

UMMAH

The Official Bi-Monthly Newsletter of United Muslim Masjid

Verily, all praise is due to Allah. We praise Him, we seek His assistance and His forgiveness. We seek refuge in Allah from the evil from ourselves and our evil actions. Whomsoever Allah guides, none can lead astray; and whomsoever Allah leaves astray, then none can guide. We openly testify that none has the right to be worshipped except Allah, and we testify that Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) is His servant and Messenger.

America Has Lost A Generation Of Black Boys

There is no longer a need for dire predictions, hand-wringing, or apprehension about losing a generation of black boys. It is too late. In education, employment, economics, incarceration, health, housing, and parenting, we have lost a generation of young black men. The question that remains is will we lose the next two or three generations, or possibly every generation of black boys hereafter to the streets, negative media, gangs, drugs, poor education, unemployment, father absence, crime, violence and death.

Most young black men in the United States don't graduate from high school. Only 35%

of black male students graduated from high school in Chicago and only 26% in New York City, according to a 2006 report by The Schott Foundation for Public Education. Only a few black boys who finish high school actually attend college, and of those few black boys who enter college, nationally, only 22% of them finish college.

Young black male students have the worst grades, the lowest test scores, and the highest dropout rates of all students in the country. When these young black men don't succeed in school, they are much more likely to succeed in the nation's criminal justice

and penitentiary system.

Black men in prison in America have become as American as apple pie. There are more black men in prisons and jails in the United States (about 1.1 million) than there are black men incarcerated in the rest of the world combined. This criminalization process now starts in elementary schools with black male children as young as six and seven years old being arrested in staggering numbers according to a 2005 report, Education on Lockdown by the Advancement Project.

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Announcements

UMM plans to open the United Muslims Information Center at 1251 Point Breeze for Jum'ah's only beginning on August 24, 2007 at 1:15 pm, Allah willing.

Join UMM as it presents a seminar on "conflict resolution" in cooperation with the City of Philadelphia on Aug 11, 2007 at 8:30am at 1427 Catharine Street.

Support UMM's 11th Annual Unity Fundraising Banquet on August 25, 2007 in celebration of a jewel in our community "Sister Salima Omar" and in celebration of our children.

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ



UNITED MUSLIM
MOVEMENT

UMMAH

August 2007

VISIT
YOUR
WEBSITE
REGULARLY

www.ummonline.org

- Calendar of Events
- Buy tickets online
- Make Donations
- Jum'ah Khutbahs
- Women's Webpage

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The rest of the world is watching and following the lead of America. Other countries including England, Canada, Jamaica, Brazil and South Africa are adopting American social policies that encourage the incarceration and destruction of young black men. This is leading to a world-wide catastrophe. But still, there is no adequate response from the American or global black community.

Worst of all is the passivity, neglect and disengagement of the black community concerning the future of our black boys. We do little while the future lives of black boys are being destroyed in record numbers. The schools that black boys attend prepare them with skills that will make them obsolete before, and if, they graduate. In a strange and perverse way, the black community, itself, has started to wage a kind of war against young black men and has become part of this destructive process.

Who are young black women going to marry? Who is going to build and maintain the economies of black communities? Who is going to anchor strong families in the black community? Who will young black boys emulate as they grow into men? Where is the outrage of the black community at the destruction of its black boys? Where are the plans and the supportive actions to change this? Is this the beginning of the end of the black people in America?

The list of those who have failed young black men includes our government, our foundations, our schools, our media, our black churches, our black leaders, and even our parents. Ironically, experts say that the solutions to the problems of young black men are simple and relatively inexpensive, but they may not be easy, practical or popular. It is not that we lack solutions as much as it is that we lack the will to implement these solutions to save black boys. It seems that government is willing to pay billions of dollars to lock up young black men, rather than the millions it would take to prepare them to become viable contributors and valued members of our society.

Please consider these simple goals that can lead to solutions for fixing the problems of young black men:

Short term

- 1) Teach all black boys to read at grade level by the third grade and to embrace education.
- 2) Provide positive role models for black boys.
- 3) Create a stable home environment for black boys that includes contact with their fathers.
- 4) Ensure that black boys have a strong spiritual base.
- 5) Control the negative media influences on black boys.
- 6) Teach black boys to respect all girls and women.

Reprinted from www.blackstarproject.org

This article is being presented as a topic because of the many young black Muslim children that are included in the statistics presented above. We encourage you to get involved and support the activities such as the Jawala Scouts, Madrasahs and other activities at the Masjid in support of the children. Get involved in the community where you live. Take the strongest position in changing a bad situation and change it with your hands.

Allah says in the Qur'an: "Not equal are those of the believers that sit (at home), except those who are disabled (by injury or are blind or are lame), and those who strive hard and fight in the Cause of Allah with their wealth and their lives. Allah has preferred in grades those who strive hard and fight with their wealth and their lives above those who sit (at home). Unto each, Allah has promised good (Paradise), but Allah has preferred those who strive hard and fight, above those who sit (at home) by a huge reward." Surah An-Nisa, Ayat 95.

UNITED MUSLIM MASJID

In Cooperation with the
City of Philadelphia

WILL BE SPONSORING A

CONFLICT RESOLUTION WORKSHOP

SATURDAY AUGUST 11, 2007

AT

1427 CATHARINE STREET

8:30 AM. UNTIL 4:30 PM.

OUR GOAL IS TO EDUCATE THE COMMUNITY AS A MEANS TO
CREATE A SAFER COMMUNITY.

HALAL MEALS AND BEVERAGE WILL BE PROVIDED AND ATTEN-
DEES WILL RECEIVE CERTIFICATES OF COMPLETION.

Please Contact:

BRO. ISMAIL – 215/459-3847. SISTER INTISAR.267/254-3554 BRO.MUTAZ 215/252-0729

SUPPORT MUSLIM BUSINESSES

As-salaam
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Get the cut that you want from the
barber of your choice

CCFS PROPERTIES

CCFS

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vices

2948 Reed Street

215-463-3477

NEXT LEVEL HAIR
DESIGN (for Women)

Walk-ins Welcome

1210 Pt Breeze Avenue

(Near 20th & Federal)

For Appt Call

267-861-6959

UNITED MUSLIM MASJIDS

810 South 15th Street
Philadelphia PA. 19146
215-546-6555

1251 Point Breeze
Philadelphia PA 19146
215-467-1665

Fax: 215-985-9430 Website: ummonline.org

“Saving Our Youth With Islam”

When: Sat. Aug 25, 2007
6pm until 10pm

Where: Historic Holiday Inn
4th & Arch St. Phila PA

Guest Speaker and Social Commentator

Imam Abdul Malik

Tickets are \$40.00 each /A table of 10 people \$400.00

This event is sure to be educational and entertaining. So don't wait; get your tickets now!

**For more information contact Brother Jihad @ 267-718-8986 or 215
546-6555 Or purchase tickets online at www.ummonline.org**

Monthly General Meeting

The General Meetings for the Public and Committees are held on the first Sunday of every Month, from 11:00-12:00 pm. At 1415 Catherine Street Philadelphia PA. 19146

The Subcommittee meet From 10:00—11:00 am, at their designated meeting place .

If you want to become a part of a growing Community, find out what's going on at United Muslim Masjid, or perhaps join a committee, then attend the next General Assembly Meeting,

Committee's List

~COMMUNICATIONS

DAWAH
ISLAM TODAY
POLITICAL

~MEMBER RELATIONS

ADMINISTRATIVE
YOUNG ADULTS
FAMILY & YOUTH
SECURITY

~ ISLAMIC

MASJID OPERATIONS
CHILDREN'S MADRASAH
ADULT'S MADRASAH

~ FUNDRAISING

Calendar of Events

Bi-Weekly

Islamic Womanhood Training (I.W.T) Classes (ages 13 to 19)

July 9 to Aug 17, 2007 Summer Madrasah Camp (Up to age 13)

August 19, 2007 Family Day at the Lakes (Sports, Rides & Food)

August 25, 2007 Annual Unity Fundraising Banquet.

Sept 1, 2007 Sister's Conference.

September 13, 2007 ?

(Tentatively) Ramadan Starts

October 15, 2007 Eid-UI-Fitr (Tentatively)