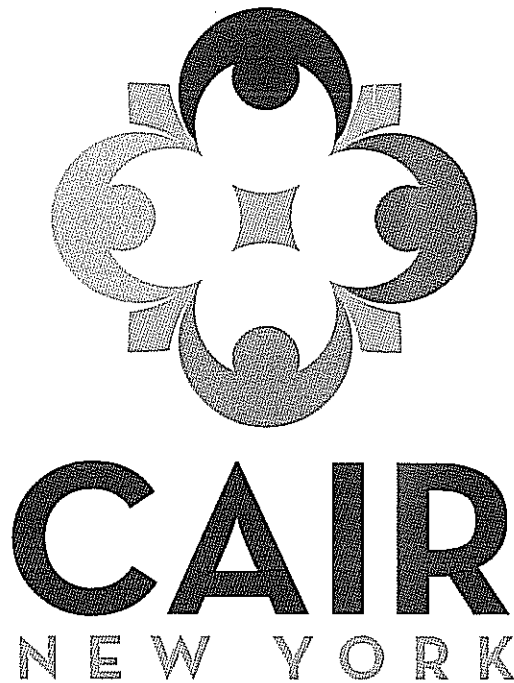


2008 ANNUAL REPORT



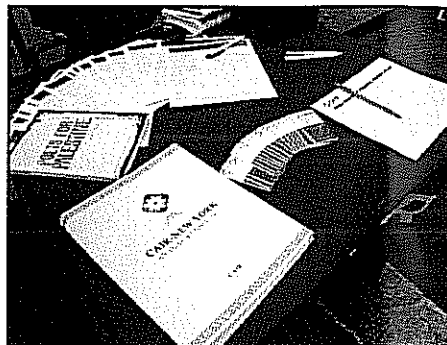
A Vision for Community & Country

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CAIR-NY Press Conference



CAIR-NY information desk



CAIR-NY staff and interns

ABOUT US

CAIR-NY is a 501(c)3 not-for-profit organization registered in New York. It is the local chapter of the Council on American-Islamic Relations, the nation's largest Muslim civil rights organization with 35 chapters in North America. CAIR was founded in 1994 and is headquartered in Washington, D.C.; the New York office, located in uptown Manhattan, is currently in its 12th year of operation.

CAIR'S VISION

To be a leading advocate for justice and mutual understanding.

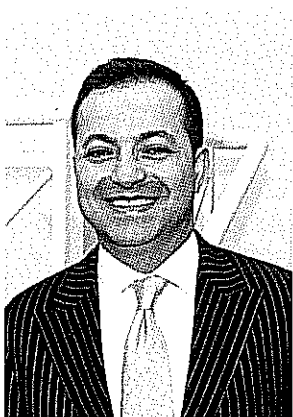
CAIR'S MISSION

To enhance understanding of Islam, encourage dialogue, protect civil liberties, empower American Muslims, and build coalitions that promote justice and mutual understanding.

CAIR'S CORE VALUES

- CAIR supports free enterprise, freedom of religion and freedom of expression.
- CAIR is committed to protecting the civil rights of all Americans, regardless of faith.
- CAIR opposes domestic policies that limit civil rights, permit racial, ethnic or religious profiling, infringe on due process, or prevent Muslims and others from participating fully in American civic life.
- CAIR supports domestic policies that promote civil rights, diversity and freedom of religion.
- CAIR is a natural ally of groups, religious or secular, that advocate justice and human rights in America and around the world.
- CAIR supports foreign policies that help create free and equitable trade, encourage human rights and promote representative government based on socio-economic justice.
- CAIR believes the active practice of Islam strengthens the social and religious fabric of our nation.
- CAIR condemns all acts of violence against civilians by any individual, group or state.
- CAIR advocates dialogue between faith communities both in America and worldwide.
- CAIR supports equal and complementary rights and responsibilities for men and women.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



As-Salaamu Alaykum (Peace be upon you):

Dear Friends,

Since its inception, CAIR-NY has remained dedicated to empowering the New York Muslim community through relentless advocacy, media engagement, coalition building, grassroots mobilization, and information clarification.

For over a decade, CAIR-NY provides a strong voice to issues affecting the New York Muslim population by protecting civil liberties, enhancing an understanding of Islam, and reinforcing positive representations of American Muslims, while standing with those whose work embodies the spirit of mutual respect. As such, we have stood firm to ensure that information disbursed about Islam and Muslims is accurate and not misrepresented.

This year, CAIR-NY's Civil Rights Department advocated on behalf of community members experiencing discrimination and remedied cases to logical resolutions through in-person consultations, letter writing and mediation. Cases ranged from employment discrimination and citizenship delays to hate crimes and government sanctioned profiling.

Our Community Affairs Department spearheaded civic engagement and education initiatives to foster an informed and civically responsible constituency. Under the umbrella of coalition building, CAIR-NY co-authored a policy paper critiquing the NYPD report on homegrown terrorism as part of its Safe While Free Campaign – CAIR-NY's ongoing commitment to upholding national security interests without unduly infringing upon civil liberties.

This year's annual report helps to provide a summary of our achievements and successes in carrying out our mission in 2008. Please take a moment to read our annual report for a detailed synopsis.

In this new era, we must find opportunity in every challenge. To that end, CAIR-NY's talented staff of professional activists will continue to work diligently to meet these challenges by setting attainable goals and forward-looking agendas. Indeed, your kind contributions and constructive feedback are necessary and highly valued. Insh'Allah with your help, CAIR-NY will continue to defend and strengthen the New York Muslim community, advocate for the innocent and just, and work with partners to create a better New York for all.

Best wishes for a healthy, prosperous and peaceful 2009.

A stylized, handwritten signature in dark ink, likely belonging to Zead Ramadan. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial 'Z'.

Sincerely,
Zead Ramadan
President, CAIR-NY

CIVIL RIGHTS

YEAR IN REVIEW

The Civil Rights Department of CAIR-NY defends the rights of Muslim New Yorkers who experience discrimination on account of their ethnicity, religion or national origin. The department receives complaints ranging from religious accommodation to religious discrimination by institutions. We handle these incidents from intake to logical resolution by pursuing appropriate remedies, including cultural sensitivity training for the offending party and provide concrete recommendations regarding discriminatory policies disproportionately affecting the Muslim, Arab and South Asian communities. Indeed, our expertise in the area of civil rights allows us to fight for equal rights and opportunities for all Americans.

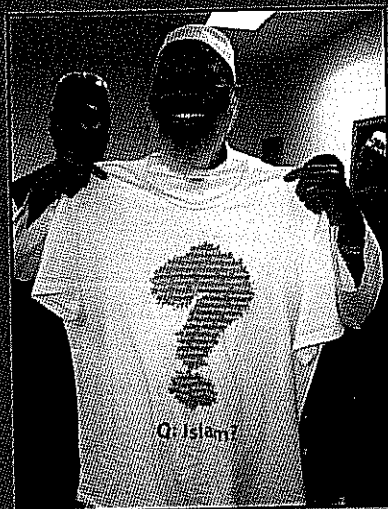
HIGHLIGHTS:

Leading Publisher Removes Inaccurate Depiction and Image of Prophet Muhammad from History Textbook.

As a result of CAIR-NY efforts, Houghton Mifflin Company Headquarters, a leading educational publication company, removed an image of the Prophet Muhammad from the Eighth Edition of its textbook. CAIR-NY also raised objections regarding an inaccurate depiction of the Prophet: "He expelled several thousand Jews from Mecca, seized Jewish property, beheaded some six hundred Jewish men, and enslaved women and children." As such, the publishing company stated that it would provide a more balanced depiction in its latest edition of *Western Civilizations: Ideas, Politics, and Society*.

CAIR-NY Denounces Anti-Muslim Smearing of Brooklyn Imam

CAIR-NY joined local community leaders and elected officials at a press conference in support of a prominent Brooklyn Muslim leader, who was described as a "terror imam," following his endorsement of educational subway ads about Islam. "Indeed, Imam Siraj Wahhaj is a source of pride to all Muslims in this country and to neutral observers who do not write people off simply for being Muslim. CAIR-NY supports the ads on First Amendment grounds."

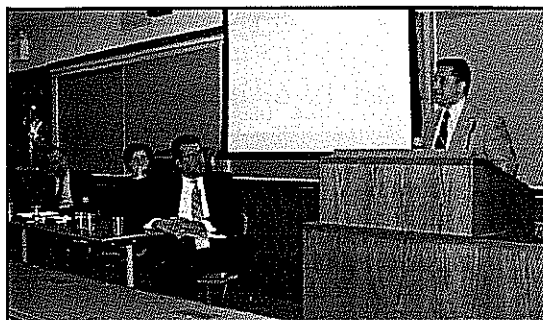


EDUCATIONAL OUTREACH:

The CAIR-NY Civil Rights Department continues to engage the community by disseminating information regarding the struggles of civil liberties in 2008 at a variety of forums and entities including:

Mosques: CAIR-NY participated and sponsored panel discussions and Know Your Right seminars throughout NY to inform community members about civil liberty issues affecting American Muslims.

Youth: CAIR-NY participated in a training program for 14 college activists at the United Federation of Teachers in Manhattan. The program, sponsored by the Drum Major Institute for Public Policy, is designed to train college students from diverse communities to be successful in key public policy positions.



Government: CAIR-NY provided research contributions to a shadow report submitted to the United Nations Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination. The 50 page report finds the US government in violation of international mandate for its failure to adequately protect the rights of Muslims, Arabs, and South Asians from discrimination on the basis of religion, race, and national origin.

COMMUNITY IMPACT:

Reconsideration of Muslim Street Festival Permit in New York City

The annual Muslim Street festival in New York City, which aims to display the richness and diversity of the Muslim community, takes place in Manhattan in conjunction with the Muslim Day Parade. The Community Board Five initially recommended denial of the Muslim Foundation of America Inc.'s (MFA) application to host the festival. The Board reconsidered its position after meeting with representatives from MFA, CAIR-NY and American Muslim Law Enforcement Officers Association (AMLEOA).

"We applaud Community Board Five's recognition that more timely notice of their concerns was needed here and MFA's willingness to provide proper remedy to the complaints," said CAIR-NY Civil Rights Director Aliya Latif. "The frankness amongst all parties involved resulted in a fair outcome that took into account the interests of both the residents in the area and the NY Muslim community."

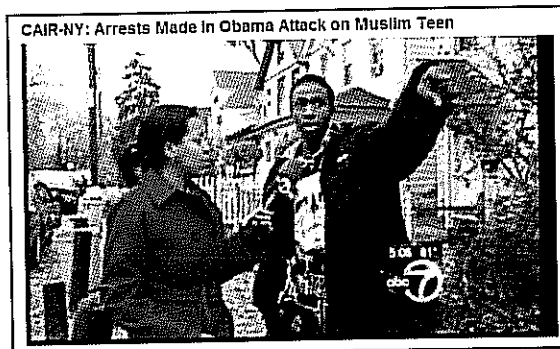


HATE CRIMES PREVENTION PROJECT

CAIR-NY's Hate Crimes Prevention Campaign aims to address incidents motivated by religious and racial animus through advocacy, education, and coalition building. CAIR-NY remains steadfast in contacting relevant national, regional and local law enforcement agencies to ensure that bias motivated complaints are properly handled.

Advocating for hate crime victims.

Ali Kamara, a young Liberian Muslim was assaulted by four men on Election Day while walking near his Staten Island home. During the assault the attackers yelled "Obama!" because he was an African American and the attackers were angry that Barack Obama was elected president. Following the incident, CAIR released a press statement asking that the FBI probe the assault as a hate crime. CAIR-NY continued to voice the egregiousness of the case through various media outlets including the New York Times, Newsday and the local Staten Island Advance. Further, CAIR-NY followed up with the NYPD Hate Crimes Task Force as well as the FBI to ensure that the incident was properly handled. CAIR-NY was the first organizations to visit with Ms. Janeba Ladepo, Ali's mother to make sure that she remained informed of Ali's rights.



Hosting Hate Crimes Prevention 101 training. CAIR-NY is of the mindset that that "education is key to prevention" and works in conjunction with the NYPD Hate Crime Task Force to provide community members at local mosques and Islamic centers with a plan of action to effectively respond in hate crime and bias motivated cases.



Coalition-building with NY's community based organizations to address and respond to hate crime related issues.

CAIR-NY has joined efforts spearheaded by faith and community organizations such as We are All Brooklyn and the Interfaith Steering Committee Against Hate headed by Christine Quinn, Speaker of City Council. CAIR-NY joined the Sikh Coalition to urge New York City public school students and their parents to fill out an online survey regarding bias-based bullying and harassment. The purpose of the survey is to assess the Department of Education's handling of bias-motivated harassment in the face of Chancellor's Regulation A-832, which established a procedure for addressing student-to-student bias-based harassment, intimidation and bullying.



Meeting with the New York District Attorney's Office in conjunction with the AMLEOA to offer our respective organizations as a resource in handling hate crimes cases. This effort included engaging in preventative education measures such as reviewing and suggesting edits to the Manhattan DA's Student Booklet entitled "Bias and Hate Crimes: Don't be Tolerant of Intolerance."

CAIR-NY continues to forge relationships with local political representatives to educate them about their Muslim constituents and engage them on issues relevant to Muslim New Yorkers and to welcome international delegations sponsored by the U.S. State Department. In 2008, CAIR-NY launched its Safe While Free campaign representing our ongoing commitment to uphold national security interests without unduly infringing upon civil liberties, particularly by addressing issues such as post-9/11 racial profiling and the surveillance of the Muslim community.

GOVERNMENT OUTREACH:

Transportation Security Association (TSA): Following privacy concerns from community members regarding full body scanner at airports, CAIR-NY met with TSA officials at JFK Airport to gain a better understanding of security protocols at the City's major airports and to further relay the concerns of the Muslim community. CAIR-NY also supplied the TSA with information about the Hajj pilgrimage and secured a community liaison as a point of contact at the airport.

Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI): In response to the guidelines annually released by the FBI and issued under the authority of the Attorney General, CAIR-NY contacted the Department of Justice with a series of suggestions which would better allow the government to protect civil liberties while simultaneously addressing issues of national security.

Department of Homeland Security (DHS): CAIR-NY worked with a coalition of Muslim advocates, lawyers and community leaders in December 2008, to urge Governor Janet Napolitano (D-Ariz.) as the expected Secretary to the DHS to develop security policies that safeguard the civil liberties of all Americans through community engagement and ongoing consultation. In a detailed letter to Napolitano, CAIR-NY called on the new DHS administration not to adopt counterterrorism policies and strategies based on the New York City Police Department (NYPD) Report, "Radicalization in the West: The Homegrown Threat" as recommended by the U.S. Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

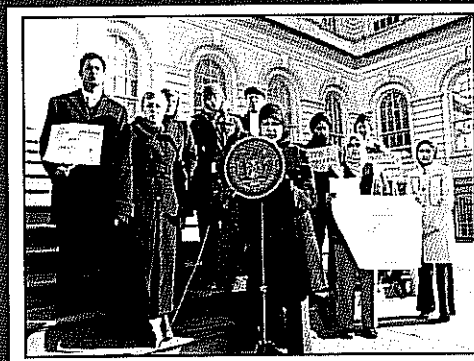
New York Police Department (NYPD): CAIR-NY is a member of a dialogue team that has met regularly with NYPD Police Commissioner Raymond Kelly and Community Affairs Bureau Chief Douglas Zeigler to discuss policing in a way that does not infringe on free association and free speech rights of the Muslim community.



HIGHLIGHT: Muslim American Civil Liberties Coalition

CAIR-NY is a co-founder of the Muslim American Civil Liberties Coalition (MACLC), created in 2007 following the release of the New York City Police Department report, "Radicalization in the West: The Homegrown Threat." MACLC was created for the purpose of articulating a New York-specific Muslim perspective on homeland security, civil liberties, counterterrorism, and law enforcement decision-making. CAIR-NY is a founding member of the Coalition, and a current member of the steering committee.

In 2008, MACLC issued an advocacy paper titled "Counterterrorism Policy: MACLC's Critique of the NYPD's Report on Homegrown Radicalism." Co-Authored by CAIR-NY, this paper highlights the 2007 NYPD Report's failure to provide practical counter-terrorism solutions that target real offenders. Instead the NYPD Report puts forth a model of radicalization that if implemented as policy would ultimately lead to racial profiling of mainstream Muslims.



EDUCATIONAL OUTREACH:

Panel Discussions: One of CAIR-NY's several panel discussions included Omar Mohammedi, the President of AMAL, Aziz Huq, the Deputy Director of the Brennan Center for Justice at NYU School of Law, and Sean Maher, of Wahid, Vizcaino, and Maher. This highly attended panel discussed specific cases, and the relationship between protecting civil liberties and national security.

Movie Screening: Bunker Hill, the new independent feature film from director Kevin Willmott (CSA: Confederate States of America) which explores the question "What would happen if 9/11 happened again?" The film was screened to a full house at New York University at an event cosponsored by NYU's Islamic Center.

Community Roundtable: On December 5, 2008, representatives of the CAIR-NY joined South Asian community leaders to discuss the recent attacks in the Indian capital city of Mumbai at a roundtable meeting with Congressman Anthony Weiner (D-NY) and Consul Praveen Kumar, representative of the Indian Consulate General in New York. The aim of the discussions was to provide an open forum for the New York South Asian community to voice concerns and relay suggestions to the Congressmen to further his advocacy efforts of peace, security and cooperation in the region.

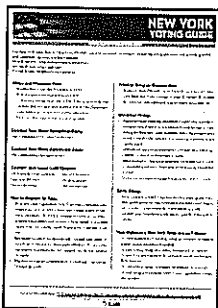


The Community Affairs Department seeks to mobilize and empower Muslim New Yorkers by encouraging grassroots activism, civic engagement, and volunteerism. The Department actively informs the community through educational workshops about the importance of political engagement at various levels and organizes public efforts on issues related to Islam and Muslims including cultural sensitivity trainings to law enforcement.

CIVIC PARTICIPATION PROJECT

CAIR-NY's Civic Participation Project is a grassroots initiative that aims to educate Muslim New Yorkers about the importance of civic responsibility and involvement. The project is part of CAIR's ongoing efforts to sustain a Muslim voice on issues that affect all Americans. CAIR is of the mindset that an empowered community must remain politically relevant and part of the solution.

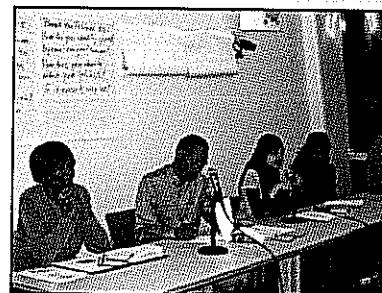
Hosted voter registration drives and civic participation trainings at mosques and community centers over the course of the year in order to encourage firsttime voters to register and to educate the community at large about their civic rights and responsibilities.



Produced educational materials for the election including a primary voter guide and an election card. These materials supplied information regarding voter registration, ballot and candidate information. It also discussed how American Muslim involvement in the elections would play a critical role in determining the outcome of issues affecting the general American public, such as education, healthcare, foreign policy, immigration and civil liberties.

Held a forum entitled "Race, Religion and Politics: The New Political Landscape"

which highlighted the history of politicizing race in American politics, the controversial use of faith as a tool for political gain in this year's election, and the importance of voicing American Muslim concerns and opinions through civic and political participation. Panelists included CAIR-NY Community Affairs Director Faiza N. Ali, Shabazz Center Board Member Dr. Amir Al-Islam, and President of the NY Office of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, Hazel Dukes.



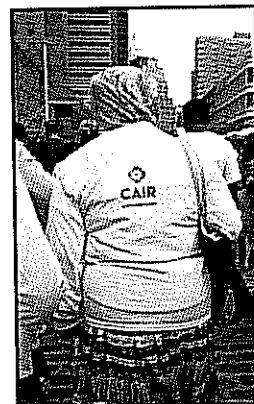
Organized Get-Out-to-Vote drives where volunteers placed calls to members of Muslim households from a random sample of approximately 1,500 registered voters across New York State in the final two weeks leading up to the 2008 Presidential Election. CAIR-NY Volunteers reminded registered voters to cast their ballot and keep track of how many individuals in their household planned to vote. During an important post election effort, volunteers placed phone calls to ask respondents who they voted for on Election Day.

GRASSROOTS MOBILIZATION:

On the Ground. CAIR-NY cosponsored a rally to end genocide in Darfur at the U.S. Mission at the United Nations. The rally aimed to deliver thousands of handprints and messages from all over the country demanding decisive U.S. action to end genocide in Darfur. CAIR-NY also collected and sent to Sens. Hillary Rodham Clinton (D-NY) and Charles Schumer (R-NY) a total of 1,132 letters calling for an end to Israel's "collective punishment" of Palestinian civilians in the Gaza Strip. CAIR recently called on prayer leaders (imams) in mosques nationwide to devote part of their Friday sermons (khutbas) to the plight of Palestinians denied basic services by Israel's blockade of Gaza.



In the Courts. CAIR-NY continued to urge attendance at rallies and hearings. Most notably, representatives of CAIR-NY joined other people of conscience at a hearing for Maher Arar, a Canadian citizen who was detained at JFK Airport in 2002. Arar filed suit in U.S. courts claiming that Attorney General John Ashcroft and other officials violated his right to be free from torture and arbitrary detention and his right to an attorney.



In the Community. As part of Muslims Care (www.muslimscare.org), a national summer-long campaign launched to encourage volunteerism, CAIR-NY organized several community service events throughout the year 2008. Events this year ranged from taking part in walks to raise awareness about autism and alleviating poverty and volunteering in soup kitchens.

HIGHLIGHT:

CAIR-NY Internship Program

CAIR-NY has been offering internships providing a valuable opportunity for practical experience that gives interns the chance to see those who put words into action. An internship at CAIR-NY is a great experience for those who are interested in the fields of civil rights, media relations, political advocacy, and community development.

CAIR-NY interns are exposed to many exciting and challenging projects throughout their internship. Interns learn and understand the tools of the trade in each field that is essential to activism. In addition to projects, interns also get the unique opportunity to interact with different organizations in New York City, from reporters in the media, newspapers, law firms, and much more.

CAIR-NY has partnered with several universities and law schools establishing a highly competitive for-credit and nonfor-credit internship/externship program including:

Baruch College
Barnard College
Columbia University
Fordham School of Law

Hofstra School of Law
New York University
Stony Brook University
The New School

CAIR-NY continues to actively engage with the media to ensure that a fair and accurate portrayal of Islam and Muslims is presented to the American public through media appearances, press conferences, opinion editorials and letters to the editor. Moreover, CAIR-NY's staff monitors local media with the aim of reinforcing positive representations of Muslims. As such, in 2008 CAIR-NY was featured, quoted or reported by national, local and ethnic media outlets.

CAIR-NY In the News

NY1: CAIR-NY Encourage Muslim Voters



MSNBC: U.S. Muslim Voters Are Election-year Outcasts



NYC News Service: A View from the Mosque



Current TV: Luke Covers the Election



CAIR-NY OP-ED How to Fear Muslims in Four Easy Steps

By: Megan Brankley CAIR-NY
Communications Intern



If *Obsession: Radical Islam's War against the West* teaches us anything, it is that bad propaganda begets more bad propaganda. Relying on anti-Western images and polemics from disconnected and marginal Islamist groups, *Obsession* barrages the viewer with frightening scenes, devoid of context, in order to make the dishonest argument that at least 10-15% of the world's one billion Muslims are aiming for global domination at any price. In fact, this tacky documentary would be a laughable piece of anti-Muslim propaganda if it weren't enjoying such widespread circulation. Twentyeight million free copies have been packaged for distribution via 70 newspapers. Worse still, that distribution is limited to swing states – a sure sign that *Obsession* aims to drive fear into the hearts of crucial voters come November.

With its fear-mongering video collages and interviews, *Obsession* represents a threat to the very principles of tolerance, democracy, and peace it purports to defend. After paying lip service to the "moderate Muslims" of the world in a seconds-long introduction, the film proceeds to stereotype Muslims across the globe as fundamentalist, bloodthirsty radicals who teach their children to love death more than life itself. Ultimately, *Obsession* aims to mobilize viewers for a wide scale religious war between Judeo-Christianity and Islam.

In order to convey its disturbing message, *Obsession* deploys four common propaganda techniques. Although these tactics can elicit powerful emotional responses, they contain little - if any - truth.

First, *Obsession* robs video clips and images of context. Where and when did the anti-American protests shown occur? Were they political responses to the U.S. invasion of Iraq? Did the selected interviews appear on notoriously extremist talk shows? It is impossible to know because *Obsession* has searched the Muslim world for outlandish sound bites and has deceptively presented them as the norm.

(continued on next page)

HIGHLIGHT:

Beyond Stereotypes

CAIR-NY joined chapters nationwide to supply media professionals with copies of "American Muslims: Journalist's Guide to the Understanding of Islam and Muslims of Beyond Stereotypes" – a 2007 CAIR initiative to enhance the understanding of Islam in the media. The media guide provides reporters with tools they need to gain a better understanding of Islam and to write informed stories about Muslims. It also offers readers background information about Islam and Muslims, best practices for reporting on the Muslim community and a list of accurate terminology to use when covering issues related to Islam.

Media Monitoring

CAIR-NY continues to monitor local media and their coverage with the purpose of challenging misconceptions and biased reporting. Last October, CAIR-NY contacted Fox5 news after viewing a segment titled "Fisher-Price Doll and the Devil" in which the reporter describes a talking doll saying "Islam is the light" as a "message of hate." CAIR-NY worked with Fox 5's News Director to remove the online segment and subsequently met with the news team to serve as a future source.

Media Outreach CAIR-NY hosted several press conferences to ensure a Muslim perspective on current issues in mainstream media including:

- Calling on the Department of Justice to uphold its promise and release Florida Professor Dr. Sami Al-Arian from custody.
- Joining Brooklyn Borough President Marty Markowitz, elected officials and several interfaith and community groups, at a press conference to condemn bias motivated crimes following a reported hate crime against a Rabbinical assistant.
- Joining local community leaders and elected officials at a press conference in support of a prominent Brooklyn Muslim leader who experienced anti-Muslim smearing following his endorsement of educational subway ads about Islam.

(How to Fear Muslims in Four Easy Steps continued)

Second, *Obsession* generalizes across time and space in order to paint a picture of "Islam" as an omni-present threat to the West. It clumps anti-Chinese economic riots in Indonesia together with the terrorist attacks of 9/11. It connects the complex war in Chechnya with the Madrid bombings. These events have their own histories and contexts, but *Obsession* chooses to ignore their individuality and instead simplifies all violence involving Muslims as evidence of a hate-driven, Islamic fundamentalism. Can we conclude from the Oklahoma City bombing, the D-Day invasion, and Columbine shootings that white American men have no respect for life? If this seems ridiculous (as it should), then consider the perils of generalizing across one billion Muslims. It's simply dangerous.

Third, *Obsession* draws faulty historical parallels, especially between Nazism and radical Islam. Such unfounded historical parallels produce fear, not a better understanding of the situation. If I were so inclined, I could draw a similarly preposterous comparison between *Obsession* and the fear-generating media Hutus used to perpetrate the Rwandan genocide. In 1994, radio stations across Rwanda broadcasted reports claiming that the Tutsi minority was planning to exterminate the Hutu majority and thus, that any Hutus who wished to save themselves and their families were obligated to wage a "defensive war." Needless to say, it was the Hutus who wielded the machetes while the Tutsis died by the hundreds of thousands. Is *Obsession*, like Rwandan radio stations, using fear to convince Americans into waging war against Islam? Conclusions should never be founded on the basis of a tenuous historical comparison.

Fourth, *Obsession* relies on so-called experts who have been widely discredited as Islamophobic. Oft-quoted, former-terrorist Walid Shoebat has stated that "Islam is not the religion of God – Islam is the devil." Is this a reputable source? Speaking of Muslim youth, *Obsession* warns, "If you see the same message over and over again, it becomes the way you see the world." This may be the only piece of wisdom buried in over 60 minutes of the absurd documentary, and yet, the producers of *Obsession* hope that its viewers will ignore the insight and fall for the trick of repetition. They hope that seeing images of angry Muslim men yelling "death to America" countless times will convince Americans that Muslims irrationally hate the U.S. They hope that tragic images from the World Trade Center and Chechnya will mobilize Americans against entire regions of the world, not just a radical fringe that is marginal in their own countries. They hope, with enough misleading media, that Americans will believe Islam is the enemy.

I hope Americans see through these deceptions and recognize *Obsession* for what it is: a second-rate documentary that must be distributed for free because few would actually pay to watch it.

RECOGNITIONS

YEAR IN REVIEW

CAIR - NEW YORK | 2008 | ANNUAL REPORT



THE COUNCIL
OF
THE CITY OF NEW YORK
CITY HALL
NEW YORK, NY 10007

CHRISTINE C. QUINN
SPEAKER

TELEPHONE
212-312-7210

May 9, 2009

Dear Friends,

Greetings to each of you gathered here tonight at the Council on American Islamic Relations - New York's (CAIR-NY) Annual Banquet.

Ensuring that New York City lives up to the ideals of equality and tolerance that are at the very core of our existence continues to be one of the Council's top priorities. In a city as diverse and vast as ours this is a constant challenge, and we are deeply fortunate to have partners in this effort like CAIR-NY.

On this special night of celebration, I would like to thank the hardworking men and women of CAIR-NY for all that they are doing to help create a more tolerant future for our City.

Their participation during the Council's "A Day Out Against Hate" was so important, helping to show the solidarity that exists between our City's diverse residents in the fight against bigotry and violence.

As recent incidents have tragically reminded us, we must make each day "a day out against hate," and I look forward to continuing to work with CAIR-NY and other partners in the community to develop new ways to address hate crimes and teach tolerance in New York.

Best wishes for a wonderful evening.

Sincerely,

Christine C. Quinn
Speaker

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FAX: 212-661-3001

Congress of the United States House of Representatives

May 9, 2009

Aliya Latif
Civil Rights Director
475 Riverside Drive, Suite 246
New York, NY 10115

Dear Ms. Latif,

I would like to congratulate CAIR-NY for all it has accomplished in its 15 years of service and to thank you for your dedication and persistence in bringing mutual understanding and justice to our communities. Through your many outreach and advocacy programs, you have helped ensure that our next generation of Muslim Americans can lead happy, healthy, and productive lives in neighborhoods safe from prejudice and hostility.

CAIR-NY has been a beacon of hope for the NY Muslim community, offering positive representations of Muslim Americans and providing a Muslim perspective on issues of universal concern. Your editorials, public service announcements, and ad campaigns have helped to promote a shared appreciation of our similarities and the contributions and sacrifices Muslim Americans have made for our city.

In addition, CAIR-NY's work of building strong coalitions to increase awareness about Islam and Muslims has been groundbreaking. As a fellow advocate for social justice, I appreciate your organization's steadfast determination to protect the civil rights of Muslims in our city, our nation, and throughout the world. In an ever more globalized world, it is imperative that we keep our religious and cultural freedoms from becoming increasingly polarized. As we move forward in the 21st century, I am confident that CAIR will lead the effort to create a national and international brotherhood to promote mutual respect and harmony.

Again, congratulations for all you have done in serving our Muslim community and please know that I look forward to working with you as we continue to fight ignorance and injustice.

Sincerely,

Charles H. Rangel
Chairman
Committee on Ways and Means

CJR/bc

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RECOGNITIONS

YEAR IN REVIEW

Staten Island Branch #2227
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF COLORED PEOPLE
Post Office Box No. 141064, Staten Island, New York 10314-0065
Telephone: 718-727-8007 Founded 1925

May 9, 2009

Aliya Latif
Civil Rights Director
475 Riverside Drive, Suite 246
New York, NY 10115

Dear Ms. Latif:

On behalf of the Staten Island Branch of The National Association for The Advancement of Colored People, I am pleased to extend my congratulations to you and CAIR-NY at your annual banquet.

Our respective organizations share in the mutual aim to eliminate hatred and discrimination based on race and to educate our constituents about their constitutional rights. Our combined efforts concerning the election night beating of Liberian teenager Ali Kamara in Staten Island illustrates the importance of coalition building across civil liberty groups. Moreover, we encourage more joint educational initiatives such as the panel CAIR-NY and NAACP at NYU on race, religion and politics.

Through collaborative efforts, we will send an unequivocal message of peace, equal opportunity and inclusion of all peoples that will have a meaningful impact on our community and our country.

We look forward to working more closely with you in the future.

Sincerely,

Edward C. Josey
Edward C. Josey
President, NAACP-Staten Island

BILL PERKINS
SENATOR, 30TH DISTRICT
COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

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Commissions

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ALBANY, NY 12247
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DISTRICT OFFICE
ACP STATE OFFICE BUILDING
103 W. 125TH STREET, 9TH FL.
NEW YORK, NY 10027
(P) 212-232-7313
(F) 212-678-0001

E-MAIL
PERKINS@SENATE.STATE.NY.US

May 1, 2009

Aliya Latif
Civil Rights Director
475 Riverside Drive, Suite 246
New York, NY 10115

Dear Ms. Latif:

As a member of the New York State Senate representing Manhattan's diverse 30th District, I would like to extend my greetings to everyone gathered for the annual banquet of the New York chapter of the Council on American-Islamic Relations (CAIR-NY) to celebrate another year of successful advocacy on behalf of the Muslim community, including many of my constituents. For over a decade, CAIR-NY has developed an outstanding record of service to the American Muslim community. Your organization's efforts in the media provide a balanced portrayal on issues affecting the constituents you serve and thus make our city a better place to live and raise our families. Your steadfast commitment to civil rights advocacy, civic engagement and grassroots activism embodies democratic principles of equity for all.

It is a special pleasure to collaborate with CAIR-NY to honor Imam Al-Ilaj Talib 'Abdu-Rachid's years of unwavering commitment to human rights and social justice causes in Harlem and throughout New York City. Imam Talib has been an invaluable asset to both the African-American and Muslim communities and deserves recognition for his leadership and advocacy on their behalf. As such, I am proud to work with CAIR-NY and look forward to joint efforts to advance your mission of peace and justice.

On behalf of my office and the people of the 30th district, I congratulate you on your 12th Annual Banquet titled, *An Era of Change: Rising to the Challenge*. I wish you continued success at this banquet and in the future.

Sincerely,

Bill Perkins
Bill Perkins, Senator
30th Senatorial District

RECOGNITIONS

YEAR IN REVIEW

THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK

DISTRICT OFFICES
731 W 43RD STREET
NEW YORK, NY 10018
212.758.1122 (P) 212.758.1127 (F AX)

31 W 114TH STREET
NEW YORK, NY 10035
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CITY HALL OFFICE
135 BROADWAY, ROOM 1507
NEW YORK, NY 10007
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RULES, PUBLISHED & ELECTIONS
SANITATION & SOLID WASTE
MANAGEMENT

May 9, 2009

Dear Friends and Honorees:

It is indeed a pleasure to offer greetings on the occasion of the Council on American Islamic Relations' Annual Banquet and Fundraiser. This year's theme, 'An Era of Change: Rising to the Challenge' fits both CAIR's mission and our general political climate. It is an apt reminder that we need to embrace every opportunity we encounter to promote pluralism, civic duty and fight for racial and social justice. In time of economic stress, our steadfast commitment to these goals cannot waver or be compromised.

I am pleased to join CAIR in recognizing the efforts of Iman Talib Abdur-Rashid of the Mosque of Islamic Brotherhood and the Brennan Center for Justice of New York University, your designated 2009 honorees. We share a belief in the long term goal of achieving equality and dignity for all human beings.

I extend my very best wishes for a successful dinner, another year advancing the ideals of equity and welcoming diversity. I look forward to working together in pursuit of these goals.

In Unity,

Robert Jackson



THE COUNCIL OF
THE CITY OF NEW YORK

JOHN C. LIU
GOVERNOR, NEW YORK
2ND DISTRICT OFFICE

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May 9, 2009

Council on American Islamic Relations
New York Chapter
475 Riverside Drive, Suite 246
New York, NY 10115



Dear Friends,

I am pleased to greet you on your Annual Banquet of the Council on American Islamic Relations-NY Chapter (CAIR-NY), an organization that has been committed to making a difference in the community and improving the quality of life for all New Yorkers. This year's theme, "An Era of change: Rising to the Challenge" is especially apt in describing the work and mission of the CAIR-NY.

The Council on American Islamic Relations, which has dedicated itself to serving the community for the past 12 years, is an important resource to our community. Established as a not-for-profit corporation in 1997, the Council on American Islamic Relations has been a leader for the community as civil rights advocate, fighting for the equality, justice, and dignity of New York's Muslim American's. CAIR-NY has dedicated itself with its programming to bring public awareness and interfaith dialogues on behalf of the Muslim community.

I commend the friends, staff, and supporters of the Council on American Islamic Relations for organizing this Annual Banquet and I look forward to working, in continued partnership, with the Council on American Islamic Relations to address the needs of our community. Please accept my best wishes for continued success.

Sincerely,

John C. Liu

RECOGNITIONS

YEAR IN REVIEW



AMERICAN MUSLIM LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS ASSOCIATION
P.O. BOX 24584
BROOKLYN, N.Y. 11202
TEL: 718-698-1549
FAX: 718-698-1598
WWW.AMLEOA.ORG

May 09, 2009

Aliya Latif
Civil Rights Director
475 Riverside Drive, Suite 246
New York, NY 10115

Dear Ms. Latif:

On behalf of the American Muslim Law Enforcement Officers Association, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate you on your annual banquet.

We share in your mission to empower the American Muslims through community engagement and coalition building with government agencies. As such, AMLEOA has worked closely with you to assist in lessening the gap between the Muslim community and law enforcement. Case in point, our partnership to strengthen ties with the DA's offices through our outreach efforts has been successful.

I encourage the dedicated staff to continue to work to safeguard the interests of our nation. We look forward to future joint initiatives.

Sincerely,

Ahmed Nasser
President, AMLEOA



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Fremont - California - 94538
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(510) 659-0903 (f)

National Office
40 Exchange Place - Suite 728
New York - New York - 10005
(212) 633-1695 (o)
(212) 208-1611 (f)

May 9, 2009

Dear CAIR-NY,

On behalf of The Sikh Coalition, I am sending my greetings and good wishes on the occasion of your Annual Banquet.

We consider CAIR-NY a strong partner in our collective struggle for civil rights, religious equality, and social justice. We are actively working together to address bullying and harassment of Muslim and Sikh students in NYC schools, and collaborate on many issues such as racial profiling, hate crimes prevention, and employment discrimination that similarly impact both the Sikh and Muslim communities. For over a decade, CAIR-NY has been a crucial voice for the New York Muslim community, countering demeaning stereotypes of Muslims and religious intolerance. Through their civil rights and advocacy work on behalf of Muslim Americans, CAIR-NY is helping to build a society that is more inclusive of all of New York's diverse communities.

Congratulations on all of your accomplishments in serving the Muslim community thus far, and we wish you well in all your future endeavors. We're in this together.

Sincerely,

Sundeeep "Sunny" Singh
Community Organizer, New York

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YEAR IN REVIEW

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Faiza N. Ali – Community Affairs Director

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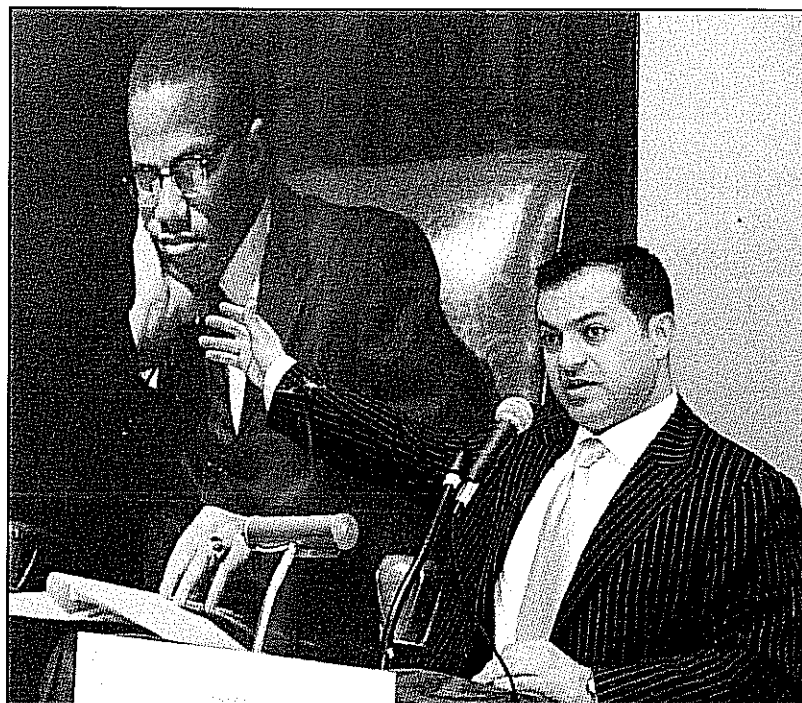
CAIR-NY
475 Riverside Drive, Suite 246
New York, NY 10115

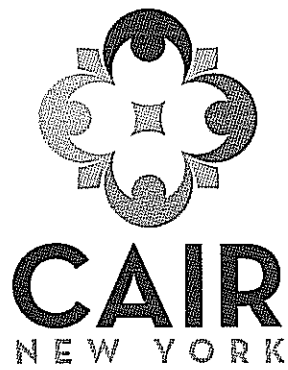
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