



CAIR Has Participated in and Co-Sponsored Islamist Conferences Within the United States

- **CAIR co-sponsored a rally at which Jews were referred to as “descendants of the apes.”**

On May 24, 1998, CAIR co-sponsored a rally with IAP, MAYA and other groups at Brooklyn College in New York where speakers spewed anti-Jewish rhetoric.¹ Featured speaker Wagdy Ghoneim, a radical Egyptian cleric who has been arrested eight times in Egypt for “opposition activities,”² told his listeners that “...Allah says he who equips a warrior of Jihad is like the one [who] makes Jihad himself.” Ghoneim also led the audience in a song with the lyrics: “No to the Jews, descendants of the apes.”³ Earlier in the year, Ghoneim had been denied entrance to Canada after immigration officials determined he was a member of Hamas and the Muslim Brotherhood.⁴

The May 1998 rally was co-organized by IAP and co-sponsored by HLF.⁵

Despite the fact that the program lists it as a co-sponsor,⁶ CAIR denies co-sponsoring this rally. In September 2003 Senate testimony, Nihad Awad said, “As Executive Director of CAIR, I had never heard of this event, let alone authorize sponsorship for it.”⁷ Ibrahim Hooper went even further. After denying CAIR’s sponsorship of the event, he commented, “I don’t even know if that [rally] happened.”⁸ And in December 2006, CAIR Southern California Executive Director Hussam Ayloush proclaimed, “CAIR has no connection, direct or indirect, to the [1998] event he referred to in New York.”⁹

The denial came during an exchange of correspondence with Investigative Project on Terrorism Executive Director Steven Emerson in the *Jewish Journal*’s Reader Forums. Ayloush accused Emerson of “trying to defame CAIR by linking it to some New York event that CAIR did not organize, nor sponsor, nor participate in. CAIR was not even in existence in New York at the time of that event.”¹⁰

CAIR may not have had a New York chapter in May 1998, but the national organization had been operating for four years when the event took place.

¹ 50 Years of Occupation, MSA News, Direct submission from IAP information office, May 23, 1998.

² Ben Fox, “Arrest of Orange County Mosque Leader a ‘Mistake,’ Supporters Say,” *Associated Press*, November 9, 2004.

³ IAP Brooklyn Celebration, May 24, 1998.

⁴ Ellen Van Wageningen, “Egyptian Religious Leader Denied Canadian Visa,” *The Ottawa Citizen*, January 10, 1998.

⁵ “50 Years of Occupation,” *MSA News*, Direct submission from IAP Information Office, May 23, 1998, <http://www.investigativeproject.org/IAP-50-Years-of-Occupation-New-York-Evening-Program.pdf>

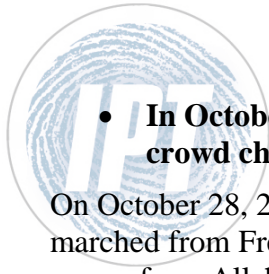
⁶ See above url.

⁷ Supplemental Testimony of Nihad Awad Before the Senate Subcommittee on Terrorism, Technology and Homeland Security, *Terrorism: Two Years After 9/11, Connecting the Dots*, September 17, 2003, 10-11.

⁸ Joel Mowbray, “Preaching Violence,” *The Washington Times*, March 17, 2004.

⁹ The Jewish Journal Reader Forums, Hussam Ayloush, 2006-12-01
<http://www.jewishjournal.com/forum/main/read.php?f=1&i=11307&t=11307>

¹⁰ The Jewish Journal Reader Forums, Hussam Ayloush, 2007-01-01
<http://www.jewishjournal.com/forum/main/read.php?f=1&i=11307&t=11307>.



- **In October 2000, CAIR sponsored a Washington D.C. rally at which the crowd cheered enthusiastically in support of Hamas and Hizballah.**

On October 28, 2000, CAIR co-sponsored an anti-Israel rally¹¹ in which participants marched from Freedom Plaza to Lafayette Park in Washington, D.C. singing “Victory comes from Allah and Hizballah is our model” and “Oh dear (Hizballah Chief Sheikh) Nasrallah, we are allied with you in liberation.”¹²

At the rally, Abdurahman Alamoudi said, “I have been labeled by the media in New York to be a supporter of Hamas. Anybody supports Hamas here? [crowd cheers]...Hear that, Bill Clinton? We are all supporters of Hamas. Allahu akbar! [crowd cheers]...I wish they would have added that I am also a supporter of Hizballah...anybody supports Hizballah here? [crowd cheers]”¹³

As noted in the section, “The Suspect Ties of CAIR Officials,” Alamoudi pleaded guilty to engaging in prohibited transactions with a foreign country¹⁴ and admitted his involvement in a plot, masterminded by Libyan leader Muammar Qaddafi, to assassinate Crown Prince Abdullah of Saudi Arabia.¹⁵ He was sentenced to 23 years in jail in October 2004.¹⁶

A range of groups co-sponsored this rally with CAIR, including IAP, ISNA, IANA, the Islamic Circle of North America (ICNA), and the Muslim Student Association (MSA).¹⁷

- **CAIR sponsored the 1994 U.S. tour by Jordanian Islamist leader Bassam Alamouh**

The September 1994 issue of *CAIR News* said that CAIR coordinated a series of meetings for Bassam Alamouh with U.S. government officials.¹⁸

At the MAYA conference in Chicago in December 1994, Alamouh called the killing of a Jew “a good deed.”¹⁹

In that speech, Alamouh said: “Somebody approached me at the mosque [in Amman] and asked me, ‘if I see a Jew in the street, should I kill him?’” After pausing a moment with a dumbfounded face, Alamouh answered the question to a laughing crowd: “Don’t ask me. After you kill him, come and tell me. What do you want from me, a fatwa [legal ruling]? Really, a good deed does not require one.” Later in the speech, Alamouh was

¹¹ CAIR Action Alert #273, “Muslims Nationwide Asked To Rally For Jerusalem Oct. 28,” <http://web.archive.org/web/20010405052505/cair-net.org/aa.asp?alert=273> (accessed July 5, 2006).

¹² Rally in Lafayette Park, Washington D.C., October 28, 2000.

¹³ Rally in Lafayette Park, Washington D.C., October 28, 2000.

¹⁴ *US v. Alamoudi*, 03-513-A, Plea Agreement, (D.C. VA).

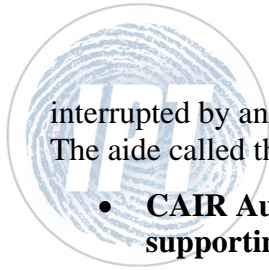
¹⁵ *US v. Alamoudi*, 03-513-A, Plea Agreement, (D.C. VA) and Patrick Tyler, “Two Said to Tell of Libyan Plot Against Saudi,” *The New York Times*, June 10, 2004.

¹⁶ “Abdurahman Alamoudi Sentenced to Jail in Terrorism Financing Case,” Department of Justice Press Release, October 15, 2004, http://www.usdoj.gov/opa/pr/2004/October/04_crm_698.htm (accessed June 30, 2006).

¹⁷ Rally in Lafayette Park, Washington D.C., October 28, 2000.

¹⁸ *CAIR News*, September 1994.

¹⁹ Muslim Arab Youth Association Conference, Chicago, IL, December 24, 1994.



interrupted by an aide with a note carrying word of a suicide bombing against Israelis. The aide called the report “good news.”²⁰

- **CAIR Austin planned a picnic featuring the rabidly anti-Semitic and Hamas-supporting band, Al Nojoom.**

CAIR Austin scheduled an October 2002 picnic featuring “entertainment” by Al Nojoom, a band based in Dallas.²¹

Al Nojoom, previously known as the Al-Sakhra band,²² frequently performed at IAP conventions. According to the HLF indictment, Al-Sakhra’s “skits and songs...advocated the destruction of the State of Israel and glorified the killing of Jewish people.”²³

Mufid Abdulqader, who is a half-brother of Hamas leader Khalid Mishal, was a member of the Al-Sakhra band.²⁴ Abdulqader, an HLF fundraiser and 1993 Philadelphia meeting attendee,²⁵ was among the defendants jurors deadlocked over in the 2007 trial.²⁶

CAIR Intimidates and Censors Muslim Moderates

- **CAIR attacked Sheikh Muhammad Hisham Kabbani.**

On Jan. 7, 1999, Sheikh Muhammad Hisham Kabbani, speaking as chairman of the Islamic Supreme Council of America (ISCA), spoke at the State Department’s Open Forum. ISCA is a Washington D.C.-based non-profit organization that says it “supports peace wherever it exists...supports the precept of ‘justice for all,’ condemning all violations of human rights and commits to strengthening the values of charity, family love, education and public responsibility in American life.”²⁷

During his talk, Kabbani condemned radical Islamists and charged that extremists dominated the leadership of more than 80% of U.S. mosques.²⁸

CAIR attacked Kabbani, co-sponsoring a statement that read:²⁹

Mr. Kabbani has put the entire American Muslim community under unjustified suspicion. In effect, Mr.

²⁰ Muslim Arab Youth Association Conference, Chicago, IL, December 24, 1994

²¹ http://www.cair-austin.org/files/CAIR_MVP_PRESSRELEASE.doc (accessed February 28, 2005)

²² Todd Bensman and Robert Riggs, “Former City Engineer Lived Secret Double Life as Singer, Actor at Hamas Fundraisers,” November 20, 2004.

²³ *US v. Holy Land Foundation*, (N.D. TX July 26, 2004) and Todd Bensman and Robert Riggs, “City Engineer Sings, Acts at Hamas Fundraisers,” November 20, 2004.

²⁴ *US v. Holy Land Foundation*, (N.D. TX July 26, 2004) and Todd Bensman and Robert Riggs, “City Engineer Sings, Acts at Hamas Fundraisers,” November 20, 2004.

²⁵ “FBI Memorandum Regarding the Philadelphia Conference,” October 27, 1993, submitted as an exhibit in *Holy Land Foundation for Relief and Development v. Ashcroft*, 02-442 GK, Exhibit 14 255 (D.D.C).

²⁶ *US v. Holy Land Foundation* (N.D. TX, July 26, 2004).

²⁷ Mission Statement, Islamic Supreme Council of America Website

http://www.islamicsupremecouncil.org/bin/site/wrappers/mission_statement.html (accessed July 10, 2006).

²⁸ Richard H. Curtiss, “Dispute Between U.S. Muslim Groups Goes Public,” *Washington Report on Middle East Affairs*, April/May 1999, p. 71. See also: Stephen Schwartz, “Wahhabis in America,” *The Weekly Standard*, November 5, 2001.

²⁹ CAIR released a statement in conjunction with the American Muslim Council (AMC), the Muslim Public Affairs Council (MPAC), and the Islamic Society of North America (ISNA).



Kabbani is telling government officials that the majority of American Muslims pose a danger to our society... The issue is not that of a mere difference of opinion within an American religious community, but involves the irresponsible act of providing false information to government officials. This false information can jeopardize the safety and well-being of our community and hurt America itself by damaging its values of inclusiveness, fairness, and liberty.³⁰

In response, ISCA issued a press release accusing CAIR and the six other organizations that issued the statement as unifying “to stifle the First Amendment rights of Shaykh Hisham Kabbani, chairman of the Islamic Supreme Council of America (ISCA), and have instigated a modern day Muslim lynch mob.”³¹ False statements in the CAIR statement “create hysteria amongst American Muslims. Death threats, harassment and acts of discrimination ensue,” the ISCA release said.³²

The release cited several explicit threats of death and violence against Kabbani. ISCA General Secretary Hedieh Mirahmadi was quoted as saying:

The carefully orchestrated and calculated plot to intimidate Shaykh Kabbani into retracting his statements only goes to prove the unwillingness to tolerate differences of opinion and belief; as well as the extent to which they would go to silence the voice of opposition. These organizations have recklessly endangered the lives of our officers and members by unjustly provoking the community against us³³

- **CAIR attacked Khalid Duran**

In 2001, Khalid Duran, a journalist and author who has taught at a number of U.S. universities³⁴ and who edits *TransIslam Magazine*, prepared to release a book, *Children of Abraham: An Introduction to Islam for Jews*, that was being published by the American Jewish Committee (AJC) to deepen “understanding and mutual respect between Muslims and Jews.”³⁵

On April 4, 2001, CAIR issued a press release attacking Duran and his book. The release noted that Duran had a “mysterious identity.” It quoted Omar Ahmad as saying, “Any effort to deepen mutual respect between faiths must, at a minimum, avoid the kind of conspiracy theories that are Duran's stock-in-trade. A sincere attempt to build bridges of

³⁰ *MSA News* web posting by CAIR, February 25, 1999.

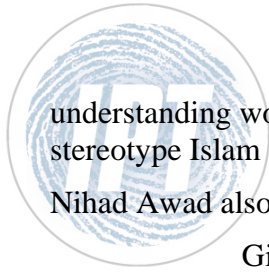
³¹ Press release, Islamic Supreme Council of America, March 2, 1999.

³² Press release, Islamic Supreme Council of America, March 2, 1999.

³³ Press release, Islamic Supreme Council of America, March 2, 1999.

³⁴ Richard Ostling, “A Book on Islam for American Jews Provokes an Interfaith Furor,” *Associated Press*, May 2, 2001.

³⁵ “‘Children of Abraham’ Books Aim to Advance Muslim-Jewish Understanding,” *PR Newswire*, March 22, 2001.



understanding would not focus on 'hot-button' issues that have so often been used to stereotype Islam and Muslims."³⁶

Nihad Awad also wrote a letter to the head of the AJC, in which he said:

Given the AJC's stated intent of promoting 'understanding and mutual respect,' it is puzzling as to why your organization would first of all engage an author who has little credibility in the Muslim community and then add insult to injury by using a cover image that many Muslims will find offensive. This book has the potential to do more harm than good in terms of interfaith relations.³⁷

CAIR called for a committee of trusted Muslim scholars to examine the book and correct its "distortions," Muslims in the Middle East took note.³⁸ Shortly afterward, Sheik Abdel Moneim Abu Zant, a radical Muslim cleric in Jordan, declared Duran an apostate and called on U.S. Muslims to "unify against him."³⁹

CAIR sought to minimize the import of Abu Zant's comments, issuing a July 2, 2001 press release titled, "Jewish Group's 'Phony Fatwa' Slammed as Publicity Stunt."⁴⁰ Hooper commented, "it is not a fatwa, it is just some guy in a party newspaper in Jordan... This isn't about a death edict, it is about the American Jewish Committee going around pressing Islamophobic hot buttons trying to get publicity for their deceitful book."⁴¹

On July 22, Abu Zant again called Duran an apostate and declared it lawful (*halal*) to shed his blood.⁴²

As Duran later wrote, "CAIR's attack snowballed into a campaign of personal vilification, which eventuated in a Jordanian political leader calling me an apostate (*murtadd*). Neither CAIR nor Sheikh Abd al-Mun'im Abu Zant of Jordan's Islamic Action Front had ever read or even seen my book, but the CAIR attack prompted the latter to issue an appeal to Muslims, asking them to unite to kill me."⁴³

- **CAIR dismissed an October 2004 conference held by moderate Muslims as unrepresentative of the community.**

In October 2004, a coalition of national Muslim groups, including the Free Muslim Coalition Against Terrorism and the American Islamic Congress, met in Washington

³⁶ "Muslims Question Choice of Author for Book on Islam," CAIR Press Release, April 4, 2001.

³⁷ "Muslims Ask Jewish Group to Delay Release of Book on Islam," CAIR Press Release, May 1, 2001.

³⁸ "Al-Wafd Columnist Views Book Allegedly Defaming Islam," *Al-Wafd Cairo*, May 4, 2001, translated by BBC Monitoring.

³⁹ Dean Murphy, "Jordanian Muslim Cleric Calls for Death of Author in US," *The New York Times*, June 30, 2001.

⁴⁰ "Jewish Groups 'Phony Fatwa' Slammed As Publicity Stunt," CAIR Press Release, July 2, 2001.

⁴¹ Dean Murphy, "Jordanian Muslim Cleric Calls for Death of Author in US," *The New York Times*, June 30, 2001.

⁴² Khalid Duran, "How CAIR Put My Life in Peril," *Middle East Quarterly*, Winter 2002.

⁴³ Khalid Duran, "How CAIR Put My Life in Peril," *Middle East Quarterly*, Winter 2002.



D.C. to speak out against terrorism and Islamic radicalism and for the creation of a more pluralist Islamic faith.⁴⁴

CAIR, which was not invited, said groups such as the Free Muslim Coalition Against Terrorism and the American Islamic Congress did not represent mainstream American Islam. "They're free to reflect their viewpoint," Hooper said. "We have our views, and we believe our views reflect the mainstream of the American Islamic community."⁴⁵

- **CAIR attacks founder of American Islamic Forum for Democracy**

The *Philadelphia Inquirer* carried this report on founders of the American Islamic Forum for Democracy and other newly-formed U.S. Muslim groups:

M. Zuhdi Jasser still gets worked up when he recalls what some Muslim Americans said after the 9/11 attacks. "Their criticism of America was just unbelievable," said Jasser, an internist who describes himself as a pious Muslim. Jasser saw it differently. He grew up in Wisconsin, where his parents settled after escaping Syria's dictatorship. He was raised an observant Muslim, and he prays five times daily. He served 11 years in the U.S. Navy. He has a Bush-Cheney bumper sticker on his black Corvette convertible. "I cannot sit idly silent," said Jasser, 37. "I have an obligation to do what I can to create a world where my children can grow up, and there's no conflict in their hearts between being American and being Muslim." Two years ago, Jasser and a few like-minded Muslims in Arizona founded the American Islamic Forum for Democracy. This Phoenix organization was one of the first created by Muslims to promote a tolerant form of Islam compatible with a secular, democratic nation. The leaders of the new organizations say the established national Islamic groups promote a political strain of Islam that creates sympathy for the extremists - a charge the national groups deny. "Until we as Muslims admit we have some illness in our religion that needs to be cured, we won't go anywhere," said Ali Homsy, a civil engineer who joined the Phoenix organization's board.

The *Inquirer* story included a dismissive comment by Hooper:

Indeed, Hooper said criticism from Muslims such as Jasser was "providing others with an opportunity to advance an

⁴⁴ Jon Ward, "Muslim Groups Press for Pluralism," *The Washington Times*, October 1, 2004.

⁴⁵ Jon Ward, "Muslim Groups Press for Pluralism," *The Washington Times*, October 1, 2004.



agenda that is hostile to the American Muslim community."⁴⁶

⁴⁶ Andrew Maykuth, "A call for moderation sparks tension; "There is a civil war going on," says a US Muslim critic of more established groups," Philadelphia Inquirer, January 3, 2006, http://www.philly.com/mld/philly/news/breaking_news/13537233.htm (accessed on January 3, 2006).