



Bashir Ali currently serves as the Midwest Section Convener and National Convener of Imams in association with the Community of Imam W. Deen Mohammed. He became a member of the Nation of Islam in 1970. Since 1975, he has been a student of Imam W. Deen Mohammed. Over the years, Bashir has also served as a prison Chaplain and Resident Imam. Since 1993, he has been the Resident Imam and President of the Muslim Education & Community Association (MECA) of Peoria, Illinois. Bashir has also served as the State Convener of the Illinois Shuraa. Currently, Imam Bashir Ali writes books and lectures throughout the country on the Qur'anic foundations of developing model Muslim communities.

In his capacity as Midwest and National Convener, Imam Bashir has had the opportunity to work with Imams across the region and country to promote and develop Islamic democracy and governance through Shuraa Baynahum. He has also worked with Imams and other community leaders to create the Midwest Leadership Conference and Community Leadership Summit to address critical areas of community development including: Marriage and Family Life; Education; Business and Economic Development; Culture; Government and Civic Engagement; Youth Development; and Leadership Development.

Imam Bashir Ali grew up in Chicago and graduated from the University of Illinois in Architecture. He worked as an Architectural Engineer for eight years. Bashir recently retired as the Director of Workforce Development for Central Illinois, a position he held for twenty-five years. He has been a leader in economic, workforce and community development and has been the recipient of numerous international, national, and state awards. Bashir has also been director of a community-based organization and a community college administrator.

Imam Bashir Ali has been blessed with a beautiful family including three daughters, four step-children, and twenty-one grandchildren.