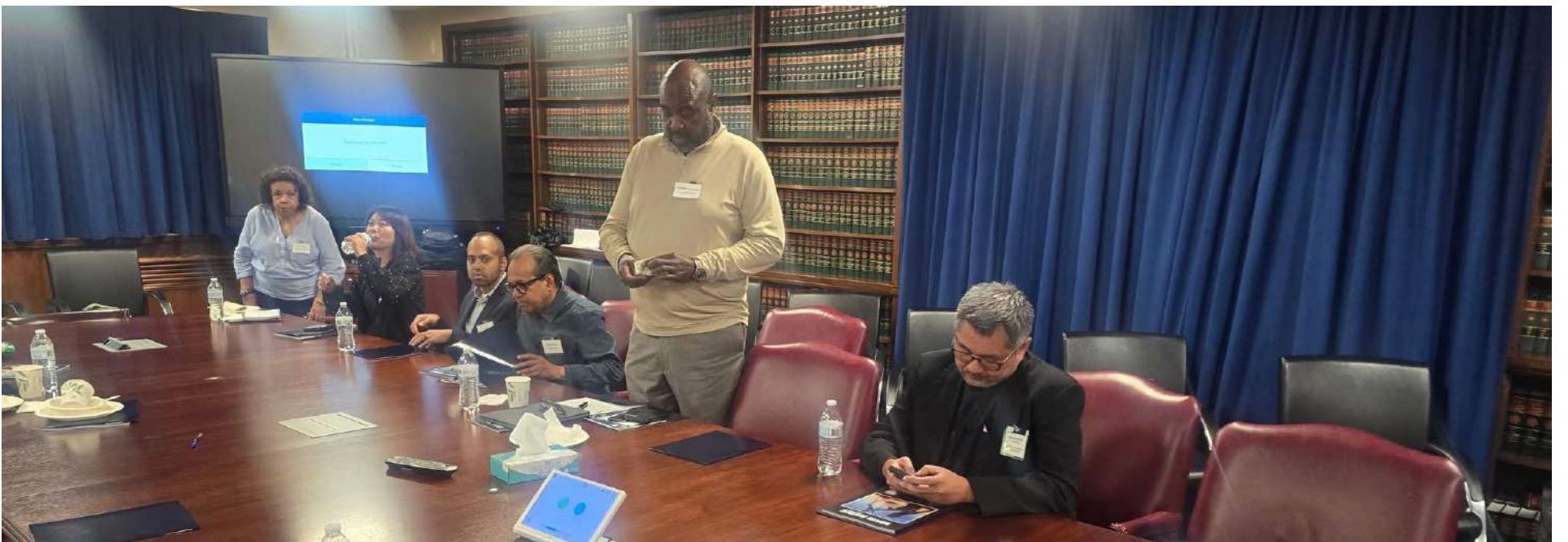
importance of forums like the roundtable, where voices from the pulpit and the courthouse can come together. By creating an open channel for discussion, the Clergy Advisory Council acts as a bridge between residents' lived experiences and the justice system that

serves them. The clergy, often among the first to hear community concerns, provide a vital perspective on how policies affect neighborhoods in real time. The atmosphere of the event was one of partnership and shared purpose. Refreshments followed the discussion, giving participants a chance to continue conversations informally



and strengthen personal connections. This aspect of hospitality underscored the commitment to building

not just policies but relationships that last. For Queens, home to one of the most diverse populations in the world, the roundtable symbolized a collective effort to create justice that reflects the values of the people it serves. By bringing faith leaders into the fold, District Attorney Katz and her team reinforced that solutions to crime and public safety must include the wisdom, trust, and guidance of those who minister daily to the borough's communities. The Clergy Advisory Council meeting reaffirmed that while the criminal justice system has its procedures, it is dialogue, transparency, and collaboration that ultimately foster safer and stronger neighborhoods.



FAITH

Spiritual Scholarship in Queens

Community gathers in Jamaica, NY, for historic Bukhari commencement



The highlight of the evening was the presence of Hazrat Mawlana Syed Arshad Madani (DB), the Sadar Mudarris of Darul Uloom Deoband and President of the Jamiat Ulama-e-Hind, who delivered words of guidance and reflection. His participation underscored the deep ties between New York's Muslim community and the broader tradition of Islamic scholarship across the world. Held on Friday, September 19, 2025, after Maghrib, the program emphasized the importance of beginning the study of Bukhari, regarded as one of the most authentic collections of Hadith in Islam. For both students and scholars,

this gathering served not only as an academic milestone but also as a spiritual reminder of the responsibility to preserve and transmit knowledge through generations. The event was carefully arranged to include all members of the community. Separate seating for sisters ensured inclusivity and accessibility, a reflection of the institution's commitment to participation and hospitality. After the session, dinner was served, allowing families, students, and scholars to extend conversations in an atmosphere of fellowship and unity. Beyond the scholarship, the evening highlighted the role of Darul Uloom

New York as a vital center for both education and community life. It reminded participants that the study of Bukhari is not only an intellectual pursuit but also a spiritual journey, reinforcing values of faith, humility, and collective responsibility. For many attendees, the gathering left a deep impression, blending tradition with the sense of togetherness that sustains a growing Muslim community in New York. Guided by respected scholars and strengthened by community engagement, Darul Uloom NY continues to nurture future generations in both knowledge and spirituality.

William Henry

The halls of Darul Uloom New York in Jamaica, Queens, were filled with reverence and anticipation as scholars, students, and

community members gathered for the Commencement of Bukhari. The event marked the opening of one of the most respected texts in Islamic scholarship,



bringing together tradition, learning, and unity in a spiritual atmosphere.



LEADERSHIP

Guiding Communities in a Complex World

AMJA conference highlights the role of Imams in civic and social responsibility

Ashley Reed

With hands and minds united in pursuit of guidance, the Assembly of Muslim Jurists of America (AMJA) held its 21st Annual Imams' Conference, marking a historic milestone with a record 575 participants. The gathering underscored the growing role of Imams in navigating contemporary challenges, from political engagement and human rights to the ethical use of technology in community leadership. This year's theme, "Contemporary Issues in Political and Human-Rights Engagement and Social Activism," reflected pressing realities faced by Muslim communities across North America. Scholars, religious leaders, and civic practitioners joined forces to discuss how Imams can guide



congregations through the complexities of civic participation, pluralism, and the balance between timeless religious principles and the demands of modern activism. Sessions throughout the conference combined deep fiqh foundations with practical tools, offering participants a roadmap for effective leadership in a rapidly changing public sphere. Discussions highlighted the importance of addressing bias,

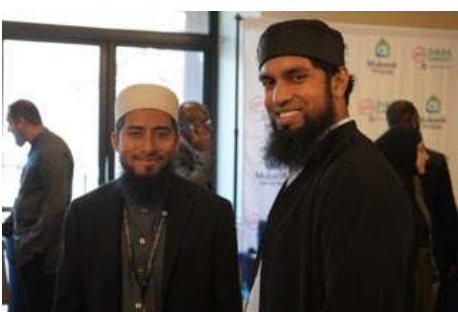
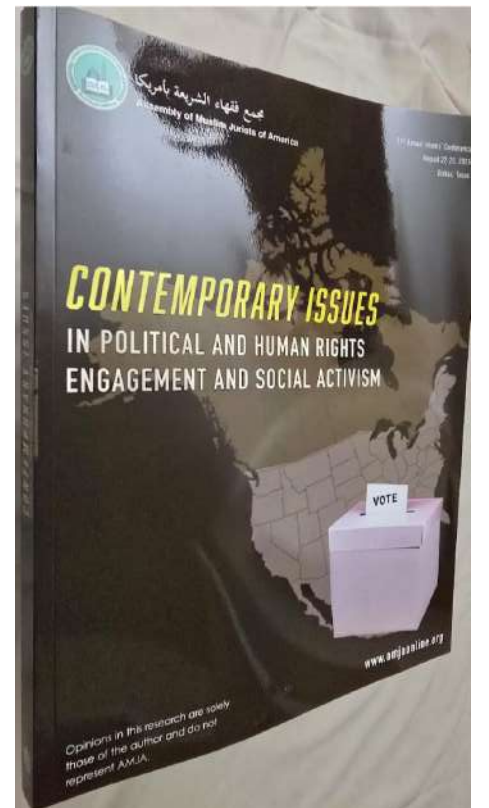
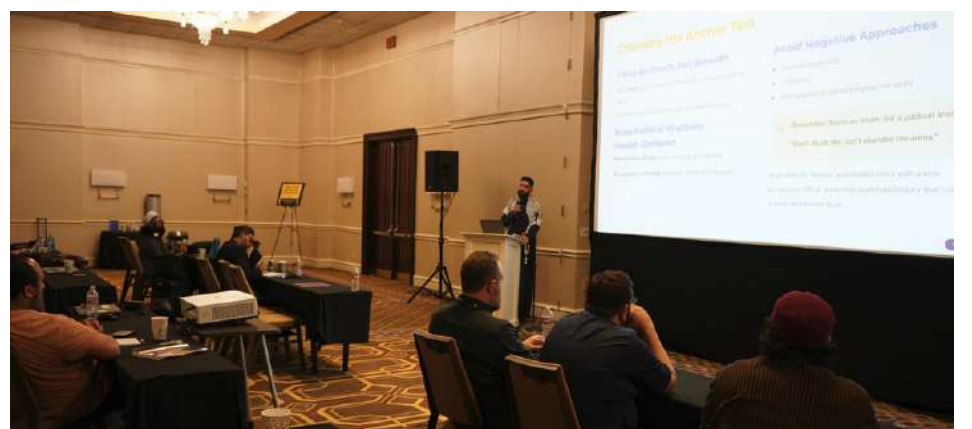
safeguarding human dignity, and fostering constructive engagement with broader society, all while remaining rooted in faith. The conference concluded with two hands-on workshops. The first, "Effective Political and Civil Rights Engagement for Imams," provided concrete strategies for building relationships and mobilizing communities. The workshop was led by Robert McCaw, Dr.

Omar Suleiman, and Paul "Esa" Galloway, who emphasized practical approaches to advocacy and coalition-building. Equally forward-thinking was the second workshop, "Imam 2.0: Leveraging AI to Enhance Islamic Leadership." Facilitated by Dr. Waleed Kadous and Dr. Hidayath, the session introduced Imams to responsible uses of artificial intelligence, from preparing khutbahs



and managing outreach to translation and content creation. The discussion reflected the reality that technology, when handled with care, can become a vital tool for strengthening community service. As the conference drew to a close, participants engaged in a collaborative brainstorming session to shape future gatherings. Building on that momentum, AMJA announced that its 22nd Annual Imams' Conference in 2026 will focus on "Contemporary Fiqh

Issues Related to AI and Social Media," ensuring that emerging questions remain at the forefront of scholarly and community discourse. All research papers and resources from this year's sessions have been made available through AMJA's official website, further extending the benefit of the gathering beyond its attendees. In the words of AMJA's organizers, the conference was not just an academic exchange but a collective step forward for Muslim leadership in North America. The record participation signaled both the challenges and opportunities ahead: a future where Imams stand equipped to guide their communities with wisdom, faith, and practical tools for modern life.



PEACE

Building Bridges for Peace in New York

Community partners and students honor International Day of Peace 2025



Emily Parker

In a brightly lit classroom at Elhaam Academy, walls and desks filled with colorful paper doves, children's voices carried the universal

message of hope: peace begins with us. As part of the International Day of Peace 2025, students transformed the age-old symbol of the dove into personal expressions of unity, resilience, and

compassion. The event, spearheaded by Save the People USA and hosted in collaboration with GNRC, Elhaam Academy, UNA-USA Queens, Peace Center

of USA, and UMR, placed young students at the heart of the celebration. Nearly 100 children took part in activities ranging from painting and decorating peace dove cutouts to writing heartfelt reflections on what peace means to them. Some combined both art and words, crafting vivid reminders that the vision of a better tomorrow starts with today's youngest voices. Educators at Elhaam Academy described the event as more than just a creative exercise. It was a chance for children to grapple with the concept of peace in personal, relatable ways. For many, their artwork and writings carried themes of friendship, kindness, and understanding across

differences. These youthful perspectives stood as a reminder that while global leaders and institutions carry responsibility, peace also lives in the choices made in classrooms, neighborhoods, and families. The gathering also reflected the power of partnerships. By bringing together schools, faith leaders, advocacy groups, and civic organizations, the celebration underscored the shared responsibility of cultivating peace across communities. Organizers highlighted that while dialogue and policy play critical roles, the seeds of peace are often planted in the creativity and compassion of children. For the students, however, the day was

simple yet profound. Painting doves in bright colors or writing phrases of hope allowed them to take ownership of a timeless message. Their work now serves as a visual archive of how the youngest members of New York's diverse communities imagine a future without hate or division. As the day concluded, the display of paper doves stood as a collective testament: peace is not abstract. It is painted, written, and lived—one act of kindness, one word of respect, and one shared vision at a time. The International Day of Peace 2025 at Elhaam Academy showed that while the road to peace is long, its first steps are already being taken by small, determined hands.



REMEMBRANCE

A Beloved Brother Remembered

Bangladeshi diaspora in New York unites in grief for Shibli Nomani

Noah Presley

The Bangladeshi community in New York is mourning the untimely passing of Shibli Nomani, a beloved figure whose sudden death has left many in shock and sorrow. Known for his warm presence and close ties within the community, his absence was deeply felt as friends, relatives, and community members gathered to honor his memory. In an expression of collective grief, a doa and tabarruk distribution were held at Star Kebab

Restaurant in Jamaica, where dozens came together to pray for his departed soul. The event created a solemn yet unifying atmosphere, as participants lifted their hands in prayer for Allah's mercy and maghfirat for the late Shibli Nomani. Community members described him as a "pranpriyo bhai" — a brother dearly loved by all. His passing, they noted, is not only a personal loss to family and friends but also a profound void within the broader Bangladeshi diaspora in Queens and



beyond. The program at Star Kebab was more than a ritual of mourning; it was a testament to the enduring sense of kinship among Bangladeshi immigrants in New York. Shared grief gave way to shared remembrance, as attendees reflected on the values of compassion, unity, and faith that bound them together. The doa underscored the belief that even in death, bonds of community remain strong through collective prayer and remembrance.

As the evening concluded with the distribution of tabarruk, participants once again invoked blessings, praying: "Allah Ta'ala grant Shibli Nomani bhai Jannat." The ameen echoed softly among the crowd, encapsulating both sorrow and hope. For the Bangladeshi community in New York, the gathering at Star Kebab Restaurant was not just about mourning a loss. It was also about reaffirming the resilience and unity of a community that leans on faith and one another in moments of grief.



CELEBRATION

Rosh Hashanah Celebration Strengthens Ties in Queens

Event highlights unity, tradition, and renewal at Worlds Fair Marina



James Anderson

On a bright afternoon along the Queens waterfront, voices from across faiths and communities gathered in harmony to welcome the Jewish New Year. The occasion was the Rosh Hashanah celebration hosted by the Jewish Community Relations Council of



New York (JCRC-NY), co-sponsored by the UJA-Federation of New York and the Queens



Jewish Community Council (QJCC). Titled "New York, New Year, New Connections," the

September 18 gathering at Worlds Fair Marina in Flushing was as much a celebration of renewal as it was a call for unity. The program captured the essence of Rosh Hashanah — reflection, recommitment, and hope for a better future — while weaving in the broader theme of community solidarity. It was not just a holiday observance, but also a chance to highlight the strength of New York's diversity and the responsibility of all its residents to nurture it. Among those present was Queens Borough President Donovan Richards, who underscored Queens' reputation as the most diverse county in America and praised the Jewish community's vital role in that fabric. Standing alongside him was Imam Muhammad Shahidullah, CEO of Save The People USA, whose participation

reflected a deep spirit of interfaith brotherhood. Their joint presence offered a powerful symbol of what it means for Jewish and Muslim communities — and all New Yorkers — to stand together. Organizers emphasized that the event's purpose went beyond ritual; it was about forging stronger ties between faiths, neighborhoods, and civic institutions. By partnering with the UJA-Federation of NY and QJCC, JCRC-NY sought to create a platform that not only honored Jewish tradition but also promoted dialogue and collaboration across the city's vast cultural landscape. Throughout the afternoon, conversations touched on timely challenges such as combating hate crimes, fostering inclusion, and ensuring that younger generations inherit a city rooted in

tolerance and respect. One attendee reflected that gatherings like this remind communities that their differences are not barriers but building blocks for shared progress. As the Jewish community stepped into the year 5786, the broader message resonated clearly: renewal is not only spiritual but communal. The Rosh Hashanah celebration in Queens showed that new beginnings are best embraced together — by strengthening the bonds of fellowship, deepening interfaith understanding, and affirming the values that make New York a beacon of diversity. The event closed not only with smiles and greetings for a sweet new year but also with a renewed commitment to work collectively toward a more inclusive, resilient, and united city.



CARNIVAL

Back to School Carnival Draws Hundreds in Jamaica

Families enjoy food, rides, and community spirit at a vibrant street festival



Alex Mason

The streets of Jamaica, Queens, came alive on Saturday, September 20, as more than 800 to

1,000 children and their families flocked to the Back to School Carnival at 85-37 JMC Way. Organized through the joint efforts of Elhaam



Academy, JMC Youth, and Save the People, the event transformed

the neighborhood into a bustling hub of joy, energy, and community spirit.

The carnival, which ran from 1 to 5 p.m., brought together families for a day of celebration marking the start of the new school year. With the street closed to traffic, more than 30 vendors set up stalls offering food, goods, and services that catered to the diverse community. The aroma of fresh popcorn and cotton candy filled the air, while children eagerly lined up for rides and games.

Adding to the excitement were free food offerings, entertainment sessions, and kid-friendly activities, ensuring that every child felt

included and welcomed. From bouncy castles to live fun zones, the carnival gave young attendees a chance to enjoy themselves while parents connected with local organizations and businesses.

For the organizers, the carnival was more than just a fun afternoon. It was a reflection of the strength of community partnerships and a commitment to nurturing children and families. By coming together, Save the People, Elhaam Academy, and JMC Youth demonstrated how local organizations can create safe, joyful spaces for families while reinforcing the importance of education and unity. The high turnout

highlighted the deep appetite for community-driven events in Queens. Parents expressed appreciation for the safe environment, the variety of activities, and the opportunity for children to celebrate the back-to-school season with their peers. Vendors, too, noted the positive atmosphere and the chance to engage directly with families. As the event concluded, the sense of joy and togetherness lingered, leaving a lasting impression on the families who attended. The Back to School Carnival not only gave children a memorable day of fun but also set a hopeful and spirited tone for the school year ahead.



CARNIVAL

Back to School Carnival Draws Hundreds in Jamaica



CARNIVAL

Back to School Carnival Draws Hundreds in Jamaica



CARNIVAL

Back to School Carnival Draws Hundreds in Jamaica



CARNIVAL

Back to School Carnival Draws Hundreds in Jamaica



CARNIVAL

Back to School Carnival Draws Hundreds in Jamaica



NYDIS



DISASTER CHAPLAIN CERTIFICATION & RELIGIOUS LITERACY TRAINING

REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN!

Mon - Wed, Nov. 17-19
 9:00 am - 5:00 pm

In person @ NYDIS,
 4 West 43rd Street
 New York, NY 10036



This 3-day training prepares spiritual caregivers to volunteer as a disaster chaplain in mass-care settings or to serve as a crisis chaplain within a house of worship, religious community, or professional institution.

The training's NDIN Spiritual Care Curricula is compliant with NIMS (National Incident Management System) and includes FEMA Incident Command System ICS 100c and FEMA IS 505 Religious & Cultural Literacy & Competency in Disaster trainings & certifications. The course & its contents also conform to the National Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster (NVOAD) Spiritual Care Points of Consensus & Disaster Spiritual Care Guideline.

FREE for NYC Religious Leaders
\$250 for other Participants

Register Now: <http://nydisnet.eventbrite.com>
 QUESTIONS? LCUMMINGS@NYDIS.ORG



ELHAAM ACADEMY'S NEW INITIATIVE

HOMework × ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Class Duration

Monday to Thursday
4:00 PM – 6:00 PM

Purpose

- Better School Results
- Islamic Environment
- Less Screen Time

CONTACT:

 **(646) 444-0505**

 Elhaam Academy, 87-41 165th St,
Jamaica, NY 11432



Monthly Fee
\$199

Seats are Limited



CAMPUS

Elhaam Academy's Bake Sale: More Than Just Sweets

An event blending food, friendship, and cultural values



Carlos Stewart

The halls of Elhaam Academy were filled with the irresistible aroma of baked goods this week as students eagerly lined up for the school's latest bake

sale, a much-anticipated tradition held every one to three months. With tables overflowing with colorful cupcakes, frosted donuts, chewy brownies, buttery croissants, cookies, and neatly stacked juice

boxes, the event turned an ordinary school day into a celebration of food and fellowship. Teachers, staff, and parent volunteers worked side by side to organize the spread, carefully serving each

student who came forward with excitement and pocket money in hand. The sale, reminiscent of a halal food fest scaled for a school setting, offered more than just a chance to indulge in sweets—it created an atmosphere of community and shared experience.



For many students, the highlight was choosing between the wide variety of treats. Some gravitated toward the vibrant rainbow-frosted cupcakes, while others couldn't resist the familiar comfort of

Dunkin' donuts topped with sprinkles. Brownies and cookies proved equally popular, with trays quickly emptying as the line of eager children continued to grow. Beyond the food, the event embodied the Academy's mission of nurturing a strong sense of belonging. Students didn't just purchase snacks; they sat together, laughed, and enjoyed their selections in groups, reinforcing the bonds that define the school's close-knit environment. In a multicultural and faith-based setting like Elhaam Academy, moments like these also serve as reminders of the values of sharing, gratitude, and community care. The bake sale's success was evident not only in the trays of food that disappeared but also in

the smiles that lingered long after. "It's always one of the best days," a teacher noted. "The students love the treats, but more importantly, it's something they all get to enjoy together." By the afternoon, the once-crowded tables stood nearly empty—a testament to the overwhelming enthusiasm. Thanks to the dedication of staff and the support of parents, the bake sale remains one of the Academy's cherished traditions, blending sweetness with spirit. At Elhaam Academy, food is not just nourishment; it's a way to bring people together. The latest bake sale proved once again that a plate of cupcakes and cookies can create lasting memories and strengthen the bonds of community.





Christopher Nolan Elected DGA President

Oscar-winning filmmaker to lead directors' union through transformative era

Nassr Al Shams

Christopher Nolan has been elected President of the Directors Guild of America (DGA)...

HIGHLIGHT

President Trump imposed a \$100,000 fee on new H-1B visa applications...

The rule is intended to encourage hiring American workers.

which grossed over \$976 million worldwide and revived interest in large-format film.

Trump's Visa Fee Shock

\$100K H-1B charge rattles U.S. industries

Amkel Nourush

The Trump administration has imposed a sweeping change to the U.S. immigration system...

the "top, top people" enter the U.S., critics argue the rule will deter companies from recruiting global talent.



Photo: President Donald Trump announces a new \$100,000 fee on H-1B visa applicants

Melnick of the American Immigration Council. While the administration views the fee as a path to prioritize American workers...



Photo: Verstappen wins in Baku as Piastri crashes out

Max Strikes Again

Verstappen claims 4th win of season with flawless drive

Adrian Smith

Max Verstappen delivered a commanding victory at the Azerbaijan Grand Prix on Sunday...

only manage seventh place, gaining just six points. George Russell, despite battling illness all weekend...

CDC Panel Shifts Vaccine Policy

Consultation now required for COVID-19 shots

Julian Alvez

In a significant policy shift, the CDC's Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) voted on Friday...

who voted against the requirement. The committee emphasized that while all individuals aged 6 months and older may still receive the vaccine...

has already limited this season's shots to high-risk groups, but ACIP's recommendations carry broader implications...

Arsenal Stuns City with Late Equalizer

Martinelli's stoppage-time goal earns dramatic 1-1 draw

Charles Lewis

Arsenal rescued a dramatic 1-1 draw against a surprisingly defensive Manchester City on Sunday...



Photo: Arsenal's Gabriel Martinelli reacts after scoring against Manchester City in London, Sept. 21, 2025.

Martinelli, who calmly lobbed goalkeeper Gianluigi Donnarumma in the 93rd minute. It was a rare sight: Pep Guardiola's team recorded just 32.8% possession...

leaves Liverpool five points clear at the top of the table after five matches, with Arsenal second on goal difference.