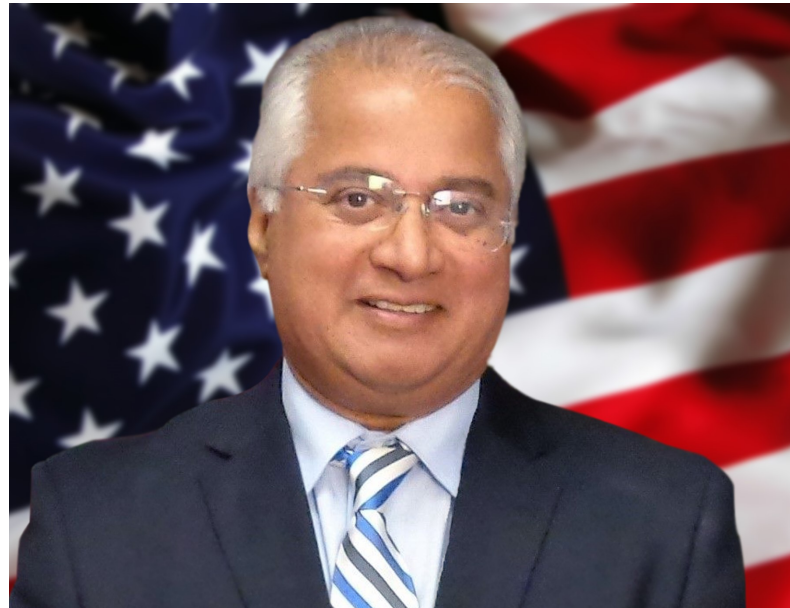


MIKE GHOUSE

Building a Cohesive America

Dr. Mike Ghouse is a community consultant committed to building cohesive societies and offers pluralistic solutions on issues of the day. He believes if we can learn to respect the otherness of others and accept the God-given uniqueness of each one of us, then conflicts fade and solutions emerge. He has dedicated his life for this purpose. purpose.



His actions, writings, discussions and talks are geared towards building cohesive work places, communities and an America where no one has to feel excluded, apprehensive or fearful of the other. He believes, cohesive workplace multiplies positive energy and makes every one productive.

He is a newsmaker and creates pathways where they were none before. Dallas, TX is his home town, and he lives in Washington, DC

CENTER FOR PLURALISM

<http://www.CenterforPluralism.com>

Our Mission is to build a cohesive America, where no American has to live in anxiety, discomfort or fear of another American. By learning to respect the otherness of others and accepting the God-given uniqueness to each one of us, we pave the way to mitigate conflicts and nurture goodwill



Our programs are geared to bring Americans Together often, the more often we see each other in social, cultural, civic, religious and other settings, the stronger the antidote would be against divisiveness, resulting in lesser misunderstandings and fewer misperceptions among us.

Our role is to study pluralism in religion, politics, society and culture and be a catalyst for change through non-stop actions and bringing American together in different settings.

No American needs to worry about or losing his or her way of life. As Americans we uphold, protect, defend and celebrate the values enshrined in our Constitution.

Let's explore daily opportunities to make America a better place for each one of us.

RESEARCH | LEADERSHIP | ACTIVISM

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This booklet is divided into three sections— Center for Pluralism from Page 1 thru 34, the Muslim component of CFP from 35 through 53, foreign policy 54-56 and the rest is about work of initial driver of this organization.

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AVERTING A DISASTER IN 2020

By the end of 2020, there will not be a major city in America, and perhaps in the world, where you will not find people of different faiths, cultures, ethnicities, races, nationalities and social backgrounds working, eating, playing, interacting and marrying together.

This is bound to create social and personal conflicts harming the smooth functioning of your local community or the corporation.

We need to prepare ourselves for those eventualities , and to prevent possible conflicts, lay a good foundation for nurturing goodwill and effective functioning of the societies.

Exclusive work places will become a thing of the past. If you live amidst others, you must make an effort to know each other.

Each one of us tunes into a radio station called WIFM: “What’s In It For Me.” Diversity is beneficial to any organization.

You are who you are, and I am who I am. As long as we don’t mess with each other’s space, sustenance and nurturance, and mind our own business, we all will do well.

All our problems emanate from not knowing each other and the inherent xenophobic attitudes.

The Center for Pluralism is committed to organize events to promote “knowing each other” effectively. Knowledge leads to understanding and understanding to acceptance of the otherness of others.

Mike@MikeGhouse.net | (214) 325-1916 | Washington, DC

PRESIDENT TRUMP READ MY LETTER

This letter was hand delivered to Vice-President Mike Pence and Chairman Matt Schlapp of the C-PAC. A week later President Trump in his address to the joint sessions opened the speech, and the first two items came from this letter.

SHORTEST LETTER TO PRESIDENT TRUMP

Tuesday, February 21, 2017

Dear Mr. President,

We the people of many faiths and no faith, Christians, Jews, Muslims, Hindus, Buddhists, Sikhs, Bahai's, Jains, Native Americans, pagans and fellow Americans are asking you to consider the following or something like it in your next speech.



"Fellow Americans, you chose me to be your President, and now help me do the right thing. Listen carefully, stop those 'few' guys who are a threat to fellow Americans, particularly the bomb threats against the Jewish Community Centers which is not acceptable. We will hunt them down and punish them accordingly.

Stop the radicals from harassing the Jews, Muslims, Immigrants, African Americans or any one for that matter, the actions of those few are a bad reflection on my administration. I will not tolerate any one messing with fellow Americans under my Presidency, neither should you? Stop them now.

I want an America where no one has to live in apprehension or fear of the other."

AMERICANS TOGETHER

A majority of us want a just society with safety and security, and want to live our lives as good neighbors and let others live theirs.

OUR DREAM: Each one of us has a dream... a dream to have livable wages, a loving family, children, a home, reliable car, decent health care, and comfortable retirement.



OUR RIGHTS: Our founding fathers laid the foundation of the creed for such a society, "We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights, that among these are Life, Liberty, and the pursuit of Happiness".

OUR SPIRIT: Martin Luther King Jr. expressed the same in his famous speech, "I have a dream that our little children will one day live in a nation where they will not be judged by the color of their skin but by the content of their character."

OUR WORLD: Native American Chief Seattle said it perfectly: "All things are connected. Whatever befalls the earth befalls the sons of the earth. Man did not weave the web of life; he is merely a strand in it. Whatever he does to the web, he does it to himself."

OUR RESPONSIBILITY: President Kennedy pointed us in the right direction, "Ask not what your country can do for you; ask what you can do for your country". When we give to the country, we collectively receive as well. Details at www.AmericansTogether.org

WHAT IS THE BIG DEAL ABOUT DIVERSITY

What is the need to have diversity and how does it benefit you?



Every organization is made up of people who are loyal and committed to the prosperity and profitability of the organization. While a majority of the board members, associates and employees stick to the guidelines for a smooth sail, a few don't and pull down the productivity of entire group.

The old fashioned method was to fire the ones who do not conform, and that turned out to be expensive proposition in keep replacing employees, the smart ones have figured out the answer: Pluralism.

This purposeful workshop would be beneficial not only to the corporate executives, but also to the Ambassadors of many countries who are housed in Washington DC. All of us want members of our family, fellow employees at our offices, nations, work places and places of worship to function cohesively and effectively. An effective organization is most productive and a joy to work.



CPF STRUCTURE

The Center for Pluralism is structured to deliver results for the purpose for which it is formed. It is a challenge to bring harmony with the diversity and inclusion we are seeking, and we will take it gracefully.

Chairman and the Board of Trustees

Individuals who have a genuine interest in promoting pluralism and resist the temptations to push for preferences of one faith over the other, one political party over the other and or one ethnicity over the other. One must genuinely believe that all are created equal.

Board of Advisors

Our advisory board will be represented by individuals from at least 20 different faith traditions and political orientations. It is time for us to be equal citizens of one world, our home. Each one will take the lead to organize programs of his or her faith or political party to share their pluralistic values.

Executive Committee

President & Executive Director

Secretary

Treasurer

Public Relations Officer

Operations Officer

Memberships : Life Time and Annual

Donors : Individual and Corporate

CENTER FOR PLURALISM

<http://www.CenterforPluralism.com>

CFP is about Pluralism Studies in Politics, Religion, Culture, Society, Cuisine, Costumes and other Uniqueness. This uniqueness can be a source of conflict or harmony.

What is Pluralism? Pluralism is simply an attitude of respecting the otherness of others and accepting the uniqueness of each one of us.

Indeed, If we can learn to respect the otherness of others and accept the God-given uniqueness of each one of us, then conflicts fade and solutions emerge.



It does not matter if we came through evolution, creation or the big bang, the fact of the matter is that we exist, and we have to face or deal with someone or the other who is different than ourselves on a daily basis.

All our programs are designed to achieve a singular theme; respecting the otherness of others. The purpose of our work is building cohesive work environment and cohesive societies where no one feels left-out or apprehensive about his or her place in the society, and finally, it is all about conflict mitigation and goodwill nurturance.

Indeed, at this time we have several programs that address the issues, but not enough. We are looking to add a variety of programs to progress on knowing each other including adhoc seminars and workshop to meet the needs of current situations or conflicts.

CFP will be responsive organizations to any current situation.

ESTABLISHED PROGRAMS

Our programs are geared to bring Americans Together often, the more often we see each other in social, cultural, civic, political, religious and other settings, the stronger the antidote would be against divisiveness, resulting in fewer misunderstandings and misperceptions among us.

The oldest program is 18 years old and is about cultural pluralism, and each program reflects its civic, humanitarian and religious pluralism.

XVIII Annual Thanksgiving Celebrations & Awards Night

A time of gratitude and celebration of cultural pluralism and appreciating men and women amidst us who have melted the barriers between people.

<http://thanksgivingcelebrations.org/>

XIII Annual Unity Day USA

Bringing Americans Together to rededicate our pledge to one nation with liberty and justice for all.

<http://www.UnityDayUSA.com>

XII Annual Holocaust and Genocides

A purposeful event to reflect on human failings, acts of violence, massacres, ethnic cleansing, genocides and Holocaust with the intention of learning to prevent such happenings as an individual, and affirm, "Never again".

<http://www.HolocaustandGenocides.com>

III Annual Series, Understanding the essence of Religions

I would rather hear about your faith from you than someone else. Learn about the 13 different faith traditions first hand from their practitioners.

<http://centerforpluralism.com/workshops/>

Festival of Faiths" (2nd year)

Annual event celebrating all faiths at the Jefferson Memorial
What a joy it is when Americans come together.

<http://centerforpluralism.com/festival-of-faiths/>

NEW RECURRING PROGRAMS

Annual Memorial Day Commemoration” (2nd year)

The freedom that we cherish today did not come to us on a platter, and was not “a given” either. It was earned for us through the sacrifices of our men and women and we owe our gratitude to our veterans.

Annual July 4th Celebration” (2nd year)

Thank God for America, where we the people cherish and value the freedom endowed to us by the creator. Democrats and Republicans will come together and cherish the Political Pluralism.

<http://centerforpluralism.com/happy-4th-from-usa-today/>

Annual Veterans Day commemoration” (2nd year)

Honoring our Veterans

Wisdom of Spiritual Masters—first year.

Celebrating the contribution of Spiritual Master to make our world a better place for all humanity. We started with Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) and will end with Jesus Christ in December and celebrate as many spiritual masters as we can in between.

Seminars and Symposiums on the Burning topics

They are listed on page 31, these are timely, one time events

COLLABORATIONS

We invite collaborations from individuals and organizations for any one of the events anywhere to join us in our events or we will be happy to join as a supporter if the event is pluralistic in nature, meaning it is not against any one but for all. Most of our events are a collaborative efforts.

Send an email to info@Centeforpluralism.com



We are deeply committed to education and relentlessly pursuing to build cohesive societies and we hope to create a model for the world to emulate. This program was established in 2006.

There is a shameless cruelty in us, either we shy away from facing or refuse to acknowledge the sufferings of others, worrying that it will devalue our own or somehow it amounts to infidelity to our own cause. We cannot justify massacres arrogantly believing that the victims deserved it or asked for it.

We have to learn and to acknowledge and reflect upon the terrible things we have inflicted upon each other and have to commit to ourselves to resist the temptations to be prejudiced and stereotype others. We cannot demand peace unless we are peaceful ourselves. Our safety hinges on the safety of others around us, and it behooves us to work for the safety and security of others on this little planet. www.HolocaustandGenocides.com



THE 9/11 STORY

Dallas, Texas. About 10:00 on the Morning of Tuesday, September 11, 2001, I was called in by AM Radio 1150 to address the situation; and 950 AM also joined in to simul-cast the program. The great tragedy had left every one speechless and had frozen everyone from doing anything. I was shaking but was committed to make sense out of the chaos and bring coherence to the day, and pave the way for relevant action.



At the end of the day we got people to focus on these five things; 1) Donate Blood, 2) Donate Funds, 3) Hold interfaith prayers, 4) Bin Laden is the Terrorist and 5) Everything is going to be alright and we will be safe now.

I was on the air for 7 hours straight, standing on my feet and getting just about every community, religious, civic and business leader and the general public on the air to talk about the situation. Many of them read prepared statements, and one by one they condemned the attack. I did not even get to eat or take a break. The calls were pouring in and I was completely absorbed in the situation.

This is a long story and I hope it offers insights into what it takes to build a cohesive America, a genuinely free America where no one has to live in apprehension and fear of the other.

Full story is read by over 3 Million people at TheGhouseDiary.com





It is an initiative to bring Americans together to stand up for the safety, security and cohesiveness of America. The idea for Unity Day USA was first conceived on Tuesday, September 11, 2001 and took its current form on Sunday, September 11, 2005.

On this Unity Day, we the people of the United States of America of every faith, race, ethnicity, culture and background will gather to express our commitment to co-existence, unity, prosperity and in well being of our nation.

Our civic leaders including Mayors, Council Members, State Representatives/Delegates, Senators, Representatives and other officials will honor us with their presence. Additionally, our men and women in uniform including police and fire chiefs will be honored for their outstanding service to our nation.

Leaders from various faith communities will share a few words of wisdom from their respective scriptures, beliefs or oral traditions. Unity Day USA is about re-affirming our faith in the goodness in humanity, and the longing for harmony and co-existence. It is a beautiful experience to feel the sense of unity. www.UnitydayUSA.com





18th Annual Thanksgiving Celebrations & Awards Night

Expression of gratitude is the ultimate balancing act in one's life. We know whom we receive the good from and offer our gratitude. The absence of a simple thank-you creates an imbalance in the relationship and spiritual energy, while a simple thank you restores it.

When you express your gratitude to the persons who have made a difference in your life, it brings a ton of relief to you. Make an effort and enjoy the peace of mind that comes with it. May you be blessed to be a blessing to others. Amen!

The purpose of celebrating this event is to thank the creator for helping us learn; to give thanks for the blessed life we all enjoy in these United States of America; to celebrate the diversity of creation; to enjoy the cultural heritage of each ethnic group that makes America; to appreciate and recognize outstanding volunteers in each community; and to bring the new immigrants into our fold.

In the last 15 years, the spiritual groups including the Native Americans, Apache, Atheists, Baha'i, Buddhist, Cherokee, Choctaw, Christian, Hindu, Hopi, Jain, Jewish, Maya, Muslim, Shinto, Sikh, Tao, Wicca, Oloriya, Zoroastrian and communities from different races and ethnicities have come together to celebrate this event. www.ThanksgivingCelebrations.org

As a society it is our duty to recognize and appreciate the people who have made a difference in the communities we live in, and it is our pleasure to honor and encourage these individuals and organizations.



CELEBRATING AMERICA

FESTIVAL OF FAITHS

On Sunday, December 18, 2016; a model for a cohesive America was unveiled with a handful of volunteers at the Thomas Jefferson Memorial in Washington, DC, the nation's capitol. Eventually this model can become an anti-dote to prejudices against people of different faiths, races, cultures and ethnicities.

A few pictures from the event: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/mikeghouse/sets/72157674321116443/show>

America is going through a major crisis at this point in history, and each one of the 322 million of us is stressed out. There is always the silver lining to such crises. Whenever we were pit one against the other; we chose to come together and found solutions to live with each other.

Right now, the White Americans are concerned about erosion of their way of life, the African Americans are equally apprehensive and so are the Muslims, Jews, Sikhs and undocumented aliens. They are worried about the possibility of their families being torn apart; they are concerned about doubling down to correct the first wrong. The list is all inclusive. Shall we wait for President Trump to put the derailed train back on the tracks? I say no, we have to take the responsibility to shape our lives.

The American spirit is not to ask the Government but do it ourselves. Here is what we can do to restore America.

http://www.huffingtonpost.com/entry/america-will-always-be-a-great-nation_us_585d91b2e4b014e7c72edc45



EXPERIENCE TO CHERISH



We are about Pluralism Studies and action in Politics, Religion, Culture, Society, Cuisine, Costumes and other Uniqueness. This uniqueness can be a source of conflict or harmony.

Tonight, you will walk out with new experiences to cherish:

Experiencing other religions

We will call on individuals to join us on the floor and organize 10 teams of 2 each. You will be randomly given a verse from any faith—i.e., if you are a Christian you may be called to become a Hindu for the next few minutes, and if you are a Muslim, you may get the assignment to be an Atheist, if you are not comfortable, sit back and enjoy others do it.

Each team will be asked to read the verse, and explain to the guests as to what it means to them. We hope through actually reading the verse, each one of us will be less biased toward the other and contributes to the idea of one nation.

We have several great experience to share that brought people closer together and removed some of the misgivings.

STANDING UP FOR OTHERS

Standing up for others

WHY SHOULD ANY ONE STAND UP FOR YOU, IF YOU ARE
NOT WILLING TO STAND UP FOR OTHERS?



Standing up for others is the right thing to do, every human goes through a period of invincibility to vulnerability, and if we don't stand up for those who are vulnerable, then who will stand up for us when we are vulnerable? The book chronicles fascinating stories about standing up for others. It's about creating cohesive societies where no human has to live in fear of the other.

A book by Mike Ghouse

**SPEAKER | THINKER | AUTHOR | TV & RADIO COMMENTATOR
ON PLURALISM, POLITICS, ISLAM, ISRAEL/PALESTINE, INDIA,
FOREIGN POLICY AND BUILDING COHESIVE SOCIETIES.**

JULY 4TH NATIONAL INTEGRATION

4th of July should not just happen, but should be a great happening to augment National Integration.

This program offers special opportunity to embrace those who have stayed on the sidelines. We all must come together and celebrate it big time. We are one nation, the more we are one, the more secure we will be.



At this time Muslim Americans and other Americans need to seek and work on national integration. This is a morale booster for them, reminding them about their contribution to the greatness of America from its very inception.

Americans and Muslims have a connection since the very beginning of our independence. We need to revive that birth relationship and strengthen it.

Upon declaration of our independence on July 4, 1776, two of the first three heads of states who recognized the sovereignty of the United States were Muslims. Morocco was the first state to recognize the independence of the United States of America. The Dutch Republic was the next and Tippu Sultan, the King of Mysore State (India) was the third.

According to Dr. Range Gowda, Tippu Sultan's historiographer, the congratulatory letter to America is preserved in a French Library. There is a record of celebration of America's independence in August 1776 at Srirangapatna (spelled three different ways), capitol of the Mysore State.

July 4th means everything and the biggest one is the freedom. The program will change our relationship between Americans; Muslims will not be on side lines any more, but a part of the American Story. It is simple and details will be available on request.

MEMORIAL DAY

The freedom that you and I cherish did not come to us on a platter, and was not a given thing either; it was earned for us through the sacrifices of men and women who fought for it. It is particularly an important day for all the immigrants who enjoy the freedom and all the opportunities America offers, and owe that gratitude to our veterans.

The tradition of Memorial Day observance began after the American Civil War to commemorate the Union and confederate soldiers who died in the civil war. Indeed, it was the civil war that abolished slavery, and was the stepping stone for passing the Civil rights Act of 1964 which allowed all immigrants to be equal citizens.



Given the alienation Muslims and others may feel with the current political rhetoric, the Memorial Day facilitates an opportunity to bind with each other, and to be one with all.

It is an incredible feeling; it is like being in mother's lap.

Since 2010, I have been visiting every National Cemetery and paying tributes to our men and women. Google check Memorial Day Mike Ghouse to find many stories. You can also plug in Memorial Day in the search box at www.TheGhousediary.com

Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KUCHWggiwqw>

VETERANS DAY

We thank our veterans for their patriotism, service and sacrifice to our nation, and express our gratitude by paying homage to the places dedicated to our veterans.

It is a tradition among many faiths to pray for humanity and seek blessings for those who sacrificed their lives for the benefit of all, and many a American will be visiting the cemeteries around the country to pay their homage.



Members of Muslim community will be visiting the Veterans Cemeteries including Arlington National Cemetery to pay their respect to the Veterans.

The freedom that we cherish today came to us through the sacrifices of our men and women right from George Washington down to the last soldier fighting for our freedom.

YOUTUBE- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DoWLyVXH6Ek>

GENDER PLURALISM

<http://genderpluralismcenter.blogspot.com/>

At the Gender Pluralism Center, we will explore if misogyny is religiously sanctioned or men took it upon themselves to make things to work for them, and in the process, the un-intended consequence was making a villain out of God and religion.

A few Men tend to be insecure about their own worth compared to women, and devise ways to feel secure (what a false feeling) by causing women to be insecure. I am not talking about the Taliban in a far off land, but our own Taliban mind set right here in America denying women the right to choose what she does with her body, rejecting her equal pay or expect her to obey the husband.

"A woman should behave like a woman" "Her place is home" echo the conservative religious men from Christian, Jewish, Muslim, Hindu, Sikh, Buddhist and other traditions.

Women have put up with this crap from men far too long, it's time we feel, act and talk like equals. The silence of the good people is considered an endorsement; do the good men give permission to the right? If not, we need to speak up. We need to be good for some good values and not good for nothing people.

A good functional society strives to be just to every citizen, when justness becomes a norm in every aspect of life - be it between spouses, family members, members of the community, town, state and the nation, then people trust each other and mind their own business.

Don't look to anyone group to blame, look at yourselves first. A sentence that I have been repeating lately is "for every Muslim ass, there is a Christian, Jewish, Hindu, Sikh or other ass" add hole if you need to.

Eventually we need to realize that individuals must be held accountable for their wrong doing, and not their religion.

PLURALIST AWARDS

Pluralist Awards were instituted in 1996 to recognize individuals who reach out and serve others. Their service is not limited to people of their faith or their country of origin or their race, but for all humanity without reserve. Over the years we have recognized and appreciated 45 individuals by presenting them a plaque in our public events—Unity Day USA or Thanksgiving Celebrations and Awards Night.



Community Service Award is in the same light for those communities who have gone beyond and stood up for others or have set an example of inclusiveness. The first such awardees were the African American Community and the Jewish community for their contribution in bringing about Civil rights and keeping the secular public space respectively. The other communities are the Muslim Community and the Sikh Communities for their exemplary display of patience and prayers for those who had wronged them.

WISDOM OF SPIRITUAL MASTERS

Education makes all the difference in the world and I want to bring to the World what I learnt in the Social Studies book from my 6th grade. It is etched in my mind, heart and soul for ever.

There was a page for each one of the spiritual Masters from Jesus, Krishna, Rama, Gautama, Mahavira, Moses, Nanak, Muhammad and Zarathustra. I learned about them as “the public spiritual Masters” and not as Christian, Hindu or other masters. Their message was universal and each one had a distinct message.



So we have started the series, here in Washington DC with Prophet Muhammad’s birth celebrations. Throughout the year we will be celebrating one religious personality or the other and talk about their contribution in making our world a better place for all of us to live. Celebrations would be the birth of the founders who were committed to build cohesive societies or major festivals to represent every American. It is all about inclusion!

UNDERSTANDING RELIGION

Why do you want learn about Atheism, Christianity, Hinduism, Islam and other religions? Learn about 13 religions in 13 workshops. This event is made possible in collaboration with the Church of Scientology National Affairs Office, Washington, D.C, hosts of the program.



When we live as neighbors, fellow workers, students, players, activists and inhabitants of the same city, it behooves us to learn about each other's beliefs, motivations, moments of celebrations, devotions or commemorations. The more we know about the other, the less mythical they would become forging a friendly environment for all of us to function effectively in whatever we do.

Who do you learn from? I will avoid those who malign others as they have some thing to gain. Religion is not about gaining or losing, but living a life of peace and love for humanity. I will avoid even the practitioners of faith who are inclined to sell their religion. I would rather hear from, some one who simply presents what his or her faith is, and how it contributes to making the world a better place.

GRADUATION

Individuals who attend at least 10 of the 13 courses will be issued a certification of Graduation in Pluralism at the end of the year. This program will be institutionalized and will be offered in different Cities. We held two such events in Dallas, Texas.

<http://centerforpluralism.com/workshops/>

RELIGION ON AIR



Each one of us is conditioned with certain beliefs whether we are Theists, Atheists or the other. We took the challenge to communicate the message to the general public in the most generic way we can. The idea was that every listener gets what Jesus meant, “Follow me”, Krishna Says, “Surrender to me” or Allah says, “Submit to my will.”

How does each religion, its values and practices contribute towards the well being of the society as Chief Seattle, a Native American said this perfectly, “All things are connected. Whatever befalls the earth befalls the sons of the earth. Man did not weave the web of life; he is merely a strand in it. Whatever he does to the webs, he does it to himself.”

Christianity—104 hours
Islam—104 hours
Hinduism—104 hours
Atheism—52 hours
Bahai—52 hours
Buddhism—52 hours
Jainism—52 hours
Judaism—52 hours
Sikhism—52 hours
Zoroastrianism—52 hours

A total of 728 Hours in addition to 24 hours on New years eve about joint program with all religious leaders.

26 hours on Festivals of the world, all the festivals of the world. You can Google the words together name of the festival with Mike Ghouse for the results.

STATE OF THE UNION



The “State of Muslim” was a monthly conversational program hosted by Mike Ghouse for the American Muslim Institution. Experts were invited from the public, faith communities and the Departments of State, Homeland Security, Justice and Defense to discuss the state of affairs of Muslims and explore possible solutions to restore cohesiveness in our communities.

We realize the issues are not exclusive to Muslims. There are other vulnerable communities as well and we want to include them in finding collective solutions.

We are planning on taking the program to include vulnerable communities and tentatively call it the “State of the Union.” Together, we will invite community leaders, policy makers, media and the public at large to be a part of the conversation series.

This all inclusive event will go into effect in July 2017.

QURAN CONFERENCE

<http://quraanconference.blogspot.com/>

The words of Pastor Jeffress generate fear, anxieties hate and ill-will, it is not a reflection of his Church but his personal ideology. Even if the congregation sheepishly claps and gives a standing ovation when the pastor yells, “Islam is an evil evil religion and Quran is a book written by a false prophet” it is not what Christians do.



The chronological sequence of the events from the day Pastor Robert Jeffress called Islam “an evil evil religion” to the Quran Conference. Much of the documentation is on the Television, Dallas Morning News and at the blog.

Myths are manufactured about others without any substantiation; it is an old business of maligning others to have a momentary gain.

The unique thing about this conference was that through audience participation, we reduced 60 difficult verses down to 10, to be read by 10 Non-Muslim clergy representing different faiths. The conclusions are, It is not Quran that is the problem, it is the misunderstanding that is the problem.

Praise the Lord, the formula works and we will strengthen the model to make it work on its own in every City in the World, the idea is to remove mis-understanding and ill-will from the hearts of humanity.

SHARIA CONFERENCE

<http://ShariaLaws.com/>

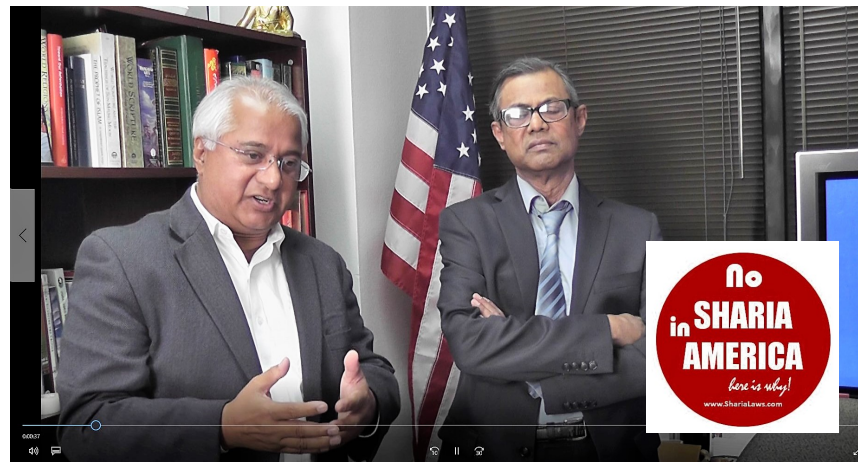
We owe it to fellow Americans to clarify the myths about Sharia, and propose fixing this problem through a conference with the Islamic scholars and those who are opposed to Sharia to make it credible.

Americans who are not familiar with American Muslims get tense when they hear the word Sharia – it has come to mean stoning a raped woman to death, chopping off one's hand for small theft, beheading, hanging for apostasy, death penalty for Blasphemy etc.

American public deserves to know the truth, and they must be assured that the draconian Sharia Laws practiced in three out of 56 Muslim majority nations is the law of that land and not a law practiced in the Muslim majority nations.

No American Muslim Organization has asked for it, nor a majority of Muslims seek Sharia Laws be applied. They have subscribed to laws enshrined in our constitution and they believe it serves the justice fairly and equitably. Our goal is to bring clarity to the American Public.

We have plans to hold two conferences this year. Check out the Events and Conference Calendar at the www.CenterforPluralism.com and www.ShariaLaws.com



COUNTERING VIOLENT EXTREMISM

As individuals and citizens, it is our duty to support law and order, and faithfully guard the safety of every citizen. Violent Extremism is one of the many sources of disrupting peace in a society and it is our duty to track down the source of such extremism and work on mitigating it.



“What the multiple definitions of CVE have in common is that they define it as a framework to guide an evolving set of policies and practices seeking to prevent ideologically motivated violence by non-government actors (“violent extremism”) using a wide range of measures outside of law enforcement actions like arrests and surveillance.* Government agencies are not the only ones engaged in violence .”
Alejandro Beutel, Expert Researcher on CVE.

The process involves 4 steps; Engagement, Prevention, Intervention and Interdiction. Mike Ghouse organized this program under the AMI Banner and many organizations have presented the program.

At the Center for Pluralism, we invite collaborations from other organizations and individuals for our programs.

INTRA-FAITH DIALOGUE



This is an extraordinary event in the Muslim World. If not the first in the world, it certainly is a rare event of intra-faith dialogue among Ahmadiyya, Shia, Sunni and WD Muhammad Muslim groups.

The Intrafaith Dialogue on Islam is a presentation of Boniuk Center's Bridge-Builder Series held at the Asia Society Texas Center, 1370 Southmore Blvd, Houston, Texas 77004 on Thursday, Feb. 21st.

Imam Azhar Haneef, Vice President of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community of the US, Silver Spring, Maryland. Imam Wazir Ali, Masjid Warithud-Deen Mohammed and Masjid Al-Qur'an, Houston, Texas. Imam Moustafa al-Qazwini, Founding Director of the Islamic Education Center of Orange County, California, and Imam Dr. Zia Shaikh, Author and resident scholar of the Islamic Center of Irving, Texas.

This event is critical to setting the tone of dialogue among Muslims, and as a pluralist activist Muslim, who regularly interacts, speaks, writes and visits Mosques of every denomination with no prejudice, this is a God-given opportunity for this organizer and a moderator of this event to make intra-faith dialogue a reality.

Full video— <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TNGfBUXGm4I>

AMERICANS TOGETHER DOCUMENTARY

What the majority of Americans want is a just society, where everyone feels safe, secure and without the fear of other. What exactly do we want? How do we convince those cashing in on hate and fear mongering? How will we make the change? Can we find a way to make peace lucrative and redirect our energies towards creating a cohesive America?

Our Founding Fathers lay the ground work for such a society, “We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness.”

Martin Luther King Jr. expressed that in his speech, “ I have a dream that my four little children will one day live in a nation where they will not be judged by the color of their skin, but by the content of their character.”

Chief Seattle, a Native American said this perfectly, “All things are connected. Whatever befalls the earth befalls the sons of the earth. Man did not weave the web of life; he is merely a strand in it. Whatever he does to the webs, he does it to himself.”

The questions we face are; What are we doing to preserve that delicate web? What are our initiatives? What are the issues that divide us? How would we allay the prevalent phobias and fears? What is your vision for America?
More at <http://americanstogether.org/documentary/>



SYMPOSIUMS PLANNED

1. **Anti-Semitism**—Not a week goes by without someone making an anti-Semitic remark, and shame on us for not saying a thing about it. If each one of us can stand up against Anti-Semitism, we will individually contribute towards a better society that we really want to live in.
2. **LGBTQ**—It is embarrassing to watch the fundamentalist vitriolic against LGBT's, yet they subscribe to our constitution where all men are equal. It is time to have a heart to heart talk.
3. **Racial issues** —We are developing the content for understanding racism and hope to make short documentaries and find solutions to this evil. It will not go away for a few generations. All we can do is to make an effort to reduce it and bring awareness to the society, how it hurts and affects the overall society.
4. **Stereotyping**—This is the most common form of ignorance that surfaces every minute of the day in our lives. Our freedom to think is lost when we stereotype people and fall in ditch when we justify it. If we want others to treat us fairly, we have to do it too.
5. **Women's rights**—Women are 51% of our population, yet they are not fully represented in the government and leadership of the nation in civil and religious corridors. This has got to change for the sake of creating a better society. Misogyny has to go!
6. **Native Americans**—As Americans we have not honored the treaties we made with the Native Americans and continually violate their rights, just because we are powerful, this injustice will eat our spirituality one way or the other. We have to change.
7. **Islamophobia, Xenophobia, Extremism, Sharia** and other issues have to be resolved as we move towards perfecting our union.

Most of our programs are a part of the collaborative efforts, and we welcome ideas and collaboration of individuals and organizations with our programs.

PLURALISM IS OUR FUTURE

<http://www.CenterforPluralism.com>

At the Foundation for Pluralism, we have crystallized the definition of pluralism to, “respecting the otherness of the others and accepting the genetic uniqueness of each one of us”. Pluralism is nothing but an attitude of live and let live, and it is applicable in every aspect of life including culture, society, religion, politics, food, ethnicity, race and other uniqueness's.

In cultural terms, it is recognizing your culture as a beautiful expression of life to you, as my own culture is to me. When it comes to food, it is recognizing that you will almost always enjoy what your taste buds are trained to enjoy, you might enjoy a well done steak while, I may relish the medium rare I delight, or vice-versa. Religiously, it is learning to honor the way you worship or bow to the creator in gratitude, your faith is divine to you as my faith is divine to me. As beauty is in the eyes of the beholder, faith is in the heart of the believer.



We need to prepare ourselves for those eventualities to prevent possible conflicts, and lay a good foundation for nurturing goodwill and effective functioning of the societies.

Pluralism is our future, and as a futurist, based on the trends, I foresee, that two generations from now, we would be comfortable in saying, my religion, culture or life style is my personal choice, and further down the road, a significant number will proclaim that my way of life is not superior or inferior to any.

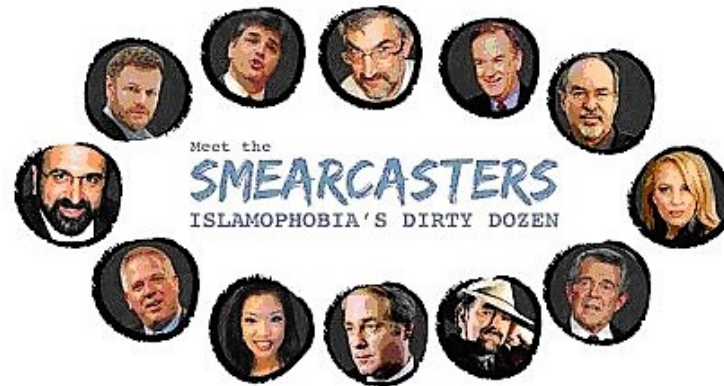
Ideal society is where, no individual has to live in apprehension or fear of the other, live his or her own life and let others live theirs. If we can learn to accept the otherness of others, and respect the God given uniqueness of each one of the 7 billion of us, then conflicts fade and solutions emerge. Indeed, that is the work all spiritual masters including Prophet Muhammad. He had a singular determination - for (all) people to live in harmony. The common values like Justice, truth, trust and respect the otherness of others, were the foundation for building such societies.

HATE SERMONS

<http://www.HateSermons.blogspot.com.com>

It is our duty to keep law and order and faithfully guard the safety of every citizen. Hate is one of the many sources of disrupting the peace in a society and it is our duty to track down the source of such hate and work on mitigating it. We have an obligation to maintain a balance in the society

We lose that elusive equilibrium if we let hate mongers, hate sermons and hate lectures creep in our societies. Let me caution you from being prejudiced towards them, most of them are good people but some fall for their greed for money, some gain or genuine fear. If we reach out to them, there is a possibility that they will see another point of view. A Dialogue is a must to mitigate conflicts and nurture goodwill.



On the part of American Muslims , they have made serious efforts in preventing radical preachers from making any speeches in their communities and their Mosques.

The business side of faith has thrived on ridiculing others faiths and manufacturing a devil out of thin air. There is a misplaced spirituality in operation; our faith is the best, because others aren't. Wow, what logic! Hate peddling is unfortunately human, and doesn't necessarily have anything to do with religion, any religion. Per the report produced by Americans for Progress , this is a \$50 Million dollar a year industry.

INTERFAITH MARRIAGES

<http://www.InterfaithMarriages.org>

Marriage is indeed an expression of a commitment to the relationship between two individuals. The men and women who take the bold step to become one regardless of their origins, faiths, races and ethnicities must be applauded. They are setting an example of how to live in harmony.

Interfaith marriages are becoming the new norm of the society. In a few years one out of two marriages would be of interfaith. Yes, this is across the board, whether you are a Muslim, Jew, Hindu, Christian, Sikh, Baha'i or the other. According to the Pew survey, 40% of people of faiths will be marrying a person of another faith, it is higher among Jews, its 50%.

What is it that God really wants? He wants nothing more than harmony in his creation. Because he created everything in balance he expects us to preserve it or restore it when it is off.

It is disappointing to the potential brides and grooms that their clergy or a parent invariably insists on the other person to convert to their faith tradition, some do, and some fake it and some are not comfortable with the idea at all.

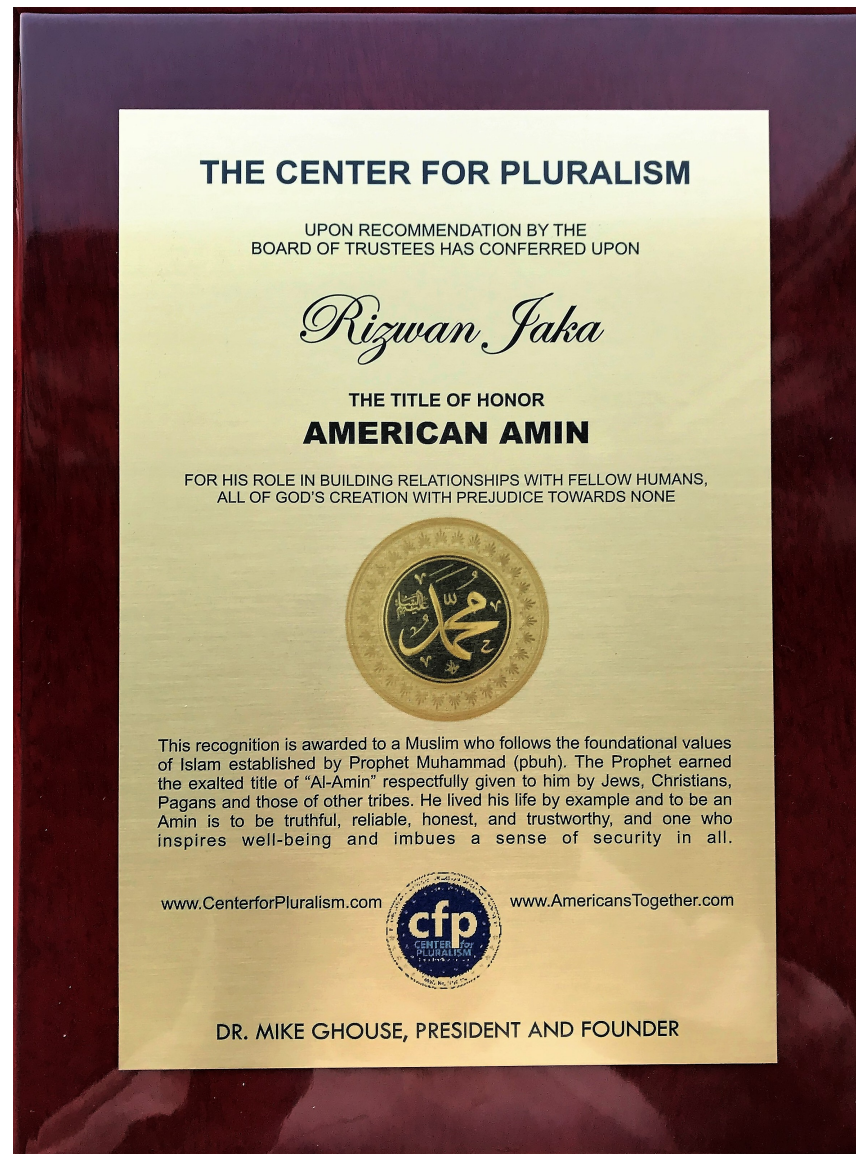
When a couple is deeply committed to marry, they go ahead and get married any way but sorely miss out on the ceremony. Over the years, I have seen too many couples miss out on the joy of that additional sense of completeness that comes with a religious ceremony. Marriage is between two individuals, and their families and friends ought to be supporters and cheerleaders to celebrate and complete their joy.

MARRIAGE IS BETWEEN TWO RESPONSIBLE INDIVIDUALS



40% OF MARRIAGES IN THE UNITED STATES ARE INTERFAITH

THE AMERICAN AMIN AWARD



The American Amin Award is instituted for the first time in the world, to recognize and encourage individuals who follow the “Amin model” of Prophet Muhammad, a foundational value of Islam—continued

RESPONSE TO CONFLICTS

When a conflict erupts, you don't make it worse by using the wrong choice of words and actions, instead we can follow these formulas.

Prophet Muhammad —Conflict mitigation and goodwill nurturance. Every conflict he dealt with, he instinctively applied the formula of conflict mitigation and goodwill nurturance to resolve conflicts.

Jesus Christ —Blaming the sin and not the sinner, if you blame the sinner, you cannot redeem him, you lose all chances of mitigating the conflict.

Mother Teresa— If you want to make peace with your enemies (or polarized ones), go talk with them. Talking among friends won't change the equation.

These ideals were graciously applied in the following situations;

1. Quran Burning Pastor Terry Jones
<http://worldmuslimcongress.blogspot.com/2014/04/reestablishing-right-muslim-attitudes.html>
2. Quran Cursing Pastor Jeffress -www.QuraanConference.com
3. Peter King hearing- <http://peterkinghearings.blogspot.com/>
4. Ground Zero Mosque—<http://groundzeromosque.blogspot.com/>
5. ISIS Response—from my tweets

First option should always be a dialogue.

God differentiated between Animals and humans and gave them horns, fangs and paws to settle their disputes while giving the ability to talk and dialogue to humans. Wars create insecurity on both sides of the conflict and should be resorted as the very last option, and only to fix things and not revenge or teach a lesson.

THE AMERICAN AMIN AWARD



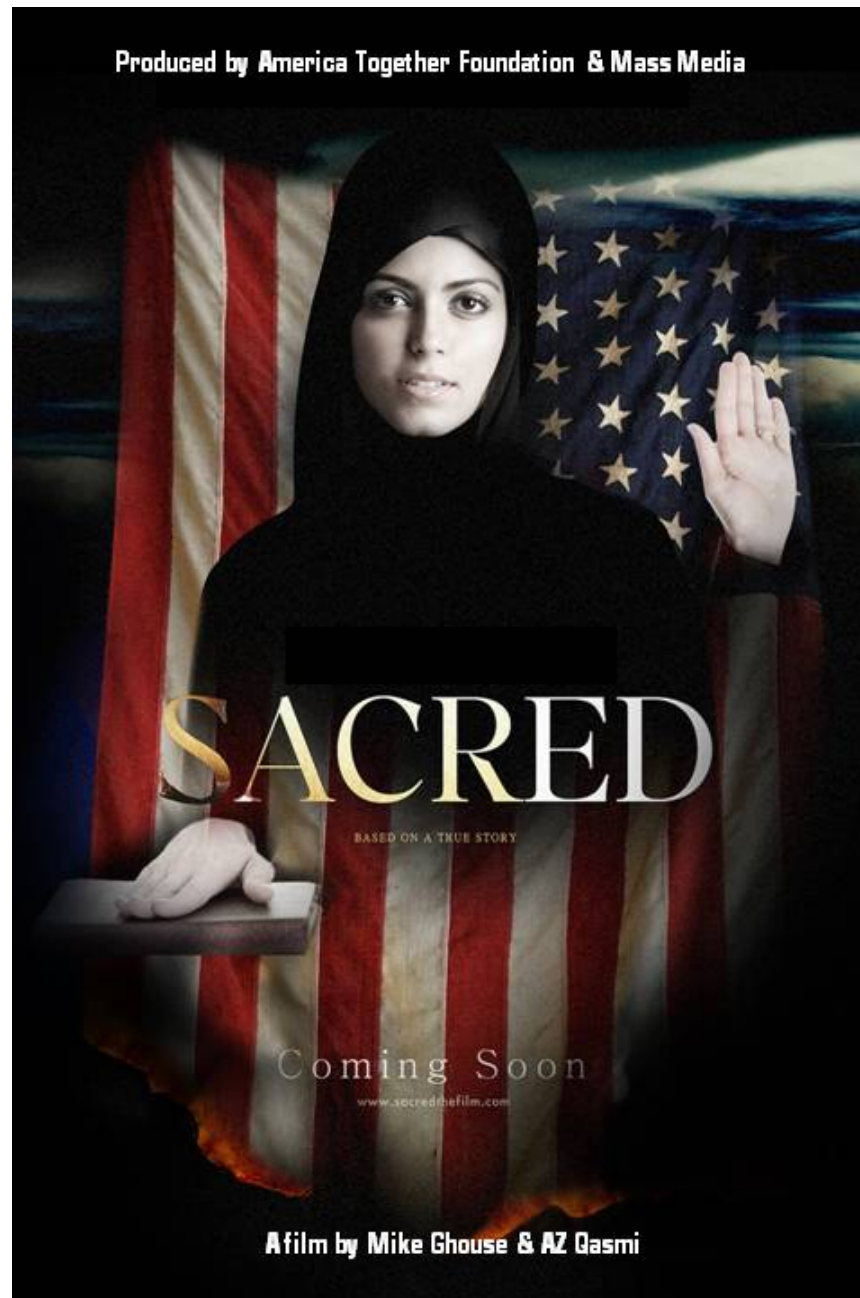
The American Amin Award is instituted for the first time in the world, to recognize and encourage individuals who follow the “Amin model” of the prophet.

What is Amin? It is an Individual who reaches out to every human regardless of his race, religion, region or other uniqueness. Jesus embraced every one, and Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) continued that same tradition.

Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) was committed to peaceful societies and he knew one cannot build peace in vacuum; one has to earn the trust of the society. One has to be truthful, reliable, and trustworthy and be someone who people feel safe and secure being around. So, he lived his life by example and earned the title of Amin from the Jewish, Christian and Pagan and other tribes. <http://centerforpluralism.com/awards-the-american-amin-awards/>

The next birth celebrations of the prophet falls on Friday, December 1, 2017 and we hope to recognize two individuals – one who has no bias towards others and the other who has most friends from Atheists to Zoroastrians and every one in between. The idea is to develop inclusive societies by encouraging interfaith relationships; a prophetic tradition.

DOCUMENTARY ON FREEDOM OF SPEECH



About non-violent positive Muslim response to Quran burning.

SACRED, A DOCUMENTARY

What is sacred? Holy books, Mother, Prophet, Flag, Freedom of Speech and...?

It is a successful real life story set in Mulberry, Florida coupled with a compelling romantic saga woven around the Quran burning event, filled with human aspirations, relationship issues, suspense, humor, action and disappointments. It has all the ingredients of a successful Hollywood film.

The film is an embodiment of conflict mitigation and goodwill nurturance based on teachings of Jesus Christ and Prophet Muhammad. While Pastor Jones chose to avenge the deaths of 2998 fellow Americans on 9/11, we prayed, together as Americans as well as Muslims of many denominations, and donated the blood to honor victims of 9/11.

Sacred is an exemplary story of ordinary Muslim Americans working with fellow Americans in forging a new paradigm; a cohesive America.

It's a civic adventure in skillfully managing conflicting issues such as upholding freedom of Speech and Quran Burning, Safety of Americans overseas and Muslim reactions, radicalism and pluralism, Jihad and jihad, perceptions about Muslims and Islam, preserving sanctity of religions and freedom, and establishing a new model for building cohesive societies, particularly a Pluralistic America, where no American has to live in fear of the other.

Hopefully the world will see a new paradigm in making; what Muslims ought to be, and how they will respond to future incidents of Quran Burning, criticism of Islam or cartoons of the Prophet.

ARE MUSLIMS A PART OF THE STORY?

A critical self examination of ourselves Indeed is the need of the day.

We are not connected enough with the mainstream society for a vast majority of Americans to stand up for us, empathize with us, or even understand the truth about us that we are no different than them in our endeavors and aspirations of life. We must however express our gratitude to the millions of Americans who have stood up for us, compelled by their sense of justness and fair play during the crises.

Professor Sherman Jackson observes, “Thus far, however, Muslims remain outside the American story, which is why, despite their positive contributions to society; they seldom enlist empathy when they are jailed or discriminated against.”

As good citizens it is not only our right but it is our duty to be self critical of our society; the Muslim as well as the American society. I hope that the conservatives among us will get beyond the self righteous criticism and value the freedom that we are endowed with to exercise with pride and care.

We must learn to re-examine our attitudes towards others and push the refresh button to understand the essence of Islam. We must do our inner jihad against the temptations to reduce Islam to rituals, we should not only be identified as Muslims by the ritual aspect of our religion, but by the spiritual and social aspect of “being a Muslim”.

Being a Muslim is volunteering one’s time and effort for the general well being of the society, and serving it with blinders. Prophet Muhammad said your responsibility is to yourselves, to your family members, to your relatives, to your neighbors around you and beyond. He did not advocate exclusion; a neighbor is a neighbor is a neighbor.

We are Americans Legally, but need to be Americans in spirit to seamlessly connect with fellow Americans. Full story -<http://worldmuslimcongress.org/are-muslims-a-part-of-the-american-story/>

HOLOCAUST AND THE MUSLIM GUY



Of all the people on the earth, my mother would be pleased to know I am doing what it takes to be a “good Muslim,” to respect, honor and protect the sanctity of life of every human.

When I was ten years old, I read just about every book my mother read. She was indeed a voracious reader on religion and social sciences; however, I was banned from reading certain books, and one of them was “Eishmann 60 lakh Yahudiyon ka Katil” in Urdu. That is Eichmann, killer of 6 Million Jews.

Commemorating Holocaust and Genocides for the last 12 years is a fulfillment of a lifelong vacuum in my life. Education is the purpose; we have to learn, acknowledge and reflect upon the terrible things that we humans have inflicted upon each other, and we have to understand that our safety hinges on the safety of all others around us. It is a comprehensive event where all human failings, massacres, genocides and Holocaust will be addressed in one fashion or the other. Full story at: http://www.huffingtonpost.com/mike-ghouse/holocaust-and-the-muslim-_b_4629509.html and www.CenterforPluralism.com

PEACE TIME INITIATIVES

When nothing is happening, we take it easy and do nothing, this is actually the best time to build relationships for peace.

1. **Unity Day USA** | Bringing Americans together as one people
www.UnityDayUSA.com
2. **Thanksgiving Celebrations** | Celebrating Cultural diversity
www.ThanksgivingCelebrations.org
3. **Holocaust and Genocides** | Developing empathy for fellow humans
www.HolocaustandGenocides.com
4. **The Amin Model**— A model of good citizenship
http://www.huffingtonpost.com/mike-ghouse/american-muslim-agenda-a-_b_5528706.html

http://www.huffingtonpost.com/mike-ghouse/how-i-connect-with-prophet-muhammad-_b_2547782.html
5. **The power of Engagement** - Fox News, shaping the future
<http://thehousediarly.blogspot.com/2014/06/youre-dangerous-sparks-fly-between.html>
6. **Standing up for others**, if you don't stand up for others, why should any one stand up for you? www.Standingupforothers.com
7. **Intrafaith Conference**—Shia, Sunni, Ahmadiyya and others
<http://worldmuslimcongress.blogspot.com/2013/02/muslims-talk-with-muslims-at-boniuk.html>
8. **Remove all the barriers** for women to be fully contributing members of the society. <http://genderpluralismcenter.blogspot.com/>
9. **Ramadan Intra faith** and Interfaith Iftars—<http://ramadannews.com>

The above were some of the many initiatives taken to shape our future, not as a response to a situation, but as a proactive initiative.

NEW BREED OF MUSLIM SPEAKERS



The Evangelical Pastors say that there are not enough Muslims to speak about Islam in a systematic way, until such time, they believe, Muslims will be perceived in negative terms. If Muslims don't speak about Islam, others will continue to speak whatever they know.

What they know and usually speak about are the rituals of Islam; the five pillars. What is severely missing is teachings of the values of Islam, the values that contribute in creating harmony and effectively functioning cohesive societies

The key Islamic Values are: Accountability, Justice, Pluralism, Truthfulness, Forgiveness, Caring for fellow beings, Humility, Equality, Freedom of Speech, Harmony and Civil Dialogue.

To fix the problem, we have undertaken to train men and women from all faiths, particularly Muslims to learn about Islam and play a leadership role in removing myths and misunderstandings about the faith.

At the Center for Pluralism, we hope to train at least 50 men and women this year to speak the Islam that contributes to making the world a better place to live. There is a dire need of speakers to speak about Islam in places of worship, Civic centers, Public Safety departments, Homeland Security, Work Places, schools, universities and the media.

Video on Pluralism in Islam: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZmNWSerB-NQ&t=49s>

WORLD MUSLIM CONGRESS

<http://worldMuslimCongress.org>

Our Mission at world Muslim congress is to work for a world of co-existence through inclusiveness and participation. As a member of diverse family of faiths, our efforts will be directed towards justice and equity to attain peace for the humankind with a firm grounding in commonly held values. We cannot have advantages at the cost of others. Such benefits are temporary and deleterious to lasting peace. We believe what is good for Muslims has got to be good for the world, and vice versa, for the goodness to sustain.



Indeed we aspire to promote goodwill amongst people of different affiliations, regardless of their faith, gender, race, nationality, culture or any other uniqueness blessed by the creator.

Muslims forget that Prophet Muhammad was the first man on the earth to initiate the women's liberation movement. He was also the first spiritual master to have commenced Interfaith Dialogue. No one had ever done that

before. He practiced the idea that we are all equal.

Our short term goal is to understand different faiths and let the values of Islam be understood as well. We know very little about other faiths just as other know almost nothing about Islam. The idea is to know each other, so we can be good to each other. When we learn about each other myths disappear and solutions emerge.

Our Long term goal is simply to bring a realization that the purpose of all religions is to bring peace and tranquility to an individual and further create balanced relationships between the individual, society and the environment.

<http://worldmuslimcongress.blogspot.com/2012/01/mission-of-world-muslim-congress.html>

SHARIA LAWS

<http://www.ShariaLaws.com>

God wants all of his creation (life, matter and environment) to function effectively, cohesively and in harmony as he had created it. This can be called God's will and subscribing to this thought can be called submission (Quran), surrender (Bhagvad Gita) or following (Bible) Jesus.

The purpose of every religious or non-religious leader was to create such societies where no one had to live in fear of the other, or no one was to be pushed out of harmony.

Justice is the one word that wraps God, balance, harmony and cohesion together and that is the foundation of all societies, without justice, things go awry and if not checked, they will degenerate into chaos.

After the death of Prophet Muhammad and the first four 'rightly guided' Caliphs, the new community was grappling with the unique issues and were battling within to ensure that no one is denied justice. The desire to be absolutely just was overwhelming.

So, they created a body of law based on the guidance in Quran and extrapolating Prophet Muhammad's sayings. It is not a divine law as it is mistakenly understood; it is a human effort and obviously has flaws in it. Sharia Laws need major amendments, just as our constitution has 27 amendments.

Sharia is divided into personal and public based on the functions.

The personal Sharia deals with beneficial actions of individuals, they are purely personal and ritualistic in nature that every individual Christian, Jew, Hindu or a Pagan follows in living his or her daily life. Actions like prayer, fasting, pilgrimage, charity, feeding the hungry, taking care of neighbor etc. It is indeed a guide for individual Muslim to observe and follow his or her faith.

The public Sharia on the other hand deals with the individual's relationship with fellow members of the society like marriage, divorce, business contracts, adultery, theft, murders, burial rituals, conversion, apostates and inheritance.

The intent of the Sharia laws was to construct a complete justice system with fairness to all members of society. Peace and a sense of security are the products of justice in a given society. However since it is a human effort, it has flaws that need fixing. Please visit the site and study, "Genesis of Sharia, Fixing Sharia and Examples of Sharia."

BLASPHEMY LAWS

<http://blasphemylaws.blogspot.com/>



Blasphemy laws have no basis in Quran, God is about justice and mercy, and not cruelty and tyranny. Those who claim to defend the dignity of God, Prophet, Quran and Islam really do not have faith in them. They are afraid God, Prophet, Quran and Islam will disappear from the face of the earth without their protection. They are wrong! We are mortal beings, we are here today and will be gone tomorrow, whereas God, Prophet, Quran and Islam have been around and will always be there.

There should be no punishment for Blasphemy, it is not in Quran and it was not practiced by the prophet. God (Quran) says the dearest human to him is one who forgives, and Prophet practiced it by praying for those who hurt him and cursed him. He could have smashed those miscreants in Taif, but he chose to pray. As followers, we are suppose to pray for the well being of others and not punish.

Blasphemy Laws are not God's laws, they are tools of oppression to force obedience from others, it goes against the principle of Quran; that there is no compulsion in faith.

Insecure men do not have the confidence in themselves to dialogue and resolve the conflicts, nor do they have faith in God and his word.

When people disagree with them, they will beat them up or eliminate them with power, screams, deaths and threats.

Secure men discuss things, square the difference through a dialogue. Indeed, that is the reason God gave us a tongue to dialogue instead of what the animals are endowed with horns, fangs and paws.

RAMADAN NEWS

<http://www.RamadanNews.com>

Everything you always wanted to know about Ramadan and more. Ramadan news, Ramadan Traditions, Ramadan Spirituality, Ramadan traditions, Ramadan Politics, Ramadan Food, Forgiveness, Fasting, Charity, and piety.

In the Browse section on your right, you can see pictures of how Muslims around the world celebrate Ramadan, break the fast and what they do on Eid. In the same section there are videos of Muslims talking about Ramadan from Australia to Zimbabwe and every nation in between. Don't miss the images of some of the most beautiful mosques around the world.

If you go to the "Most Read Articles" on the right column, you will learn about the essence, spirit, politics, traditions and rituals of Ramadan.

In the tab "What's Ramadan" you'll find basic facts and information about Ramadan. The most important item you'll find is a suggestion to visit different Mosques for Iftaar if you have more than one Mosque in your town. Alhamdu Lillah, Praise the lord; I have visited almost all denominational mosques except the Alawite place of worship.

We have to learn about fellow Muslims who practice a different tradition. Please be respectful of their customs, as each place of worship has a little different practice. Whether it is Ahmadiyya, Alawite, Bohra, Ismaili, Nation of Islam, Shia, Sufi, Sunni, Wahhabis, WD Muhammad or other tradition, they fast dawn to dusk, praise the lord, and they bow and recite God's name.

Remember, God has chosen to make us into different tribes, communities, races, religions and regions, and the best ones among us are those who respect the otherness of others and when we do, conflicts fade and solutions emerge to live in peace and harmony.

In the search box, you can place "Ramadan day 1, 2 or 29 " and out pops the article for that day, or – you can even type in Shia, Ahmadiyya, Bohra, Sufi and other words to get information about their practices. You can also visit the Photo Albums and check out Iftaar at different mosques.

Ramadan News is a part of www.WorldMuslimCongress.com and all the related websites are listed in the tab "Muslim Things" and serves as the Muslim segment of the Center for Pluralism.

PETER KING HEARINGS

<http://peterkinghearings.blogspot.com/>

Mike Ghouse, a member of the think tank at the World Muslim Congress welcomed the initiative by Congressman Peter King, chairman of the House Committee on Homeland Security to hold the hearings on radicalism.

It is our duty to keep law and order and faithfully guard the safety of every citizen. Hate is one of the many sources of disrupting the peace in a society and it is our responsibility to seek the source of such hate and work to mitigate it.



We have to identify the criminals who are individually accountable for their actions, and need to punish them expediently according to the law. As a civil society, we must also resist the temptation to blame their family, nation and religion.

Indeed, the last few attempts to mess with our nation's security has come from men flaunting the Muslim label, and as Muslim Americans, it becomes our individual and collective responsibility to participate in ensuring the safety of every American, and we welcome the hearings. We hope it will lead us to find the sources and causes of such erratic behavior, and perhaps point out areas of concerns to be addressed and find lasting solutions.

We hope to separate realities from myths to help find solutions.

The good news is the investigation did not produce what they were looking for, indeed they fell flat on their face. Although we should resist random checks in future, but welcome it now, it is for the safety of all citizens and that is our individual and collective responsibility as Muslims.

GROUND ZERO MOSQUE

<http://groundzeromosque.blogspot.com/>

We have to respect and honor the sentiments of every one who was a victim of terrorism and their friends and relatives who have suffered through this.

The Ground Zero Mosque is engaging the American Public and bringing out emotions and intellectualism to the forefront to tackle the issue of co-existence. The questions abound; what is freedom of religion, what is first amendment, what kind of nation are we, do we want to emulate the very nations we condemn or should we lead the world and set the standards for co-existence. What does it take to build orderly societies? What does it take for you, me and others to feel safe and live in peace?



We have to consciously create institutions and systems that would become a catalyst to a positive change and bring about cohesive functioning of the society. It is our duty to keep law and order and faithfully guard the safety of every citizen.

This issue is engaging the American Public, both for and against, and as a Pluralist who believes in co-existence is the way for sustaining harmony, I will save the links of articles that come across my knowledge as a reference for the researchers.

In behalf of the men and women who have lost their loved ones, a few are genuinely opposing the building of the community Center, a few are Altruistic and want the center to stand out as a beacon of hope and peace and yet a few are falling prey to the political opportunists. At the end, if we envision an America that is good for all, we have to consider dropping the “me, me, and me” and yield to what is good for America, the land of the free.

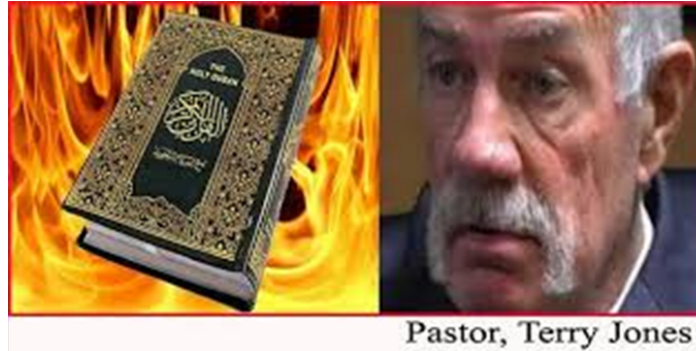
While the tragedy will never fade from our memories, we have to consider the political opportunists who are opposing the Muslim Center near Ground Zero? The revelations are as clear as the day light, the right wing politicians have gone berserk and hanging on to tiny branches to save their political careers, and it is an abuse of Patriotism to have political gains.

I was on TV and Radio almost every day for a week from the day the center was announced. Its chronicled at the website listed in the title.

QURAAN BURNING PASTOR

<http://quranburningpastorterryjones.blogspot.com/>

When Pastor Jones announced burning 2998 copies of Qur'an on Wednesday, September 11, 2013; one for each American life



lost on September 11, 2001, we decided to bring a closure to the sacrifice of our men and women in the most honored way and not by burning the Qurans. We were set out to achieve a few clearly defined goals:

To communicate to the Muslim World that our God-given right to freedom of speech is a value we treasure and hold dear to us; ultimately it is the freedom that uplifts the whole humanity. Indeed, Islam is one of the greatest beneficiaries of this freedom.

To offer an alternate Muslim behavior model to become the standard for future conflicts, indeed we can call it a genuine Islamic response based on Quran and the examples of Prophet Muhammad (pbuh).

To be instrumental in the safety of fellow Americans serving in the armed forces, and Americans traveling overseas in conflicts zones.

To build cohesive Societies where no human has to live in apprehension, discomfort or fear of the other, we wanted to mitigate conflicts and nurture good will and invariably offer pluralistic solutions on issues of the day.

The support from fellow Americans was encouraging in establishing this new paradigm. The Muslim support from around the world was indeed encouraging. Just about every Muslim Newspaper has published our press release and many have endorsed this to be the right thing to do.

This is a new paradigm in bringing a change, a critical milestone for Muslims in the United States and around the world. The Mulberry event seeded the change about how Muslims are perceived, and how they would react to future Quran burning, criticism of Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) and Islam.

CRITICISM OF ISLAM AND THE PROPHET

<http://www.WorldMuslimCongress.org>

We need to welcome every criticism of Quran, Islam and the Prophet and deal with it with gracefully. Let freedom of speech remain the corner stone of Islam, an inalienable right blown into Adam and Eve.



Islam is not going anywhere; prophet is not going anywhere, and by opening ourselves to criticism, we will learn a lot more about our faith than we would ever know. We need to move away from intolerance to acceptance of a different point of view without having to agree with it. Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) practiced it, and Muslims can learn from his examples.

Criticism can fade away or rain on depending on how Muslims respond to it. Lack of conviction in one's faith breeds intolerance towards criticism, whereas firmness in faith can lead one to learn from criticism, explore the infinite wisdom and realize the strength of one's faith (Imaan); a worthy feeling to have, instead of living in doubt and shooing criticism away.

I was always stuck with one of the most powerful sentences from Prophet Muhammad's (pbuh) last sermon, "I leave behind two things, the Qur'an and the Sunnah and if you follow these you will never go astray." The responsibility to know understand and practice was placed directly on us.

We cannot compromise on free speech, however much a few may abuse it, but free speech is an enduring value and the hallmark of civilization. I believe in free speech and that is the only way societies will grow. As Muslims we need to seriously consider the gains Muslims have had that far outweigh the tensions given by a handful of loonies.

Full article at: <http://worldmuslimcongress.blogspot.com/2012/11/criticism-of-islam-prophet-muhammad.html>

QURAAN TODAY

<http://www.QuraanToday.com/>

Quran is a book of guidance to live in peace with oneself and with what surrounds one; life and environment. It is God's word revealed to the Prophet to create cohesive societies where no human has to live in apprehension, tension or fear of the others. Most people get that right and a few don't. That is the case with everything in life.

Quran is guidance to build pluralistic societies, bring safety, security and harmony to the communities. Most people get that right and a few don't.

However, we can understand fear and criticism of Islam based on misinformation in the market. As a teen, I was troubled by passages of the Quran. But deeper study led me to realize the Quran had been purposely mistranslated down through history.

In the Middle Ages, European leaders commissioned a hostile Quran translation to foster warfare against Muslim invaders. Later, Muslim leaders produced another translation to inflame Muslims against Christians and Jews. It was all for politics. Both Muslims and Non-Muslims need to study.

About 60 verses have been deliberately mistranslated by the hostile Christian Kings and the Muslim Scholars from the past. Thank God there is plethora of translations /interpretations on the market and each one varies giving the 'inquisitive reader' the ability to sort out what is right. All you have to do is read three verses before and after the given verse, if it still bothers you, study it until you get that right, look up the website or call me.

What is the right thing? # 1, God is not a villain of any one of his creation and nor does God makes deals with one community behind other's back. Quran is about building cohesive societies where no human has to live in fear of the other. However, there are always people who don't get that right in every faith, Quran is no exception. We will do a workshop on Quran for your group if you need to free yourselves from misgivings.

HADITHS

<http://hadithsandislam.blogspot.com/>

Hadiths are sayings and practices of Prophet Muhammad (pbuh). A bulk of them were collected and compiled nearly 200 years after Prophet's death.

Imam Bukhari pioneered this work and rejected 99% (yes 99% rejection rate) of the Hadiths for lack of narrative chain and reduced the 600,000 collection down to 7,275- If he had another 10 years to live, he would have chopped another 99% of that 1% reducing the Hadiths down to 275 from 600,000 for not conforming to Quran and going against the character of the Prophet.



We have a responsibility to fix the problem, we owe it to the world, and we simply cannot keep passing the buck to the next generation.

Our plan is simply this—and hope any one can undertake and get it done, with funding we can do it. Regroup all the Hadiths into two sections, the first section of the book to contain all the Hadiths that make sense and do not contradict Quran or the Character of the prophet; a mercy to mankind. The second section will have all the Hadiths that needs to be proven by the scholars that they are authentic, and Prophet's mercifulness shines through it and God's love for the Aalameen is respected.

Through debates and discussions on a grass root level, we can start streamlining the Hadiths with consensus from the Ulema, Imams and Scholars. The Ahl-e-Hadith and other groups are very capable of seeing the reason and rationality of Quran and would eventually see the value in it as long as they don't feel threatened. It is the sense of threat that makes people want to hang on to what they are familiar with even if it is wrong.

ISRAEL PALESTINE DIALOGUE

<http://www.IsraelPalestineDialogue.com/>

Don't you judge by reading one article. This site is not for you if you cannot see the otherness of others and sufferings of both sides of the party in the conflict. Security for Israel and Justice for the Palestinians are interdependent, one will not happen without the other. My view focuses on building cohesive societies where no one has to live in apprehension or fear of the other. I hope and pray a sense of justice to prevail.

The real threat to the peace process between Israel and Palestine stems from their inability to look at their own policies critically. It is time to quit blaming and start finding long term solutions. Damn it, the leaders ought to be ashamed of themselves if they cannot look in the eyes of Palestinian and Israeli Children and commit to give them a better life.

The leaders need to learn that, they cannot have peace and security when they keep threatening others around them, period.

Jews have a need to be understood and be acknowledged of their eternal security needs, not the military, but mental security where they can put their guards down and live their life in peace.

Palestinians have a need to be understood. They have suffered immeasurably, no human should be stripped of his or her hope and dignity; hope to have a family, work and own a house and call a place their homeland.

We must protect Israel, our ally; however, if that protection is based on injustice to either Palestinians or the Jews, our integrity becomes questionable. We need to be above reproach and seek justice for one and all. That is the right thing to in the long haul.



REDEEMING PAKISTAN

<http://RedeemingPakistan.blogspot.com/>

The purpose of this site is to facilitate a dialogue in redeeming Pakistan for the good of her people (all people), her neighbors, and the world. Every one has to place all their cards on the table to have a genuine comprehensive discussion.

The good news is Interfaith Movement has gained significant momentum in Pakistan to have weekly TV shows. My friend Syed Yaqoob Ali Shah hosts a weekly show—<https://www.facebook.com/theinterfaithshow/> It is worth visiting, he has assembled clergy from Hindu, Sikh, Christian, Zoroastrians and various Muslim denominations. Then there is Allama Ahsan's work <https://www.facebook.com/interfaith.coordinator>. And others. This is a healthy growth and we are keeping up with it.

The thousands of Pakistanis we have met, and thousands more on the net whom we know have a common wish; to get along with every one. They look back nostalgically to the Pakistan they grew up. A Pakistan where all of Allah's creation was respected, where they lived their lives and let others live theirs. They believed Islam was not a divisive religion but an all embracing religion of the *Aalameen*, and it accepted the otherness of others through God's own words, "*Lakum Dinakum Waliaddin*" to you is your faith as mine is to me. They believed in freedom, and did not believe in pushing others to believe your way as Quran calls, *La Ikraha fid-din* – there is no compulsion in matters of faith. Indeed freedom of speech, freedom of faith is what Islam is all about.

The successful leader of Pakistan will be someone who has an agenda for Pakistani people and uplifting them economically and socially without anything for himself. If that person appears to be sane, the public will be behind him or her. Any one will succeed if he or she does not have anything to gain but focus on getting Pakistan out of doldrums. I see Syed Yaqoob Ali Shah succeeding, he is a giver of his time, service and funds to the community with no compensation. He needs your support. www.RedeemingPakistan.blogspot.com

PLURALISTIC ETHOS OF INDIA

<http://MikeGhouseforIndia.blogspot.com/>

My interest as a social scientist is in sustaining the pluralistic ethos of India and America, which are threatened by a few short-sighted, but powerful rabble rousers among us.

Pluralistic ethos simply means, living our life and letting others live theirs. It is accepting the God given uniqueness to each one of us. No matter what language we speak, how we look, what we eat, drink, wear, or how we worship the creator, we will accept each other's uniqueness as legitimate, and then respect the otherness of others. You are who you are, and I am who I am.

We will have to resist the temptations of entitlements to things of life, the moment we feel we should be in the line ahead of others, that we are entitled to certain benefits over others, then it brings a destructive imbalance that takes every one down.

Cohesive Societies are communities where people live their own lives and let others live theirs, but yet, work together as one composite unit. Visit DallasIndians@yahoogroups.com—1800 Members



SPEAKER MIKE GHOUSE

<http://www.MikeGhouse.net>

Mike Ghouse is a community consultant, speaker, thinker, writer, newsmaker, organizer and a mediator committed to building cohesive societies, offering pluralistic solutions to the media and the public on current issues. He is available to speak at places of worship, workplaces, schools, seminars, workshops, conferences and public events.

Mike has been a frequent guest on Fox News, “The Hannity Show”, and on nationally syndicated Radio shows, print and local radio networks.

He has spoken at international forums including the Council for a Parliament of the World’s Religions in Melbourne, Australia and Salt Lake City, Utah. the Middle East Peace Initiative in Jerusalem; and the International Leadership Conference in Hawaii, Chicago and Washington and many Universities.

Dr. Ghouse is a member of the Texas Faith Panel at The Dallas Morning News and writes about issues facing the nation every week. He writes for The Huffington Post regularly, and occasionally for Washington Post and other periodicals around the world. Mike has published over 3000 articles on a variety of subjects. Three books are in the making for a while and hope 2017 will see them published.

Mike was a Commissioner for the City of Carrollton and President of many organizations including Home Owners Association, North Texas Cricket Association, and a board member of several non-profits such as the Dallas Peace Center.

Mike is a collaborator and much of his work revolves around the subjects of pluralism, interfaith movement, politics, justice, cohesive societies, Islam, India, Israel, Palestine and world peace.

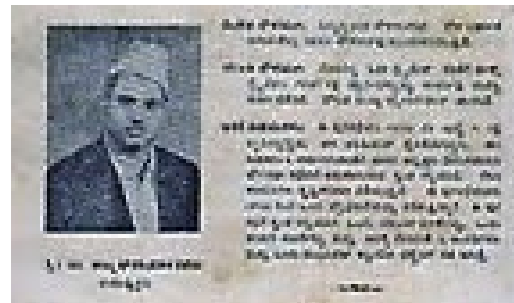
Indeed, Pluralism runs through his veins and he has bias towards none. All about Mike is linked in 65 links at www.MikeGhouse.net.

MIKE'S CHILDHOOD

Mike was born and raised in Yelahanka, a town where the founder of Bangalore lived as its Chief. Mike is nostalgic about living in the home where Hon. Kempe Gowda had lived in the early 16th century.

Mike's father M. Abdul Rahman was a Mayor (they called it President of the council then) of the town of Yelahanka in the early 50's and remained a council member through the late 50's. His Mother Khairun Nisa was a guide and a mentor to many.

His parents had 'malice towards none' and raised their children to respect every faith tradition. As Muslims they participated in Hindu and Christian festivals as their own, and had good relationships with Hindus, Jains, Christians, Dalits, Sikhs, Tribals and the Zoroastrians who lived in the town.



Mike's father vigorously fought all the local customs of segregation of the Dalits. Indeed, his family members ate food and drank from the same utensils inside their home —a big no at that time. Similarly Mike fought with others to give equal access to Dalits at the street corner Public water taps.

As a kid, Mike appreciated the civility with which dialogue between Shia and Sunni Muslims, Hindus and Muslims were carried out in the most civil terms.

His first volunteering work began when he was a teen. He formed a group of youth volunteers for the purpose of burying the homeless when they die.

WHAT SHAPED MIKE

Mike owes his pluralistic nurturance to his parents. They pounded three verse from the Quran; 'respecting the otherness of others', 'there is no compulsion in religion' and 'you alone are accountable for your deeds on the Day of Judgment.

Mike also credits his Urdu Middle (school) in Yelahanka for his Pluralistic attitudes. He vividly remembers the social studies book that carried a page on every major religious figure in the world and to this day, Mike recites the names of most of the religious leaders in one single breath. He wishes that kind of text books are re-introduced for children to learn about each other.

One of the most influential events of his life happened when Jabalpur (India) riots broke out in the early 60's. Hindus and Muslims were killing each other. Mike's father gathered the family, and simply said, "you know the culprits are Ram and Rahim, not Hindus or Muslims. If they were punished for their crimes as individuals, the issue would not have become a Hindu Muslim issue. The issues are indeed between two individuals and those who have gains to be had. Don't make it a communal issue even if others make it. Let no Shaitaani (evil) spread from you.

This thought has become Mike's philosophy in conflict mitigation and goodwill nurturance, and he has articulated this on Fox News on Hannity show several times, blame and punish the individual and restore trust in the society. You cannot punish an intangible like religion, nor can you restore trust in the society, then why bark at the religion? Religion is never the problem, those who don't get the religion right are the problems.

MIKE'S COMMITMENT TO AMERICA

Mike is passionate about Pluralism and believes, "If we can learn to respect the otherness of others, and accept the God-given uniqueness of each one of us, then conflicts fade and solutions emerge." Indeed, 20 years of research and studies have enabled him to crystallize the definition of pluralism as an attitude of "Respecting the otherness of others."

As an Indian American,
his contribution to America would be
to strengthen America's
pluralistic heritage, which he learned
from his upbringing in Pluralistic India.



Mike was a commissioner at large in the City of Carrollton, he was president of North Texas Cricket Association, Charity for fashions, Indian Creek Homeowners Association and several other organizations. He was on the Board of Dallas Peace Center, Memnosyne Foundation and several other organizations.

Pluralism runs through Mike's veins, during the college days, he visited Mahabodhi Society every Thursday to listen to sermons on Buddhism, prayed in a Mosque on Fridays and sat down in the Hindu temple and sang Bhajans (Hindu devotional Songs) on Saturday nights and considered himself a pluralist.

He is committed to building a cohesive America where no American needs to live in apprehension, tension or fear of the other. All his actions, writings, talks and discussions are geared towards building one nation with liberty and justice for all.

MIKE'S DREAM JOB

Mike has a dream, a dream to strengthen the pluralistic values of America, and the desire to encourage the community of nations to review our values of liberty, justice , free speech, responsible capitalism and co-existence as catalysts in the individual's pursuit of happiness.

Mike's dream job was to be the Secretary of State.

No individual, family, community or a nation can have undue advantages over others. Such benefits are temporary and deleterious to lasting peace.

A healthy balance has to be maintained between our communities within the United States and with the community of nations. What is good for America, has got to be good for the world and vice versa to sustain peace and prosperity.

His life mission is to open people's hearts and minds towards fellow beings by mitigating conflicts and nurturing goodwill. He is a pluralist, peace maker, collaborator and an educator.

Mike's civic Mission is to influence the policy makers of our country, to put our nation on the path of fairness, justice and equity in dealing with our domestic and foreign affairs. "Just" dealings have the power to take us, and the World into the next century with relative peace and prosperity.

Establishing the Center for Pluralism is his dream and he hopes to nurture pluralism through the center's programs in shaping a better world for the future.

MIKE'S BIO

Mike was born and raised in Bangalore, India.

Education:

- D.D., A Doctor of Divinity, Trinity International Seminary
- MBA, University of Dallas, Texas – Marketing Operations
- Master's Degree in Tax and management accounting from Bangalore University (1974)
- Bachelor's Degree in Banking from Bangalore Univ.(1971)
- Leadership Graduate from Dallas (1984)

Mike is a life time student and continues to take educational courses in a variety of subjects to keep abreast of what is going on around him.

SKILLS SET

- Public Speaker
- Pluralism Speaker—page 1 of Google search
- Interfaith Speaker—page 1 or 2 on Google search
- Muslim Speaker— Page 1, 2 or 3 on Google Search
- Conflict Mitigation—driven by it
- Community outreach—Relationships with all communities
- Religion Workshops— on 13 different religions
- Blogger—Over 30 blogs on a variety of topics
- TV —produced and anchored over 50 hours of TV Show
- Radio — Produced and broadcasted over 1000 hours of Talk shows
- News Paper publishing—7 years of publishing
- Author/Writer— Over 3000 articles
- Events Management—Major civic, interfaith and religious events
- Sports Management—Several Cricket Tournaments
- Operations Mgmt
- Financial expertise
- Business Systems
- Leadership Development and a community Organizer

MIKE'S BUSINESS BACKGROUND

Mike has comprehensive experience in business and management, home building, remodeling, management and investments.

As Mike turns 65 in January 2017, he cherishes 50 years of his life experience in business. He started with assisting his father in a small Flour Mill and grocery business distributing flour in the late sixties.

He rose up to be the Deputy controller of Finance for Fluor Corporation in Saudi Arabia, managing 5 remote sites with financing and banking needs of the company, a \$5 billion dollar operation. Fluor was one of the largest Petro Chemical Engineering firms in the world in the late 70's.

Back in Dallas, he was vice president of Lewis Fire Equipment, one of the largest fire protection companies in Texas. He was successful in turning around the company to profitability (81-83).

Since 1984, Mike has been in home building and management consulting business. He was recognized for his outstanding contributions from some of the best in home building business.

Food Craft Institute, Bangalore, India (1973-77)

Fluor Corporation, Dhahran, Saudi Arabia (1977-1980)

Lewis Fire Equipment (1980-1983)

Gemcraft Homes (1984)

Ryland Homes (#1 Manager-1985),

Grand Homes (#3 -1988),

Drees Custom Homes (#1-1999),

Bluff view Builders (2006) and

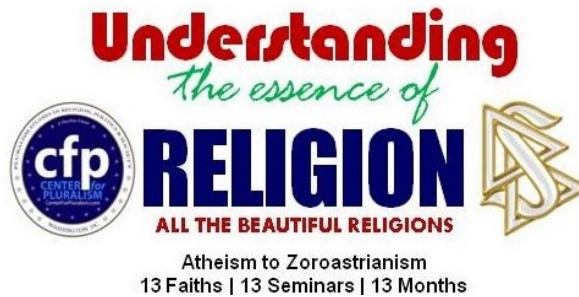
First City Homes (Since 2006) | Self employed

Center for Pluralism (1996– eternity)

MIKE'S MEDIA BACKGROUND

Radio, TV and Print Media

- Over 16 Million views of Mike's Google Profile
- Mike has Appeared in over 300 TV Shows including 110 with Hannity and 15 with Varney (Hannity is rated as # 2 talk show host in the nation)
- 720 Hours of Radio Talk show on Understanding Religion, all the beautiful religions
- Over 125 appearances on Nationally syndicated radio shows including Fox News, NPR and other shows
- 3200 Articles published on Pluralism (1200), Islam (1300), Sports, Foreign Policy, Motivational and other issues in Huffington Post, Dallas Morning News, Washington Post and 300 plus periodicals around the world.
- Produced 26 TV Shows on Sundays on Channel 52 in Dallas
- Publisher and Editor of Asian News Weekly for 7 years
- Broadcasted 5 years of Talk Radio Show
- Maintain Websites and Blogs with over 20,000 views daily
- Facebook total friends/likes—25,000
- Linked in profile 3300 Contacts
- Twitter—1600 followers
- Manage 10 large yahoo groups with 2 over 1800 members each and the rest range from 200-1000
- Personal email list - 35,000 accumulated over 20 years.



One of the major reasons for conflicts between members of the family, friends, community and nations occurs because they have not taken the time to know the other. You have a problem with Atheists, Hindus, Muslims or others because what you have learned about them is from the wrong source. Truth is liberating and this is one of the most important things you can do is to attend these workshops.

Program produced by Dr. Mike Ghouse (214) 325-1916
& hosted by the Church of Scientology National Affairs Office

PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDAR

www.CenterforPluralism.com/workshops

 Baha'i NOV 2016	 Buddhism DEC 2016	 Christianity JAN 2017
 Hinduism FEB 2017	 Humanism* MAR 2017	 Islam APR 2017
 Jainism MAY 2017	 Judaism JUN 2017	 Native Faiths JUL 2017
 Scientology AUG 2017	 Sikhism SEP 2017	 Wicca* OCT 2017
 Zoroastrianism NOV 2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Humanism/Atheism ▪ Wicca/Pagan 	 Graduation NOV 2017

www.CenterforPluralism.com | www.scientologyreligion.org

POWER OF ENGAGEMENT

Engagement is the key to bringing any change. Sean Hannity is the 2nd most watched TV talk show host in America, and most people hate him and don't want to go near him. I

believe in engaging with people if we want a change. A verse from Quran has motivated me to take that stand, "Don't let your bias make you unjust towards the other" in this situation. Don't agree

with me, but look at the results produced from engagement.



BY FOX NEWS INSIDER // JUN 20 2014 // 10:27PM

In February 2013, Sean had called in 25 individuals for his show that included Representatives Peter King, Louis Gohmert, Ambassador John Bolton and others including me, Mike Ghouse.

In the middle of taping another segment, Sean asked me to join him on the stage, while 23 others were sitting across on the bleachers. To paraphrase him (short version), "You are the only Muslim friend I know... and today I will do something for you that you have been asking for in the last three years.... from now on I will not use the word "Muslim terrorists" and instead call it Terrorists among Muslims, would that make you happy? Hell yes! I gave him a big salute while others cheered on. By the way Stuart Varney of Fox News made the same commitment in November 2016 and has lived up to it. Sean has not. However, Sean has quit Bashing Quran, I have given him a copy of the "right translation of Quran.".

Boston Marathon bombing followed in April, CNN camera goes to Peter King, and this is what he said, "96% of Muslims are good people, and it is the 4% we have to worry... That is a 180 Degrees turnaround! The same man had called in to investigate every Muslim and every Mosque a year ago. That is a reasonable change! Thank you Sean!

Mike@MikeGhouse.net | (214) 325-1916 | Washington, DC