



A BRIEF
HISTORY
OF



Salam

SACRAMENTO AREA LEAGUE OF ASSOCIATED MUSLIMS

Commemorating 25 Years

BUILDING AN AMERICAN ISLAMIC CENTER

(1987 - 2012)

SALAM is a non-profit religious organization, incorporated in the State of California. Its purpose is to promote Islamic teachings, understanding and unity among all Muslims in the greater Sacramento area.

The full cost of this book was paid by an anonymous donor.

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ



Contents

THE STORY OF THIS BOOK	1
FORWARD	2
VISION	4
ADMINISTRATIVE FOUNDATION	8
PHASES I & II	12
PHASE III	20
COMMUNITY	38
AWARDS & HONORS	59
CONCLUSION	62
GLOSSARY	63





The Story of this Book

Every five years since the founding of SALAM in 1987, I have documented the history of SALAM. Prior to the 25th Anniversary (1987-2012), I contacted Sr. Aminah Challenger, an expert graphic designer with her own business (Appearances), and gave her the written text of the story to edit and organize as a brochure for distribution during the anniversary. In her expert opinion as a production consultant, she felt that the text needed to be narrated and accompanied by photos to reflect the visual history. We turned to Dr. Anne Kjemtrup, coordinator of the 25th Anniversary's three major events. She took the written text to edit and added her magic touch.

Then began the challenge of collecting the relevant photos to match the written text. The three of us met for countless hours at my home and individually in our separate homes to work on the project.

Our three-member team continued working on the Book project during 2012 and the first half of 2013 until this finished, final form. The three of us had great fun in working on the project and adopted it as our own child. This final form is the product of the three of us. It has been a labor of affection. I hope you enjoy reading it as much as we enjoyed preparing it.

The author wishes to express his heart-felt appreciation to Sr. Aminah Challenger and Dr. Anne Kjemtrup for their utmost dedication in their team work on this Book for a year and half. Their devotion during that period to produce the story of SALAM in this brief Book, using their talent, creativity, and intuition has been immeasurable.

May Allah shower them and their families with His Blessings and Bounties. Amen

*- Metwalli Amer
Author of the original text*



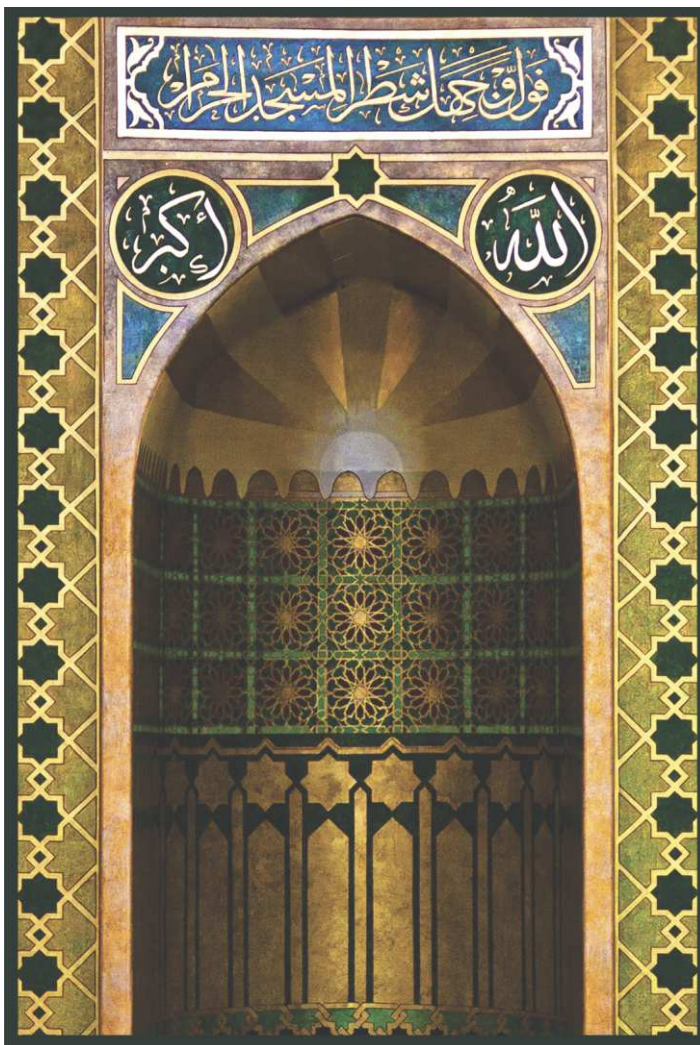
© Jose M. Osorio/Sacramento Bee/ZUMA Press

Foreword

“This book provides a brief outline of the development of Sacramento Area League of Associated Muslims (SALAM) since its inception on February 24, 1987. It is a historical reflection of 25 years of team work at its best.

Reflecting on SALAM's 25th anniversary brings many happy memories working with individuals and groups who put their marks on the growth of SALAM Islamic Center. The name of every contributor cannot possibly be included in this book, but recognize that the rewards from our Creator are everlasting and better than any printed recognition. Please know that deepest appreciation is heartily felt to all the brothers, sisters, and youth who have supported this Center by all the means available to them since its establishment.”

*- Dr. Metwalli Amer
SALAM Co-Founder*



The Mihrab of Masjid SALAM

*Photo by Rashid Thomas
www.capturedlightproductions.com*



VISION

SALAM's vision is to promote Islamic teachings, understanding, and unity among Muslims in the Sacramento area community.

The Qur'an says:

*"And hold you fast to Allah's bond, together, and do not disunite"
(3:103).*

Also, Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him) in his Farewell Khutbah, stated:

"O mankind, listen well to my words; learn that every Muslim is a brother to every Muslim and that the Muslims constitute one brotherhood."



Early Community Needs

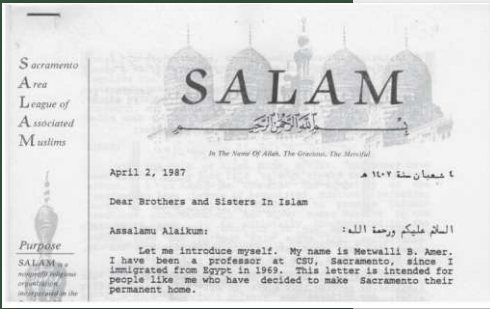
In the early 1980's, Sacramento was home to two Masajid (Mosques). The Sacramento area was expanding significantly as was the Muslim Community. While Islam transcends ethnic boundaries, the two local Masajid were ethnically oriented. Additionally, the broader community and media needed to see projections of Islam and Muslims in a friendly and favorable light. Creating a dialogue among members of other faiths was overdue.

*Excerpt from a letter dated April 2, 1987
to the Muslim Community, from Dr. Metwalli Amer,
co-founder of SALAM:*

“Let us reflect on us Muslims to see the extent of our involvements in religious activities. How often have we seen our Islamic Holidays pass by, without even noticing? How reluctant are we sometimes to announce to our American friends that we are even Muslims, with values and traditions to respect and to be proud of? Have we tried to achieve a balance between our professional success in life here, and our duty toward our Islamic practice and heritage? Many questions can be raised; but positive answers will be hard to find!”

“We need to join hands as one block, in this age of communication technology, to put Islam in its proper place in our community.”

“I dream to see the day that all Muslims in this community capitalize on the many things they have in common, and ignore the minor differences that may divide them. I dream to see the day when we perform the Eid prayers where all Muslims in this community will stand in one place as one block, at the same moment, and in one loud voice shouting, ‘Allahu Akbar, Allahu Akbar, Allahu Akbar.’ ”

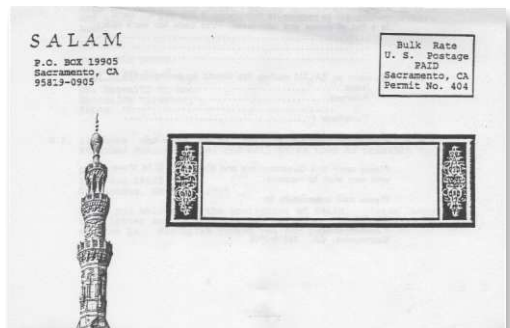


SALAM was founded to:

- Reach out and project Islam in its correct image
- Be a moderating voice in the community
- Be the home of every Muslim
- Empower women as partners in building the center
- Train young Muslims to be future leaders
- Be an active partner within the Sacramento community

The name SALAM was the brain child of Dr. Metwalli Amer and his wife, Professor Rosalie Cuneo Amer, and stands for "Sacramento Area League of Associated Muslims." Salam, an Arabic root of Islam, is mentioned 42 times in the Qur'an, and fits both the vision and the objectives of the center. SALAM was officially established February 24, 1987 with receipt of the letter of determination from the Franchise Tax Board, acknowledging SALAM as a religious, tax-exempt organization.

It is expected that with the same dedication and involvement of motivated individuals, SALAM will continue serving as a beacon for learning, worship, and social assembly for generations to come.



Why is SALAM unique?

SALAM prides itself in being a multi-ethnic place of worship. Its activities and membership are open to Muslims of all colors, languages, sects and nationalities. Ethnic diversity is encouraged and cherished; but at SALAM, we all are Muslims. It is also open for people of all faiths to come and visit and use SALAM educational and recreational facilities and services. The emergence of an American-Muslim identity is its prime goal.

Since its inception in 1987, the founders of SALAM have had the unique vision for the center to be a model of an American Islamic Center to be emulated in the following ways:

- 1. SALAM has transcended the challenges of ethnic diversity. Its users are multi-ethnic, but united.**
- 2. It has transcended sectarianism. Our people come to SALAM as Muslims regardless of their sect.**
- 3. It has transcended the gender question. Sisters are very active at SALAM and serve on the Board of Trustees and various committees.**
- 4. It has invested in our youth, with human and financial resources, to train them to assume a leadership role in the future of Islam in this country.**
- 5. It has transcended the immigrant mentality. We are an American Center and no longer do the immigrants among us consider themselves foreigners.**
- 6. SALAM has been a pioneer in reaching out to the interfaith, civic, and larger community since its inception, an endeavor that protected the community from the post 9-11 backlash.**
- 7. Just as Islam is a way of life, SALAM caters to the needs of the Muslim individual, be they spiritual, social, or educational. SALAM has been a beacon of this balance since its establishment.**
- 8. SALAM has established itself as a Mecca for the media and public officials whenever they have a question about Islam or Muslims. It follows the Islamic principle of Shura (consultation) and transparency in its operations and communications.**



ADMINISTRATIVE FOUNDATION

SALAM is democratically managed by means of its Articles of Incorporation, By-Laws, Principles, and Policies. Its daily affairs are administered by an elected Board of Trustees, Standing and Functional Committees, Executive Director, Director of Religious and Social Services and Office Manager.

The management of SALAM is selected according to the Islamic principle of consultation from among those Muslims, both men and women, who have shown serious support to the Center and are willing to work as a team.

The Qur'an says:

"...and that which is with Allah is better and more enduring for ...those who answer the call of their Lord and establish regular prayer; who (conduct) their affairs by mutual consultation; who spend out of what We have provided them" (42:36-38)



The Articles of Incorporation and the By-Laws, written in 1986, were modeled to:

- ♦ observe the requirements of the Book of Allah and the Sunnah of His Messenger (pbuh)
- ♦ be a non-profit, tax-exempt organization capable of establishing other tax-exempt entities to meet future community needs under SALAM's umbrella
- ♦ encourage shared participation in leadership
- ♦ minimize conflict within the organization.

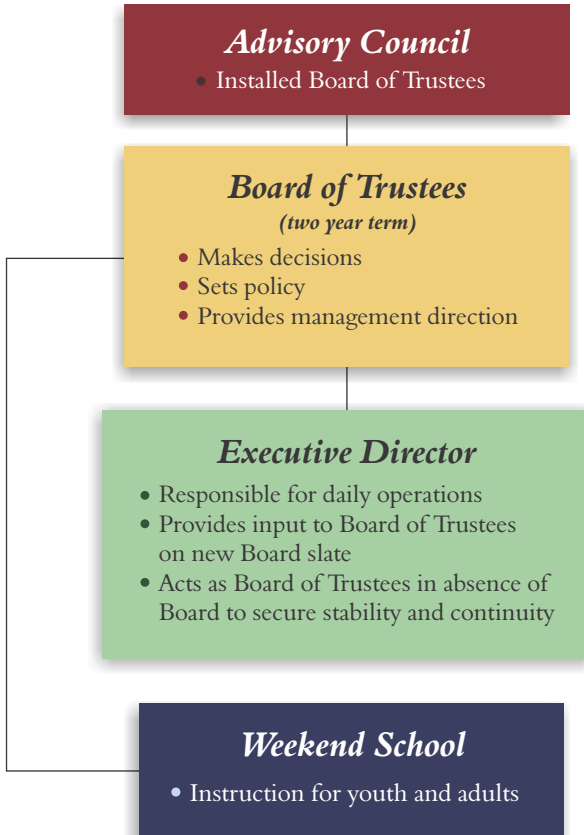
All activities of SALAM have been financed by individual contributions. The financial statements of SALAM are required to be and have been audited by an independent CPA every year since its inception in 1987.

With the SALAM community growing, by 2002 the Board of Trustees and the Executive Director saw the need to open up SALAM to more individuals who wished to be actively involved with the Islamic Center. SALAM management looked to experts and models of other long-standing moderate Islamic Centers to draft new By-Laws and management models for SALAM. The Board of Trustees adopted the new By-Laws on October 28, 2002.

The new system of management became effective on February 9, 2003, when the General Membership met for the first time. The new By-Laws opened doors to four types of members: active (voting), associate (new), life-time (voting), and honorary (nonvoting).



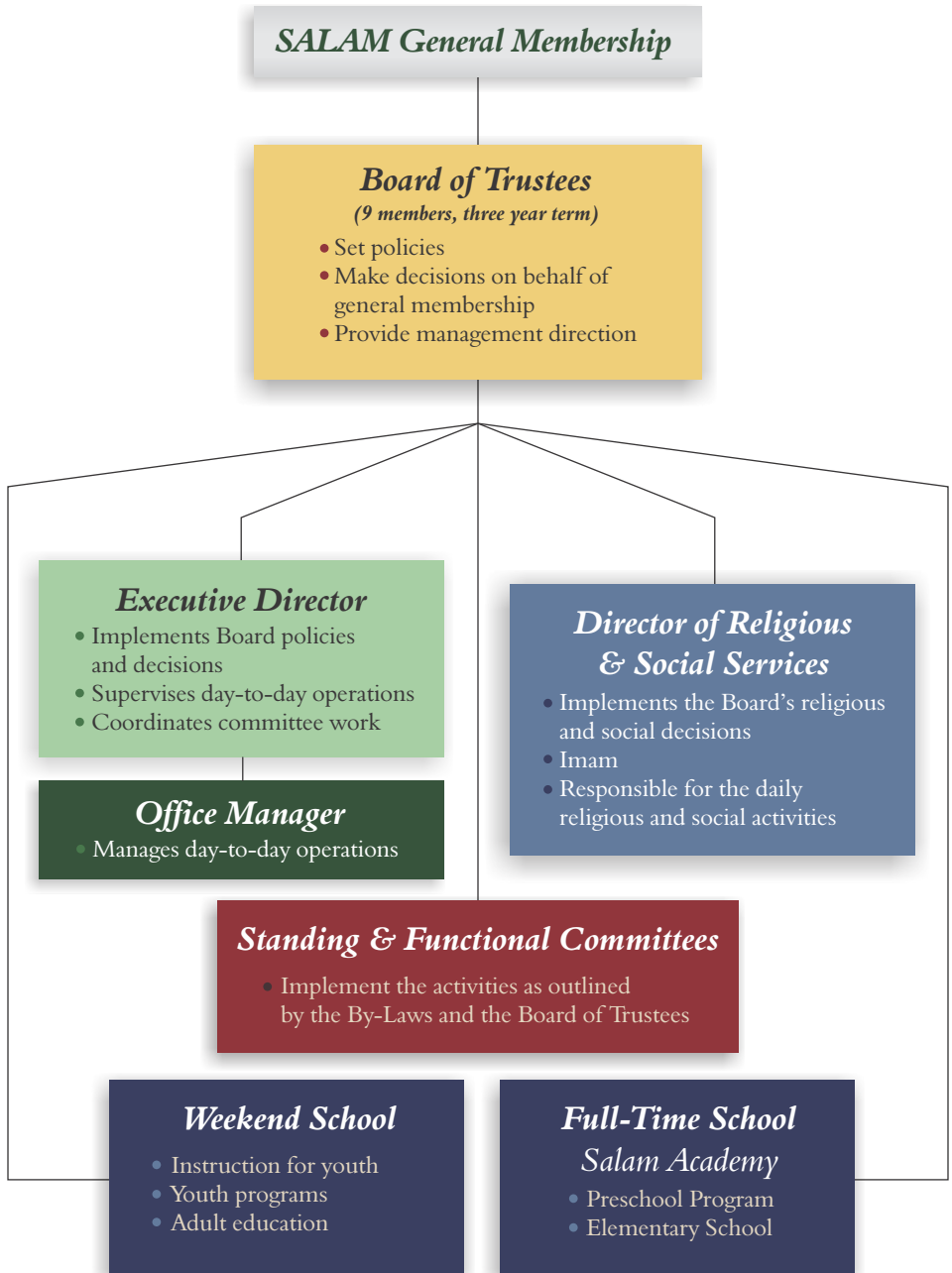
Early management structure of SALAM according to its Articles of Incorporation and original By-Laws (1987 - 2002)



The new Board made history by being the first to be elected by the people of SALAM, from the people of SALAM, and for the people of SALAM. Allah and the stakeholders of SALAM have entrusted the new elected trustees with the Islamic Center.

Since the first Board of Trustees, men, women and youth leaders have served on the SALAM Board of Trustees and chaired committees.

Management Organization Structure of SALAM, 2003 - present





PHASES I & II CONSTRUCTION

“My criterion for anything we buy and build for SALAM

*Islamic Center is this: **The House of Allah must be better than the house of anyone of us.**”*

*- Dr. Metwalli Amer,
SALAM Co-Founder*

“In Houses of worship that Allah has allowed to be constructed, wherein His name is remembered, the glory of Allah is rejoiced in the mornings and the evenings by people whom neither trade nor merchandise can divert them from the remembrance of Allah, and from establishing prayer, and paying zakah; fearing a day when hearts and eyes will be transformed, that Allah may reward them for the best of what they did, and even grant them more, out of His Divine Bounty. And Allah provides for whomever He pleases beyond all reckoning.” (24:36-38)



Searching for A Home for SALAM



“When I asked Br. Asghar Aboobaker what motivated him to make such a generous donation, he answered: ‘I have been pleased by the professional way SALAM is managed. Furthermore, SALAM has been the only Islamic Center in Sacramento that had consistently been conducting independent audit of its financial statements by a CPA every year.’”

- Dr. Metvalli Amer



In 1992, after five years of operations without a building, contributions were raised to buy a property fitting for an Islamic center. Seed money consisted of \$200,000 from the co-founders and \$25,000 from the community. In April 1993, the first fundraising dinner was held to assess community support toward the establishment of the center. Community contributions reached \$35,000 and were matched, dollar for dollar, by Br. Asghar Aboobaker. That brought the total contributions to \$70,000, the largest contribution to an Islamic cause in one event in Sacramento’s history.

This outpouring of community support encouraged the board to search for real estate with the search criterion: “The House of Allah must be better than the house of anyone of us.” On June 18, 1993, SALAM purchased a 2 ½ acre property on College Oak Drive with two houses on it.



In October 1993, Br. Asghar and Sr. Nasreen Aboobaker with the help of Dr. Mahmoud and Sr. J. P. Eltorai started the new SALAM Weekend School and a few adult education classes. The Friday Family Night Program, originally started in October 1989 in a rented facility, also moved to the newly acquired property.



Many Muslims volunteered to work on detailed plans required by Sacramento County for the use permit to establish an Islamic Center with facilities for Islamic education, worship and social activities to attract youth and to build SALAM Community. The three-phase plan was designed by Br. Rafat Alafranji, an Arab-American architect. Each phase was implemented according to the availability of contributed funds.

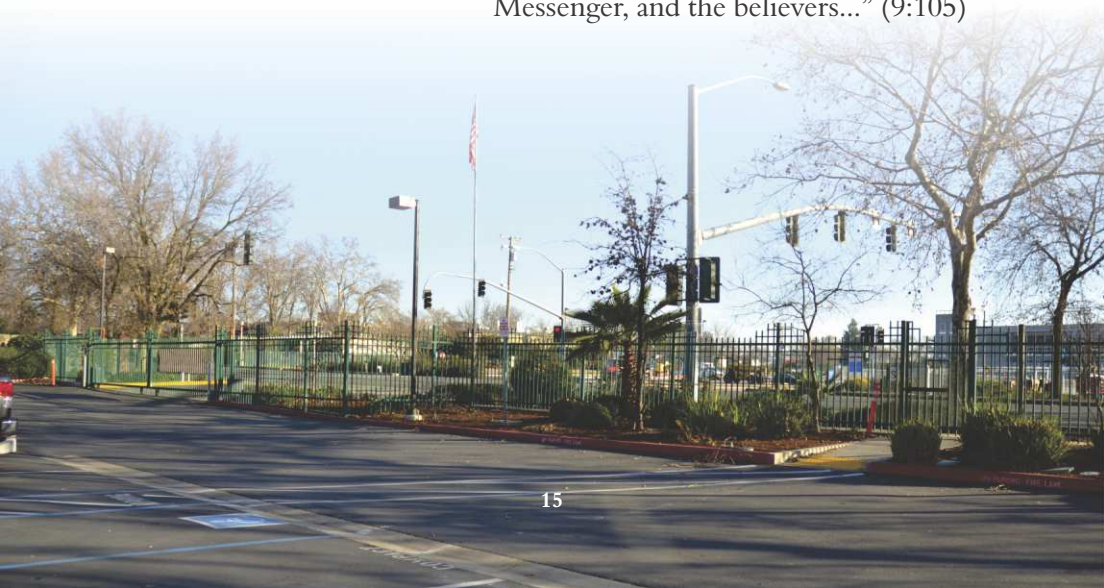




“The beauty of being involved in this type of Islamic project is that there is no end in sight. You finish one stage to find another one in the waiting, and you are very anxious to proceed. This is the true feeling of every Muslim on the SALAM management team.”

- Dr. Metwalli Amer

On January 9, 1995, Sacramento's Project Planning Commission unanimously granted the use permit to SALAM. Though some neighbors spoke against the project, careful planning, under the guidance and blessing of Allah, resulted in a positive outcome. An official from American River College and other neighbors articulated the rights of Muslims to have their own place of worship. Religious leaders including members of the Board of Directors of the Interfaith Service Bureau, an Orthodox Jew, a Catholic priest, and a Lutheran minister spoke convincingly in SALAM's favor. Parents spoke eloquently about how their children should have the same opportunity to learn about their religion as those from other faiths. It was a beautiful moment exemplifying the Qur'anic verse which states: “And Say; work, and Allah will surely see your work, and His Messenger, and the believers...” (9:105)





A trailer served as home for the Weekend Islamic School and housed a new modest library to be used by Muslims and the public. In 1997 the trailer was converted to a temporary Masjid and a second trailer was purchased for the expanding Weekend School.

Phase I (1996) Planning & Construction

The work on Phase I started in June 1996 and was completed at the end of summer. The cost of this phase was slightly over \$250,000. An open house was held on September 8, 1996 to show the Muslim community and the neighbors the new look of SALAM property with the new front-parking facilities, landscaping, green iron fence with two gates, and a new basketball court for the youth. What a blessing from Allah that the completion of Phase I coincided with the 10th Anniversary of SALAM!

The temporary Masjid was opened for Fajr and Isha prayers in October 1997. A month later, the Masjid was opened for the first time for Friday prayer on November 7.

Br. Asghar Aboobaker was SALAM President during Phase I and served as Project Manager for the subsequent Phase II.



Phase II (1997-2002)

Planning & Construction

Phase II Project & Construction Teams

Project Manager

Br. M. Asghar Aboobaker

Master Plan Designer

Br. Rafat Alafranji

Interior Design Team

Br. M. Asghar Aboobaker

Sr. Nasreen Aboobaker

Br. Rafat Alafranji

Sr. Lisa Bates

Dr. Suzana Malik

Project Committee

Br. M. Asghar Aboobaker

Dr. Metwalli B. Amer

Dr. Mahmoud Eltorai

Contractor:

Buntain Construction, Inc.

Architect

Gordon Rogers & Company, Inc.

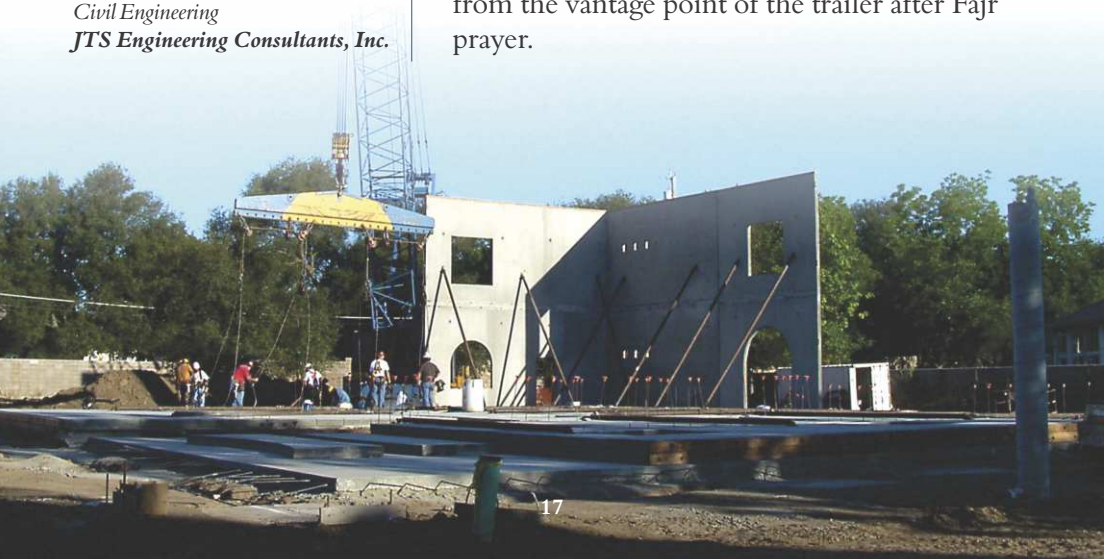
Civil Engineering

JTS Engineering Consultants, Inc.

No time was spared to start planning for the construction of Phase II: a multi-purpose building for an Islamic school and for religious and social meetings. Fundraising efforts started right away through the annual dinner banquets and by the end of 1999, SALAM had raised over \$1,000,000.

The Board of Trustees selected the construction team. The plans for construction started early in 2000. It took almost a year to get the construction plans approved by Sacramento County.

Construction of the Phase II building and parking area started in April 2001 and was completed in February 2002. SALAM negotiated with American River College to use Davies Hall for the Weekend School. It was memorable to see the daily progress of Phase II from the vantage point of the trailer after Fajr prayer.





The architectural plan of the building was a tasteful combination of East and West. It borrowed the Renaissance window rhythm of arched and square windows on the first and second floor and banded with exterior colored stripes reminiscent of the Middle Eastern Islamic architecture of the Mamluk era. The building was topped with a metal green roof representing the popular Islamic color and yet projecting contemporary



California architectural style. The interior style including skylight and color scheme was inspired by California buildings.

The 16,000 sq. ft. building included classrooms, a multipurpose hall, a conference room, and a full commercial kitchen. It housed the SALAM library. The 3,500 sq. ft. hall was built with conferencing and presentation facilities for 484 people and dining capacity for 300.



The cost of the building, parking and landscaping reached \$2,500,000, financed through private contributions and \$700,000 in interest-free loans from community members, repaid during 2002-2004. Several Muslim families contributed the cost of classrooms and offices as Sadaqah Jariah (perpetual charity).

The new building was dedicated on February 23, 2003 with the first function of the prayer and celebration of Eid-ul Adha: a time of appreciation and happiness. The Board called it the SALAM Community Center. The Weekend School returned home from American River College and began operations on March 17, 2002. A weekday after-school Islamic and Qur'anic reading program was held through the end of the school year. Friday prayers began at the new Community Center on March 5, 2004.

With the opening of the SALAM Community Center, the people of SALAM began an era of contributing to the Islamic education and the social well being of the Muslim community as well as Sacramento Community at large. People of all faiths are welcome to visit the Community Center and attend SALAM educational programs.





PHASE III THE SALAM MASJID & CENTER FOR HIGHER ISLAMIC LEARNING

Phase III of the SALAM Islamic Center is a place for worship, education and spiritual uplifting. It is a site to connect with Allah and to seek knowledge of the Islamic faith. It is a source for nurturing the mind, the soul, and the body, and is open for everybody seeking serenity and internal peace. Phase III completes SALAM Islamic Center, a Center that is designed to be a role model for others to follow in American society.

The Qur'an says:

"The Masajid of Allah shall be maintained by only those who believe in Allah and the Last Day, establish Salah, and give Zakah and fear none but Allah, It is those who hope to be rightly guided." (9:18)



Phase III (2005-2010) Planning & Construction

The SALAM Masjid and Center for Higher Islamic Learning is open to all Muslims and to all people of other faiths to meet their needs for worship, for learning and for social activities.

The goal of Phase III was to construct an Islamically-designed and functionally focused “Masjid and Center for Higher Islamic Learning” within 22,000 sq. ft. The Board of Trustees selected the Phase III Development Committee and the Architect of the project on April 4, 2006.

2007 marked the 20th anniversary of SALAM and coincided with the completion of the architectural work and detailed floor plans for Phase III. The architect plans were submitted to the County for approval by December 2007.

Celebrations of SALAM's 20th anniversary concluded with the fall fundraising banquet, on November 3, 2007. It was a miracle. Br. Bassam Dahduli shared his moving personal story describing his practice of charity to SALAM for over 15 years which was returned in bounties by Allah. His challenge to match his pledge that evening of half a million dollars energized the audience. Six charitable Muslims lived up to the challenge and pledged \$100,000 each that night. Others followed and the total pledges and donations reached \$1,554,000 - the largest amount ever raised!



From the beginning of Phase III fundraising in June 2005, close to \$3,500,000 dollars in donations and pledges were raised toward the estimated \$4,500,000 initial construction cost.

*Phase III Construction Team:
(right to left) Javed Iqbal, Metwalli Amer,
Mohammad AbdelAzeez, Farrukh Saeed.*

*Excerpt from a letter Dr. Metwalli wrote to the community early the next morning, after the fundraiser: **Sunday, November 04, 2007 (2:00 am)***

To all those who contributed last night to build the “Masjid & Center for Higher Islamic Learning” at SALAM Islamic Center:

Assalamu Alaikum

السلام عليكم

Last night was not an ordinary night. Last night, the angels of Allah surrounded our fundraising meeting. Last night the Hand of Allah was moving the pens of those who wrote the checks, the pledges, or gave cash in the cause of Allah.

What was touching last night were new groups of donors especially among the youth and young Muslims, beside other marvels. Especially moving was seeing young Muslims contributing back to the place where they first learned to say “Praise to Allah, the Lord of the Worlds” *الحمد لله رب العالمين* and seeing the Muslim Women Network at SALAM presenting a collective check to help in building the House of Allah.

A young girl student donated her small jewelry. Br. Hakmat Lababedy put the words of the Qur'an into action, bought her small jewelry for \$1000 on the spot and gave the jewelry back to the young student.

“Is there any reward for goodness but goodness?” (55:60)

هل جزاء الإحسان إلا الإحسان؟

Last night Allah moved many hearts and hands to give \$1,554,000; the largest ever raised in one night in the last 20 years in the life of this young and vibrant Islamic Center. It was as if Allah was saying, Here is My Gift from My sincere charitable givers who lent me money tonight on the occasion of SALAM 20th Anniversary, to help you build My House at SALAM Islamic Center!

Let everyone who contributed last night be assured that the angels who surrounded the meeting last night recorded whatever you gave in your book of good deeds, and you should also be rest assured that Allah shall give it back to you and your family in multiples and in various ways.

This is your legacy and this is your Sadaqah Jariah (Perpetual Charity).

With God's appreciation to everyone who has made the vision and dream come true last night.

*Your appreciative brother,
Metwalli Amer, Chair
Fundraising Committee*



Phase III Project & Construction Teams

Project Manager
Br. Javed Iqbal

Phase III Development Committee
Br. Javed Iqbal
Br. Farrukh Saeed
Dr. Metwalli B. Amer
Imam Mohammad AbdelAzeez

Interior Design Architect
Sr. Passant Dorgham

Contractor:
Br. Abdul S. Esmail
ASE General Contractors, Inc.

Architect
Br. Muthana Ibrahim

Civil Engineering
JTS Engineering Consultants, Inc.



On March 29, 2008, more than 150 people attended the groundbreaking ceremony of Phase III. Teams of twelve brothers and sisters joyously took turns to break the ground using new shovels and wearing contractor-supplied white construction hats with the SALAM logo. The invited guests proceeded to the SALAM Community Center to reflect on their happy memories of SALAM's progress to date.

The construction of the SALAM Masjid and Center for Higher Islamic Learning started in full gear. The slab was poured on September 8, 2008 (Ramadan 8, 1429). The steel pillars to carry the dome and the second floor were erected in November, 2008. The year 2009 saw the completion of the structural framing, the closing of the walls, and the placing of the foundation of the dome on top of the Masjid. The community and Board debate about building minarets resulted in the decision for eventual construction of one minaret at the southeast corner of the building. The base of the minaret was poured in anticipation of future construction.

During the month of Ramadan 2009, a special permit was obtained from Sacramento County to pray the Taraweeh prayer in the not-yet-complete auditorium of the new building. Imam Azeez engaged the Ramadan worshipers by sharing the stories of the prophets during the short talk every night between the Taraweeh prayers following the nightly Iftar at the Community Center. The community was spoiled with a very spiritually enjoyable holy month of Ramadan!





The 2008-2009 financial melt-down negatively impacted the pace of construction of Phase III by slowing down payment of the large pledges. The Board of Trustees, in a carefully deliberated decision, borrowed money to keep the project moving. Without it, the cost of stopping construction would have been devastating. A construction line of credit of \$2,600,000 allowed for continued building.



The construction of Phase III was completed by the beginning of the blessed month of Ramadan of the year 2010 (1431). The new Masjid was used for the Friday prayer for the first time on August 13, 2010, which was the third day of Ramadan. The new Masjid was full and the backflow of worshippers prayed in the auditorium on the first floor. It was a moving experience. The dream came true! A new Masjid was built in Sacramento!





The new Masjid was used for the five daily prayers as well the Taraweeh prayers during the month of Ramadan. On Friday, September 10, 2010, Shawwal 1, 1431, Eid-ul Fitr was prayed in two shifts for the first time to accommodate for the ever increasing number of SALAM worshipers. In each shift, both the new Masjid and the auditorium were used to accommodate for the large number of worshipers.



The certificate of occupation for the new “SALAM Masjid and Center For Higher Islamic Learning” was obtained from the county on October 25, 2010.

THE SALAM CENTER

*The Center occupies the entire first floor
(about 12,000 sq. ft.) to realize the following goals:*

- Position itself as a preeminent source for Islamic learning by providing extensive resources of Islamic knowledge and modern delivery methods for all members of the community regardless of religion or gender.
- Promote Islamic learning at intellectually higher levels based on research, concepts, analysis, contemplation, and critical thinking.
- Provide authentic Islamic knowledge by establishing close affiliations with educational and religious institutions to sponsor or support programs.
- Find Islamic answers to contemporary issues and promote them for adoption by the community and the governing political structures as a matter of policy by employing ijtiḥād methods as the reasoning process.

FOR HIGHER ISLAMIC LEARNING

- Develop and provide curriculum resources to area teachers in private and public schools and to other educational institutions through curriculum resource services.
- Reach out to local educational institutions to establish joint academic programs where faculty and students can visit SALAM and its facilities to learn first hand about Islamic practices, teachings, and knowledge.
- Provide tours of the facilities for congregations, schools and college classes including on Fridays when such groups can observe Friday prayer service.
- Conduct lectures and seminars in the new auditorium on Islamic topics.
- Address the Islamic educational plans for SALAM community, including programs for men and women, youth and children through training classes.

The goals of the Center were accomplished through

The Sharif Family Community Library



The heart and brain of the Center is the Sharif Family Community Library, so named because the Sharif family provided the funds for the library. Between 2006-2009 the Library Committee worked with Architect Gary Fabian of Stafford King Wiese Architects, Sacramento, to design the library interior.

The Library collection will include traditional materials such as books, DVDs, CDs, limited periodicals, and electronic information (e.g., e-books and online databases.) It will have an electronic catalog, and computer access for research. In addition to steel shelving, it will have study carrels, a group study area, circulation and reference services desks, and quiet areas for study and reading. As with all libraries, the computer will access local, national and global information with professional guidance.



The interior of the library reflects the color of the rich soils and Muslim architectural achievements in northwest Africa and Andalusia, connecting California to the region as a reminder of the legacy shared as Californians and Muslims.



use and development of carefully planned spaces.

The Auditorium

The auditorium can seat 200 and is a state-of-the-art facility, well equipped with the latest audio-visual, lighting and acoustic technology and a 12x16 ft. stage area. The auditorium will be used for community programs such as conferences and other Islamic programs.





The Conference Room

The Center has a Conference Room with state-of-the-art network connections for meetings and workshops.



The Community Lounge

The Community Lounge is designed to provide refreshments for conferences and meetings. The Lounge includes a youth recreation area with table games such as ping pong.



The Book and Gift Store

A 450 sq. ft. Islamic Book and Gift Store, open to the community at large, is slated to be a significant source of revenue for SALAM, and to help address the demand for Islamic materials among both Muslims and non-Muslims.

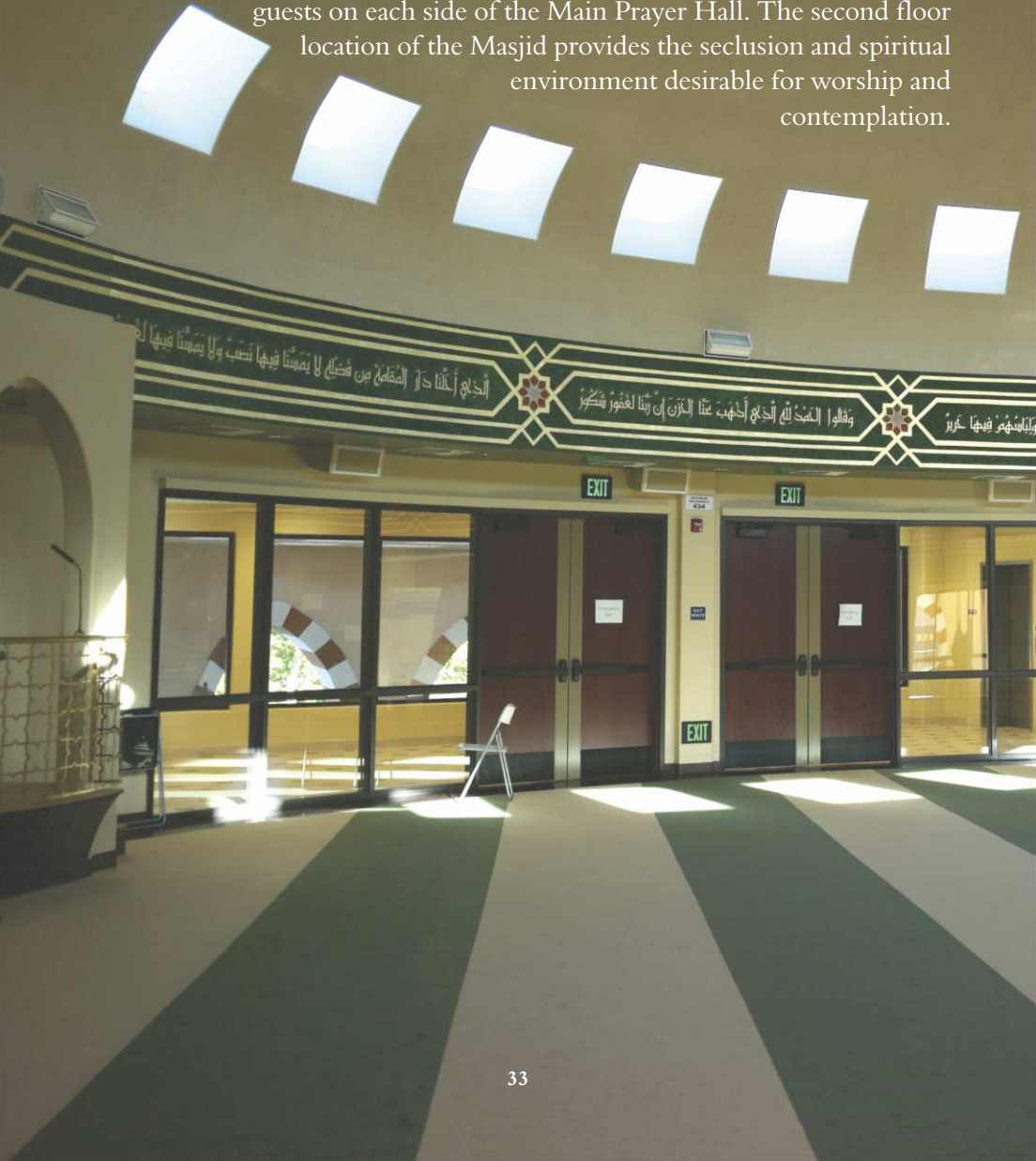


Other Facilities

Other areas in Phase III provide additional support to the community or the functions of the organization. The Women's Lounge offers space to women when they need a secluded area. The Imam's Office affords a location where the Imam can both work and provide discreet counseling services to those in need. The Administrative Offices on the first floor buzz with activity, particularly on Fridays, the day of the congregational Jumm'a prayer. The Administrative Offices include a separate office for the Executive Director, the Office Manager and Accounting system. Work space is also provided for the invaluable volunteers on whom SALAM depends.

THE SALAM MASJID

The Masjid occupies the entire second floor, about 8000 sq. ft. It consists of the Main Prayer Hall along with the wudu (ablution) facilities for men and women. There are two observation areas for press and non-Muslim guests on each side of the Main Prayer Hall. The second floor location of the Masjid provides the seclusion and spiritual environment desirable for worship and contemplation.



A place to connect with Allah

The circular hall opens to a 62 ft. wide domed ceiling and accommodates 600 people. Nine verses from Surat Fatir (The Qur'an 35:27-35) are designed on the soffit in a beautiful calligraphy. The interior décor of the hall reflects Islamic architecture with a mihrab, a minbar, and a Qur'an repository. The Masjid is equipped with audio, video, and internet technology that allows Adhan, prayers, Khutab, to be broadcast to other areas of the SALAM campus.



THE QUR'AN: SURAT FATIR

“Sole Originator” (35: 27-35)



Translation of the Soffit Calligraphy

27. Have you not seen, O Prophet, that it is Allah (God) alone who sends down, from the sky, water, whereby We bring forth fruits of varying colors? And also, in the land mass of some mountains there are streaks – white and red – varying in their colors, as well as others intensely black.
28. And so too among humankind, and all birds and wild beasts, and all cattle, there are varying colors, as well. Yet none is awakened to the wonders of creation and truly fears Allah among His servants but those filled with knowledge of the word and the way of Allah. Indeed, Allah is overpowering, all-forgiving.
29. Indeed, those who recite the Book of Allah, and who duly establish the Prayer, and who spend charitably from what We have provided them, secretly and openly, they have hope in a blessed transaction that shall never come to ruin.
30. That He may give them their rewards in full and increase them evermore from His bounty. Indeed, He is all-forgiving, ever-thankful.
31. Thus all that We have revealed to you, O Prophet, of this Qur'an, the Book of Allah, is the final truth, confirming all that was revealed before it. Indeed, He is most surely all-aware and all-seeing of the deeds of His servants.
32. Thereupon, We have decreed to bequeath the guidance of this Book to those whom We have chosen from among Our servants. So of them are those who wrong their own souls. And of them are the moderately devoted to their due observances. And of them, by the permission of Allah, are the forerunners in good works. It is this bequest, and the blessing of diligent adherence to revealed guidance, that is the great bounty.
33. Gardens everlasting shall they enter. They shall be adorned therein with bracelets of gold, and with pearls, their garments, therein, of silk.
34. And thereupon they shall say: All praise is for Allah alone who has taken away all grief from us! Indeed, our Lord is, most surely, all-forgiving, ever-thankful.
35. He it is who has settled us in the Abode of Lasting Residence out of His bounty. No more shall weariness touch us herein, for herein no tiredness shall touch us.

(From: The Gracious Qur'an by Ahmad Zaki Hammad)

The Grand Opening



The new facilities were opened to the Sacramento public at a two day event, April 29-30, 2011. Teams of SALAM youth served as guides to show visitors the new facilities and explain the architecture and function. Presentations including a video of the construction history were shown in the new auditorium.



The Sharif Family Community Library was an important part of the Grand Opening Tour. In addition to displays on the mission, purpose, and collection development areas of the library, there was an exhibit on the planned architectural designs of the interior space created by the Cosumnes River College (CRC) Architectural Design Technology Program. In addition, the CRC Muslim Student Association provided an exhibit on the history of libraries in Islam including Quranic and hadith verses about the value of knowledge.





The Grand Opening culminated the nearly three years of a labor of love by many dedicated people who worked to make the House of Allah at SALAM a towering monument in Northern California! It is the pride of the Muslim community in moderation, openness, accessibility, and multi-ethnicity.





COMMUNITY

Since its inception, SALAM has had a vision and mission to reach out and be part of the community at large. Its doors are wide open for people of all faiths to come and visit and use SALAM's educational and recreational facilities and services. Its presence has been felt as a prominent Islamic influence in the region.

Because of its outstanding service to the community, SALAM has received several awards and commendations. SALAM has helped establish and maintain relationships between the Muslim Community and non-Muslims.

The Qu'ran says:

"And of His signs is the creation of the heavens and the earth and the diversity of your tongues and colors. Indeed, there are, in that, signs for those who reflect." (30:22)



The Community

Three of SALAM's long-held objectives are:

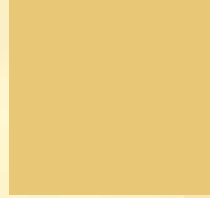
To promote unity among Muslims in the greater Sacramento area

*To reach out to people of different religions to
promote Islam in its correct image*

To be an active participant in the affairs of Sacramento Community

Toward those objectives, SALAM has a history of participation and leadership in events and organizations that continue to influence our region.





Activities & Services



SALAM's early activities were modest in nature. SALAM published a newsletter beginning April 2, 1987 that transformed into SALAM Magazine in July 1996, produced by Br. Rafat Alafranji. Muslim scholars were brought to speak to the Muslim community at rented facilities. A dialogue was established with peoples of other faiths. SALAM established good relations with the media and conducted interviews with TV stations and wrote a number of Islamic articles in The Sacramento Bee. We celebrated Eid holidays, catering to the children and youth to really make them feel the Eid occasion.

In May 1989, SALAM began a weekly TV Program on Sacramento Cable TV's Religious Channel called *Islam in Focus*. In October 6, 1989, Dr. Atif Wardany and his wife Sr. Badiia started SALAM's Friday Family Night Program at the Interfaith Service Bureau Office and were in charge of the program for ten years. Dr. Tousson and Sr. Geilan Topozada followed in their footsteps for another ten years at SALAM. The program has been going on since then under different coordinators.



From its earliest roots, SALAM has been a trusted organization in the Sacramento area. In 1993, the Sacramento Muslim community conducted a fundraising event for Bosnian war victims. Though SALAM's physical home was still basically a post office box, the community trusted SALAM's professionally designed accounting system and the annual audit of its financial statements by an independent CPA. Thus donations from this large event were administered through SALAM to various recognized international relief organizations that had easy access to help the war victims. Similarly, donations for the Pakistani Flood Victims were administered through SALAM in August 2010.



*Right:
Dr. Mahmoud and Sr. J.P. Eltorai
receiving the SALAM Award for
Distinguished Services for running
the Weekend School.*



*Below: Br. Saeed Ahmed,
current Weekend School Principal.*



In October 1993, Br. Asghar & Sr. Nasreen Aboobaker, with the help of Dr. Mahmoud and Sr. J. P. Eltorai started the new SALAM Weekend School and a few adult education classes in the trailer at the SALAM newly purchased property. During the construction of Phase II Community Center in 2001, the Weekend School was held across the street at American River College. The Weekend School moved to the new Community Center on March 17, 2002. It continues today with close to 300 students, currently under the leadership of Br. Saeed and Sr. Connie Ahmed.

An afternoon Islamic school was briefly in session for one year beginning in 2002, teaching our children Qur'anic reading, Arabic language and Islamic studies.





In 2002, SALAM appointed the paid part-time Administrative Assistant to manage office tasks in the newly constructed Phase II; this position has been expanded to a fulltime Office Manager position.



In 2004, the Board started a national search for a Director of Religious and Social Services by placing ads in Islamic Horizons and The Minaret magazines. A one-year national search brought to SALAM eight applicants from various states.

On June 16, 2005, Br. Mohammad AbdelAzeez joined SALAM as its Director of Religious and Social Services. He assumed the role of Imam. Imam Azeez's philosophy and that of SALAM in serving Islam and Muslims are very compatible. He and SALAM Islamic Center have been a good match since his appointment.

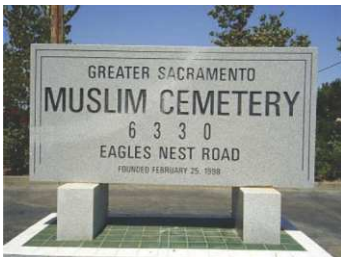
SALAM Elementary School started on September 6, 2005 in the SALAM Community Center and the SALAM Pre-School started on November 7, 2005. Both these programs continue today.



Working Together to Establish a Muslim

It was back in 1991 when SALAM announced its focus on the creation of an “Islamic Center & Cemetery Project.” A Muslim cemetery in Sacramento was needed to meet the specific funerary and burial requirements of Islam. Several leaders from SALAM, including Dr. Metwalli Amer, Dr. Mahmoud Eltorai, Br. Yousef Marmosh, and Br. Nisar Shah, together with leaders from other Masajid, including the late Brothers Tahir Siddiqui and Qavi Khan, met at SALAM and at the Muslim Mosque Association on V Street to discuss options and to plan the project. At that time, Muslims were buried in designated small sections in local commercial cemeteries. Local cemeteries offered to sell areas of their holdings to the Muslim community for designated Islamic burial sites. Sacramento Memorial Lawn at 6100 Stockton Blvd. was willing to designate a large area in its cemetery for Muslim burials. Camellia Memorial Lawn cemetery on 10221 Jackson Highway offered to sell one acre for Muslim use.

Instead, in 1995, a 14-acre parcel was found at 6330 Eagles Nest Road, Sacramento, off Jackson Road as a good location for a new project to develop an independent cemetery for the Muslim community. The local Masajid, including SALAM, coordinated their efforts behind the new project. It took two years to raise funds to purchase



Community Cemetery in Sacramento

the parcel in 1997 for \$155,000 with the effort of the leadership of the Muslim Mosque Association, headed by Dr. Najme Minhaj, the Mosque president. Having a cemetery for the Muslim community became a reality in March 2000 when it was opened for burial under the name of “**Greater Sacramento Muslim Cemetery**”, a non-profit, tax-exempt organization. Phase I for the development of the cemetery included one acre for burial sites and 0.6 of an acre for improvement. Phase II, estimated to be complete in 2013, includes a building with facilities for ghusl, memorial service, prayers, cold storage, a sisters lounge, office, and a parking lot. Dr. Najme Minhaj has been a devoted coordinator of the project. Br. Essop Khan has dedicated his life for the operational and money management of the cemetery over the years on a volunteer basis. He remains the principal point of information contact: (916) 925-2662

www.sacramentomuslimcemetery.com

SALAM is proud of its initiation of the cemetery project in 1991. Once an ideal location was found, it joined other Masajid to successfully merge all the efforts to exemplify the principle of working together to unite Muslims towards a common goal. The outcome was the creation of one of the few, well-managed, well-maintained, and well-coordinated Muslim cemeteries in the United States.



Uniting Muslims

In 1994, under SALAM's coordination, the leaders of the local Masajid agreed to unify the Islamic Lunar Calendar by adopting the scientific calculation followed by the Islamic Fiqh Council of North America and the Islamic Society of North America (ISNA) to determine the beginning of the Islamic months. This approach made it possible to celebrate the Eids together as one Muslim Ummah. The Muslim community performed Eid prayers and celebrations at one place, on the same day, and at the same time for four consecutive Eids, starting with Eid-ul Fitr on Sunday, March 13, 1994.



The 1994 community-wide Eid-ul Fitr brought the Sacramento area Muslim Ummah together and its presence was felt by the media and Sacramentans at large. Unfortunately this wonderful experience was discontinued because of differences among Imams.

COMMUNITY

"Arson against these three synagogues ... is an attack not only against the Jewish community - it is an attack against every decent person."

—The Posters • National Director of the Anti-Defamation League

All together now

Metwalli B. Amer, executive director of the Sacramento Area League of Associated Muslims, addresses 4,500 at the Community Center Theatre.



In January 1999, Imam Loqman Ahmad of Masjid Ibrahim spoke at SALAM Friday Family Night Program on the importance of Muslim unity in Sacramento. This prompted the formation of the Council of Sacramento Valley Islamic Organization (COSVIO) on March 3, 1999. Its objective has been to provide services to local area Masajid and Islamic organizations, coordinate activities among its members, and enhance Islamic understanding among people of other faiths. SALAM has been an active member of the Council since then with Dr. Metwalli Amer serving on the Council as its Public Relations Officer for six years (1999-2005) and its President for four years (2001-2005).

The first act of COSVIO was to issue a statement denouncing the burning of the three synagogues in Sacramento in June 1999 and to stand side-by-side with the Jewish community. Dr. Metwalli Amer, the chairperson of SALAM Board of Trustees at the time, was also the President of the Interfaith Service Bureau. He led 300 clergy on the stage of the Sacramento Memorial Auditorium with 4,500 persons in attendance in a solidarity event called "United We Stand". Dr. Amer read the COSVIO statement and finished with a statement that was echoed by TV stations and newspapers for several days: "An attack on one place of worship is an attack on all places of worship."



Br. Basim Elkarra, a SALAM member, has been the Executive Director of Sacramento Valley CAIR since 2004.

SALAM leadership was involved with the creation of a Sacramento chapter of the Council of American Islamic Relations (CAIR) in response to an anti-Islamic and anti-Muslim talk show on KFBK radio 1530 in the aftermath of 9/11/2001. Several Sacramento Muslim leaders attempted to counter the negative publicity on their own, but it was clear that affiliation with a national civil rights organization like CAIR was critical to fight for the rights of Muslims throughout the Central Valley. The Sacramento CAIR chapter was established in 2002 and has worked closely with SALAM on education and outreach programs and efforts.

SALAM has always supported other local Masajid and Islamic Organizations. It has helped them financially by letting them do fundraising after Friday prayers at SALAM Masjid. It participates with them in joyful events and stands with them in times of crisis. When the Islamic Center in West Sacramento was vandalized, SALAM leadership attended the press conference and met with CAIR and law enforcement agencies as part of the effort to apprehend those who committed the acts.





In 2012, SALAM called upon all Muslims to join its community to pray and celebrate Eid-ul Adha together at the Jackson Sports Academy. Masjid As-Sabur and many other Muslims of the greater Sacramento area responded positively to this unity call. Close to 3,000 people attended the prayers and festivities.



SALAM Interfaith Involvement



In 1992, SALAM became a member of the Interfaith Service Bureau and representatives have served on its Board of Directors. SALAM representation has continued over the years and it has participated actively in the various activities and projects of the Bureau as well as the Interfaith Community.



SALAM also has participated in environmental projects with the Interfaith Service Bureau whose leaders have pioneered this endeavor. SALAM leadership has joined the Bureau in various environmental projects such as Power & Light and Tree Planting over the years.

The annual Interfaith Iftar is one of SALAM's highly successful signature interfaith activities. It started in late 2001 by inviting Sacramento area leaders, notables and people of other faiths to break the fast during the month of Ramadan. It was initiated and financially covered by the Sharif Jewelers and support later expanded to include Br. Bassam Dahduli, Br. Kais Menoufy and other Muslims as principal sponsors. It is held at SALAM Community Center. Many religious, civic, educational, law enforcement officers and community leaders look forward to attend this annual event.



On the day of the 9/11/2001 attack and its aftermath, SALAM met with law enforcement agencies for briefings and to prepare for possible backlash against the community. SALAM participated in memorial services and organized a special memorial service at La Sierra Community Center in Carmichael on September 24, 2001 for the victims of 9/11, with several interfaith leaders in attendance. Donations to the Red Cross from several Masajid reached \$17,000.



The children of SALAM made a sympathy quilt for the children of New York City after 9/11. It was displayed in the New York Library.

SALAM was grateful to the clergy and friends who visited SALAM to show their support for our community and to stand beside us in case of any harm that might occur to Muslims. The Spiritual Life Center visited SALAM Weekend School and brought toys and gifts to our students. SALAM's efforts of reaching out to the Sacramento community at large and to the interfaith community paid off in their support of Muslims. Sacramento was the least in the nation in hate crimes.



© Jose M. Osorio/Sacramento Bee/ZUMA Press

SALAM leadership and community members make an effort to participate in community-wide interfaith activities such as the annual Celebration of Abraham dialogue event held each year in Yolo County, where people come together to discuss a specific theme, thereby increasing mutual respect and understanding among many faiths.

When the Spiritual Life Center congregation lost their lease, its senior pastor, Reverend Michael Moran, asked Dr. Metwalli Amer if they can hold their Easter Service on Sunday, April 8, 2012 at SALAM facilities. After proper consultation, SALAM Board of Trustees invited the congregation to conduct this



© Paul Kitagaki Jr/Sacramento Bee/ZUMAPRESS.com




most important annual Christian service at SALAM Community Center. This act earned SALAM local and national news attention. Both Rev. Michael Moran and Dr. Metwalli Amer spoke passionately about the importance of this kind of mutual collaborations as a way to promote peace and understanding among people of faith.

© Paul Kitagaki Jr/Sacramento Bee/ZUMAPRESS.com



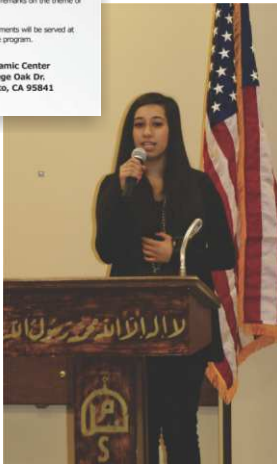
In 2003, SALAM helped sponsor the creation of the Capitol World Peace Rose Garden, a unique rose garden that combines messages of peace from children and the serenity of roses. Two poems from SALAM Weekend School youth were placed in bronze in the garden near the Muslim community bench, also coordinated by SALAM.



 Islamic Center invites you to attend
WORKING TOGETHER
 for a More Perfect Union
Thursday, September 8, 2011
6:00 pm to 7:30 pm
 at the SALAM New Auditorium
Keynote Speaker:
Dr. Yahia Abdul Rahman
Muslim Scholar from Southern California
 We cordially invite you to join us for this event. A few religious, political, and public official leaders have been invited to make brief remarks on the theme of the event.
 Ethnic refreshments will be served at the end of the program.
 SALAM Islamic Center
 4545 College Oak Dr.
 Sacramento, CA 95841



Havva Munir singing the National Anthem.



Ten years after 9/11 at the newly opened SALAM Masjid and Center for Higher Islamic Learning, SALAM held a commemorative event, “Working Together for a More Perfect Union”. The many people who attended were moved by the words provided by leaders from the Muslim, Jewish and Christian faiths, as well as from law enforcement departments and agencies including the FBI, the US Attorney, the Sheriff and the Police Chief.

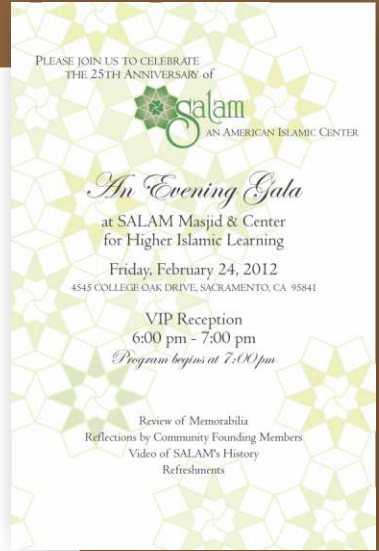
SACRAMENTO AREA LEAGUE OF ASSOCIATED MUSLIMS
CELEBRATING 25 YEARS
 of Building an American Islamic Center
 1987 - 2012



In the year 2012, SALAM celebrated its twenty-five years of service to Islam and Muslims through community events throughout the year. The theme was “Celebrating 25 Years of Building an American Islamic Center.” Three community events celebrated the anniversary under the careful coordination of Dr. Anne Kjemtrup. In February, the “Gala Event” hailed the pioneers whose efforts made SALAM what it is today. In June, the “Legacy of Partnerships” event highlighted how women have participated in the building of SALAM. The final event in December, Building a Vision for the Center For Higher Islamic Learning, focused on the users and collaborators who will continue to develop the Center as a welcoming, intellectual, community-friendly, and religious place for research, and meeting of minds.



The Gala Event was attended by supporters and friends of SALAM including elected and public officials, interfaith leaders, and community leaders. The event was elegantly hosted by SALAM volunteers. It featured a memorabilia collection in the Sharif Family Community Library. Items included historical newspaper and magazine articles featuring various SALAM activities over the years, founding documents, photos, SALAM Magazines and Awards. Speakers from the SALAM, interfaith, and greater Sacramento communities shared their recollections on their contributions and collaborations over the years. SALAM was honored with congratulatory Resolutions from the California Legislature and Sacramento County Board of Supervisors. The program finale was a video that beautifully summarized the past 25 years. The event was later publicly broadcast several times by Sacramento Access Television.





The Legacy of Partnerships event focused on one of SALAM's principles of encouraging women to take active roles in the running and governing of SALAM. During their dinner, attendees listened to talks from women who started and built important programs, developed the library collection, and participated in leadership positions.

The keynote speech, "Role of Women in Islam" was provided by Sr. Nasreen Aboobakr. The event closed with a video made by the SALAM Girl Scouts, "I am a Muslim Girl."





In December, the twenty-fifth anniversary culminated in a tribute to SALAM's next 25 years. Building a Vision for the Center For Higher Islamic Learning was the focus by the attending visionaries. Among those speakers were founding members, college faculty members and interfaith leaders: all shared their vision for their expectations of the Center. Br. Javed Iqbal, who initiated the Center concept, captured the event's spirit in this statement:

“In conclusion, I feel that we, as American Muslims, and SALAM, as a preeminent religious organization, are best situated to be at the center of intellectual undertakings, be a source of authentic Islamic knowledge at multiple levels, collaborate with the community at large, and work with educational institutions to set the course for the next 25 years.”



Awards & Honors

Hometown Hero Award from American Red Cross Sacramento Sierra Chapter and KCRA 3 and KQCA 58 to Sister Durriya Syed for her coordinating efforts in creating a quilt by SALAM children for the children of New York City.

Presented September 11, 2002



Building Unity Award from the Sacramento News and Review and Interfaith Service Bureau to Dr. Metwalli Amer for outstanding contributions to interfaith understanding and cooperation.

Presented September 13, 2003

FBI Director's Community Leadership Award to Imam Mohammad AbdelAzeez for preventing violence, creating understanding, and bringing people together.

Presented December 14, 2009



FBI Director's Community Leadership Award was given to SALAM Islamic Center for preventing violence, creating understanding, and bringing people together. Br. Farrukh Saeed accepted the award on behalf of SALAM from Director Robert Muller in Washington DC.

Presented November 14, 2012

Received April 5, 2013

SALAM and members of SALAM have received many awards and honors for their accomplishments, milestones, and community involvement. Below is a summary of some of these awards.

The Power of One Award from **The Interfaith Council of Greater Sacramento** acknowledges the difference that one person can make. It has been awarded many times within the SALAM community, including:

- The Interfaith and Community Leaders Award to SALAM for consistently working to transform interfaith cooperation into understanding and love.

Presented May 16, 2007



- Professor Rosalie Cuneo Amer for consistent efforts to expand out understanding and appreciation of our different faiths.

Presented May 28, 2009



- Sister Durriya Syed for leadership of the Interfaith Service Bureau and for the work toward reconciliation and understanding in the interfaith and Muslim Communities.

Presented June 9, 2011



- Dr. Irfan Haq for consistent involvement in interfaith work.

Presented May 9, 2013

Resolutions



Assembly Resolution No. 869 by the Honorable Richard Pan, 5th Assembly District: Relative to commending SALAM Islamic Center, he congratulates the Sacramento Area League of Associated Muslims on the Grand Opening of the New Islamic Center. April 29, 2011.

Presented February 24, 2012 on the 25th Anniversary of the Sacramento Area League of Associated Muslims Islamic Center:



Ms. Susan McKee presents the Joint Resolution.

Joint Resolution of the California Legislature, #123b

The Honorable Darrell Steinberg, President pro-Tempore of CA State Senate; Honorable Roger Dickinson, 9th Assembly District; Honorable Mariko Yamada, 8th Assembly District



Ms. Jianmin Yee presents the County Supervisors Resolution.

Resolution from the County of Sacramento Board of Supervisors

Certificate of Recognition from Insurance Commissioner Dave Jones, California Department of Insurance



Resolution from the City of Sacramento



Conclusion

PASSING THE TORCH

In 25 years, SALAM has grown in multiples and Muslims compete for leadership positions under its democratic system. SALAM no longer depends on one person or a group of persons. Its presence has been felt, its outreach efforts recognized, and its services acknowledged.

The torch has been passed to a group of younger American Muslims of diverse backgrounds, dedicated to serve Islam and the Muslim community through our vibrant American Islamic Center. I expect one of those Muslims to write about the accomplishments of SALAM during the next 25 years.

May Allah unite us together as a community of associated Muslims to focus on the role SALAM plays in the development of its spiritual, educational, and social mission, available to all, in His Name, the most Companionate, the most Merciful. Amen.

*With God's guidance and blessings,
- Dr. Metwalli B. Amer
December 2012*

GLOSSARY

<i>Allahu Akbar</i>	<i>God is Greater; used in the call for prayers and recited during prayers and praising God. It means that God is greater than anything in my life; and thus I should leave everything behind and concentrate in my connection with God during prayers.</i>
<i>Assalamu Alaikum</i>	<i>Islamic greeting, "Peace be upon you".</i>
<i>Asr prayer</i>	<i>One of five Islamic prayers performed mid-afternoon.</i>
<i>Eid-ul Fitr, Eid-ul Adha</i>	<i>Two major holidays; Eid-ul Fitr celebrates the end of the fasting month of Ramadan. Eid-ul Adha commemorates Prophets Abraham and Ismael and coincides with Hajj, the pilgrimage to Mecca.</i>
<i>Fajr prayer</i>	<i>One of five Islamic prayers performed at dawn.</i>
<i>Fiqh</i>	<i>Islamic jurisprudence.</i>
<i>Ghusl</i>	<i>Ritualistic washing, used often to refer to washing of body in preparation for burial.</i>
<i>Hadith</i>	<i>Report of what the Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) said or did on certain occasions during his life.</i>
<i>Hajj</i>	<i>The Muslims pilgrimage to Mecca.</i>
<i>Iftar</i>	<i>The evening meal when Muslims break their fast at the time of sunset.</i>
<i>Ijtihad</i>	<i>Islamic legal term that means "independent reasoning" or "the utmost effort an individual or group of individuals can put forth" as an concerted opinion in an issue that is not found in the Qur'an or the Hadith.</i>
<i>Imam</i>	<i>Someone who leads the Muslim prayers in a Mosque.</i>
<i>Isha prayer</i>	<i>One of five Islamic prayers performed after dusk (night prayer).</i>
<i>Jum'ah prayer</i>	<i>The weekly Muslim congregational noon prayer on Fridays.</i>
<i>Khutbah / Khutab</i>	<i>Friday sermon(s).</i>
<i>Maghrib prayer</i>	<i>One of five Islamic prayers performed at sunset.</i>
<i>Masjid / Masjid</i>	<i>Mosque(s).</i>
<i>Mihrab</i>	<i>A niche in the wall of a mosque that indicates the direction of Mecca.</i>
<i>PBUH</i>	<i>Abbreviation of the phrase "Peace Be Upon Him", said as supplication for the Prophet Muhammad after mentioning his name.</i>
<i>Ramadan</i>	<i>The ninth of the Muslim calendar dedicated to fasting from dawn to dusk.</i>
<i>Sadaqah Jariah</i>	<i>Charity that lasts longer than the benefactor, e.g. building a mosque, school, hospital.</i>
<i>Salah/salat</i>	<i>Muslim Prayer.</i>
<i>Shawwal</i>	<i>Tenth month of the Islamic calendar.</i>
<i>Shura Council</i>	<i>A consultative council.</i>
<i>Sunnah</i>	<i>The way of life based on the sayings, teachings and practices of the Prophet Muhammad (PBUH).</i>
<i>Taraweeh</i>	<i>Special nightly prayers in the month of Ramadan after Isha prayer.</i>
<i>Ummah</i>	<i>Muslim community or peoples.</i>
<i>Wudu</i>	<i>Spiritual washing (ablution) performed before the daily prayers.</i>
<i>Zakah/zakat</i>	<i>One of the five pillars of Islam requiring the giving of charity. (Almsgiving).</i>
<i>Zhur prayer</i>	<i>One of five Muslim prayers performed at noon time.</i>



SACRAMENTO AREA LEAGUE OF ASSOCIATED MUSLIMS

*4545 College Oak Drive
Sacramento, CA 95841-4515
Phone: 916.979.1933 Fax: 916.979.1002
www.salamcenter.org*

