



With Allah's Name, The Merciful Benefactor, The Merciful Redeemer

## COMMUNITY WIDE SHURAA CONFERENCE<sup>SM</sup>

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“Unleashing and harnessing the full capacity inherent in the group intellect...”

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### With Allah's Name, The Merciful Benefactor, The Merciful Redeemer

*“...Work to build a better place for [ourselves], one that will benefit all people, regardless of race or religion.”*

—Imam W. Deen Mohammed (RA)

Dear Believer: As Salaam Alaikum.

We're happy to inform you of the implementation of an idea whose time has come!

Over the years, beginning in 1999, [Imam Warith Deen Mohammed](#) (RA) sought to inspire us by proposing that our American Muslim Community needed a studious group of persons or an “intelligentsia” studying our history and circumstances and envisioning a brighter future for succeeding generations to live better in America.

The Imam also said “leadership is the resourceful people that represent the productive life of society,” and that includes everyone committed to working for and supporting model community excellence. He went on to say that a national intelligentsia or think tank of skilled believers could help serve as a clearing house for new ideas, problem solving and discovery of new opportunities to help the entire American Muslim Community, America and the world.

In fulfillment of the Imam's proposition, an important and [pioneering national effort](#) was made in North Carolina in 1999 demonstrating a strong desire and capability for individuals to work together in helping to fulfill the model community vision. Then in 2009, a little known radio station called American Muslim (AM) 360 emerged on the scene of community dialogue. The brainchild of Dr. Aisha Kareem and [Imam Thomas Abdul-Salaam](#) (RA), AM360 grew into a powerful network of voices making it the #1 Islamic radio station in the nation and garnering recognition as a major media influencer in Muslim America.

In 2013, in response to a groundswell of AM360 grass roots support urging the Muslim community to complement words with action and to help move a critical mass from ideas to reality, Thomas and Aisha helped found the Community Wide Shuraa Conference (CWSC), and so began one of the largest community service projects ever undertaken in the American Muslim community--to build a national intelligentsia upon the principles of Shuraa Baynahum or faith-based mutual and respectful consultation with an engaged national group intellect committed to action.

Updated with advanced concepts and new technologies, CWSC has brought the intelligentsia model to a new level of operational excellence. The incorporation of a *Model Communities National Resource Directory* (MCNRD) is a powerful addition to the intelligentsia model Imam Mohammed envisioned. MCNRD envisions critical cataloging of resources and leverages our ability to help all our institutions and communities tap into the vast group intellect nationally.

In August 2014, the CWSC held its second conference and first Town Hall in St. Louis, Missouri. Brother Thomas was selected as CWSC's first executive director. Since then, great progress has been made such that today the CWSC is a 501(c)(3) tax exempt, non-partisan faith based national conference, with a comprehensive electronic and social media footprint

combined with a volunteer human resource network spanning the country and committed to working for model community excellence.

Then in November of 2014, CWSC, AM360 and our entire Community were stunned when Brother Thomas announced he was in the last stages of terminal cancer with only months to live. As his health worsened, he appointed veteran broadcaster and *A New Day for Al-Islam*'s host, Brother William Kareem, to the executive producer's chair. Thomas then stepped away from daily on-air hosting to spend his final days with family while continuing to prepare both AM360 and CWSC for transition.

Thomas made another remarkable announcement: he was transferring American Muslim 360 as a public service institution to the care and management of CWSC. His trust was not only a great act of faith, but also part of a powerful vision to complement CWSC's intelligentsia efforts with a national broadcasting arm...a combination designed to help us remake the world. On March 2, 2015, our Brother Thomas passed away.

Despite our tremendous loss, without missing a beat, the CWSC elected FAMACO Publishers' vice president Mukhtar Muhammad as its executive director. Mukhtar is a principal designer of the CWSC model and previously served as corporate secretary and strategic planning & development director. CWSC has expanded services to include a national speakers bureau, college scholarship and history preservation program, the CWSC On-Air Roundtable, online store, townhall, and an online national resource directory connecting us to a nationwide volunteer network. CWSC has coordinated two delegations to Capitol Hill to meet with lawmakers on mass gun violence and reform and we're also now a United Nations non-governmental organization partner publishing papers at the highest level of Shuraa. [See our Annual Report.](#)

And AM360 has not only honored its excellent broadcasting tradition, but continues to expand diversity of hosts and content its service offerings and increase programming hours and days - formerly with the exceptional guidance of CEO *Emeritus* Dr. Aisha Kareem, and now with the visionary leadership of CEO Imam Abdul-Hakim Abdullah, Station General Manager Kariem Hasan, and Programming Manager M. Nailah Abdullah. Visit [the new AM360 at CWSC](#) today.

It has been our desire to inform everyone as soon as possible about the great work already accomplished and on the drawing board ahead to serve our Community. [You're invited](#) as part of our group intellect to join in this noble effort of helping advance our model community life and to help remake the world!

Visit us soon and tune in day or night for our round-the-clock live and podcast programming at [am360.org](#) or dial (701) 719-4197 to join the conversation. More great news...we've launched [sakinah.am360.org](#) to develop into a unique dedicated cultural platform! Check it out so far and tell us what you think.

May Allah (SWT) guide us to improve the quality of life for everyone here in America and the world. May we exemplify the best community created for mankind.

Yours in service to Allah (SWT),

As-Salaamu-Alaikum,



Dr. Aisha Kareem  
CEO Emeritus, AM360  
Advisor to CWSC  
AK/mna

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