



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...”

[WWW.CWSC.US](http://www.cwsc.us)

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

—Imam W. Deen Mohammed (R)

Dear Fellow Believer: As Salaam Alaikum (His Peace be with you).

We're happy to share with you a bit about our national nonprofit, the Community Wide Shuraa Conference, Inc. (CWSC). More information is available online at cwsc.us. And now, how we began...

In 1999, American Muslim leader the late Imam Dr. Warith Deen Mohammed (R) sought to inspire his national association 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 in the resourceful people who 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 non-CWSC 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 360<sup>®</sup> AM360.org emerged on the scene of community dialogue. The brainchild of Dr. Aisha Kareem and the late Imam Thomas Abdul-Salaam, 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; 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 institutions and communities tap into a national group intellect.

In August 2014, CWSC held its second conference and first Town Hall in St. Louis, Missouri. Thomas was selected as CWSC's executive director. Then in November of 2014, CWSC, AM360 and our entire Community were stunned when 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, 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 AM360 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 and without missing a beat, 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; during his leadership tenure, CWSC expanded services to include a think tank, national speakers bureau, college scholarship and history preservation program, the CWSC On-Air Roundtable, online store, plaza, townhall, and an online national resource directory connected to a national volunteer network. CWSC has coordinated delegations to Capitol Hill to address 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!

Since those early days of 2013, 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 multi-faith, multi-ethnic volunteer human resource network and directory spanning the country and committed to strengthening model community life.

And AM360 has not only honored its excellent broadcasting tradition, but continues to expand its diversity of hosts and content with 24-hour programming that includes CAIR, the nation's largest civil rights and advocacy organization for American Muslims. Formerly under the guidance of CEO *Emeritus* Dr. Aisha Kareem, and now with the leadership of AM360 Acting CEO Latifah Hameen and Programming Manager M. Nailah Abdullah, AM360 passed the 600,000 listen level and is positioned for continued growth. In March 2020, the Station will celebrate its 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary with an interfaith cruise to Cozumel!

We're proud of our accomplishments and eager each day to continue moving the ball forward and implementing plans for an office of international relations and expansion of faith-based collaboratives. You're invited as part of our ever expanding interfaith group intellect to join in this noble effort of helping advance model community life and to help remake the world into a better place for all!

Smarts can the QR codes below. Visit [cwsc.us](http://cwsc.us). Tune in day or night for our round-the-clock live and podcast programming at [AM360.org](http://AM360.org) or dial (701) 719-4197 to join the conversation and tell us what you think.

Thank you for taking the time to let us share CWSC...together we can remake the world.

Yours in service,

As-Salaamu-Alaikum.

/s/ Depretha Hadee  
CWSC Director, MCNRD  
Advisor to CWSC  
DH/mna



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