



A JUDICIAL WATCH
SPECIAL REPORT

2007

MUSLIM CHARITIES: MODERATE NON-PROFITS OR ELABORATE DECEPTIONS?

“...the goal of Muslims in America is to turn the U.S. into an Islamic state, even if it takes ‘a hundred years’.”

– Paul Sperry, *Infiltration*

INTRODUCTION

Today, some radical U.S. non-profit groups, pretending to be mainstream, humanitarian charities, are funding violent attacks against innocents, and the frightening thing is... the U.S. government surely knows about it.

The money moves quietly, in discreet, nearly-untraceable forms. It can be carried, transferred and maneuvered until it simply “disappears.” According to the *Washington Post*, “Money can be hand-carried abroad in small bundles. Cash deposited in a U.S. bank can be withdrawn from ATMs in Israel, Egypt or Jordan. Stored-value cards are portable, while Internet banking allows fast and complex transfers. Fundraisers also use *hawala*, the ancient system of informal money transfers in which money moves among friends and relations.”⁴ Using these and other financial tactics, front organizations are funneling money to Hamas and other terrorist groups in the Middle East with ease.

After the 9/11 terrorist attacks against the United States, Judicial Watch called for government action against extreme Muslim non-profit organizations that served as front groups, raising money for terrorist action. In 2001, Judicial Watch filed a complaint with the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) against non-profit

organizations “reportedly being used as money laundering front organizations for radical Islamic terrorists.”⁵ According to the complaint, “Non-profit entities... have been used to ‘launder’ financial transactions and facilitate the transfer of funds supporting violent terrorist attacks by HAMAS [the anti-Israeli Muslim movement responsible for multiple acts of violence which have killed Americans and Israelis].”



“...some radical U.S. non-profit groups, pretending to be mainstream, humanitarian charities, are funding violent attacks against innocents, ...and the frightening thing is...the U.S. government surely knows about it.”

In 2004, the Senate Financial Committee requested an investigation of several of the organizations on the list originally provided by Judicial Watch.⁶ In the request letter, Republican Senator Charles Grassley said, “Many of these groups not only enjoy tax-exempt status, but their reputation as charities and foundations often allows them to escape scrutiny, making it easier to hide and move their funds to other groups who threaten our national security.”⁷

While the U.S. government finally took action against some of the groups identified by Judicial Watch, others are still functioning. The federal government is aware of their presence and the danger they pose to our national security. The question is: Why are they still in operation?

According to Steve Emerson, leading expert on radical Muslim organizations and founder of the Investigative Project in Washington, D.C., which is dedicated to uncovering information on terrorist activity in the United States, it is an issue of diplomacy. In an interview for *The Verdict*, Judicial Watch's monthly newsletter, Emerson stated that the sense of governmental urgency to end undercover terrorist funding, "is tempered by the constraints of when you can disclose intelligence and also, political correctness."⁸

Judicial Watch has compiled the following list of radical Muslim non-profit organizations currently functioning in the United States. They are front organizations, posing as "mainstream" charities to disguise their extreme agendas. Despite their moderate façade, these groups financially and/or morally support terrorist groups and activities. Muslim organizations that are truly moderate will publicly reject jihad (holy war)⁹ and function within the constraints of American government and society.¹⁰ The following groups, however, publicly and unabashedly repudiate the American way of life, encourage American Muslims to challenge the current order, and/or raise funds for terrorist organizations. They are dangerous and must be shut down.

GLOSSARY

Jihad: "Holy War" The cause for which many extreme Muslims sects perform acts of violence.

"[Jihad] means the legal, compulsory, communal effort to expand the territories ruled by Muslims at the expense of territories ruled by non-Muslims. The purpose of jihad, in other words, is not directly to spread the Islamic faith but to extend

sovereign Muslim power... Despite jihad's record as a leading source of conflict for 14 centuries, causing untold human suffering, academic and Islamic apologists claim it permits only defensive fighting, or even that it is entirely non-violent."

– Daniel Pipes, *New York Post*¹

Wahhabi: An extreme Muslim sect from Saudi Arabia.

"The Wahhabis continue to believe and preach violence and Jihad as a pillar of Islamic virtue, rigid conformism of religious practice, institutionalized oppression of women, wholesale rejection of modernity, secularism and democracy as antithetical to Islam and militant proselytism."

– Mr. Alex Alexiev, Center for Security Policy²

Hamas: Anti-Israeli Muslim movement responsible for suicide bombings and acts of violence and listed as a terrorist group by the U.S. State Department.

"[Hamas] is loosely structured, with some elements working clandestinely and others operating openly through mosques and social service institutions to recruit members, raise money, organize activities, and distribute propaganda... HAMAS terrorists, especially those in the Izz al-Din al-Qassam Brigades, have conducted many attacks, including large-scale suicide bombings, against Israeli civilian and military targets."

– US State Department, List of Terrorist Groups³

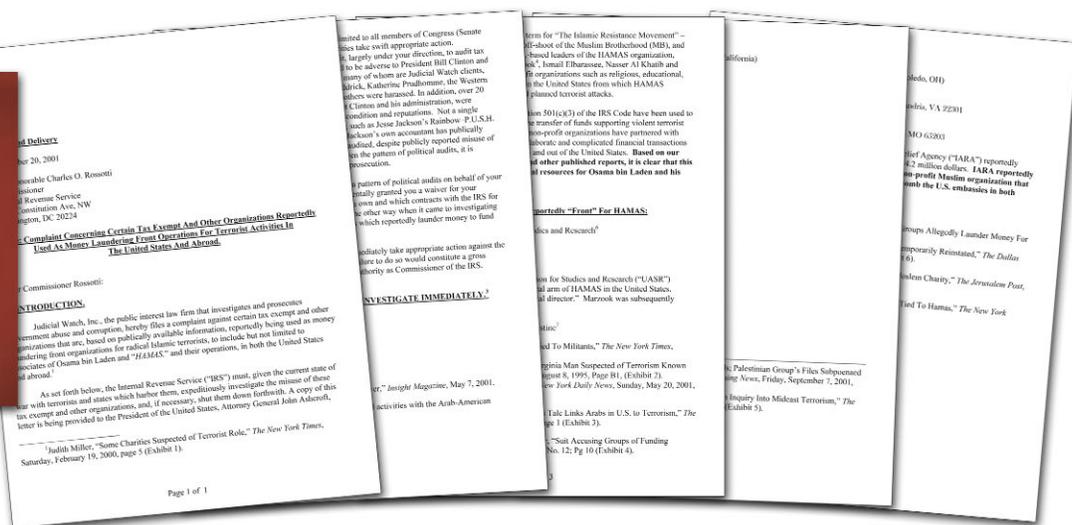


Photo: Political leader of Hamas, Khaled Mashaal.

Documents: Judicial Watch letter to the IRS detailing Muslim Charities suspected of funding terrorist groups.

The Council for American Islamic Relations (CAIR)

Location: Washington, DC
Website: <http://www.cair-net.org>

Who are they?

“CAIR is ... the outgrowth of a suspected Hamas front called the Islamic Association for Palestine (IAP).” (The IAP is a terrorist-connected group that has since had its assets frozen and has gone out of business.)¹¹

With roots buried deep in the Islamic jihad movement, the organization is currently the leader of radical Muslim organizations in the United States. According to Daniel Pipes, a leading expert on radical Muslim organizations, “It is in some ways the most formidable in that they claim to have some 33 offices in North America... and they are staffed with full time people. They are on the case in [virtually every] city, meeting with politicians, going to schools, and dealing with the media...”¹²

According to other sources, “CAIR should be considered a foreign-based subversive organization... It has organized numerous community branches and has had immense and alarming success in gaining [the] position [of] ‘official’ representative of Islam in the U.S.”¹³

The Council for American Islamic Relations: Public Profile

- The Council for American Islamic Relations’ stated mission is, “To enhance understanding of Islam, encourage dialogue, protect civil liberties and empower American Muslims...”
- According to their website, the Council for American Islamic Relations condemns the 9-11 attacks, works to enhance

understanding of Islamism in America, and functions as a media voice for Muslims in America.

- The Council for American Islamic Relations claims to have participated in events to feed the needy, sponsored anti-hate campaigns, and provided winter coats to illegal day laborers at a Herndon, Virginia day labor center.
- “As of 2005, CAIR had annual revenue of \$2.6 million,”¹⁴ and according to its own website, it is currently devoting much of its efforts to an image rebuilding campaign.¹⁵
- Above all, the organization presents itself as a human rights group, representing Muslims and promoting peaceful acceptance of all religions.¹⁶

The Council for American Islamic Relations: Shadow Profile

- Steven Pomerantz, former FBI chief of counterterrorism, said that, “CAIR, its leaders, and its activities effectively give aid to international terrorist groups.”¹⁷
- Other experts have called the group, “part of the criminal conspiracy of radical Islamic terrorists,” and “a radical fundamentalist front group for Hamas.”¹⁸
- The Council for American Islamic Relations received a significant portion of its start-up funding and support from the Holy Land Foundation and the Islamic Association of Palestine, both known Hamas terrorist organization supporters.¹⁹
- The Council for American Islamic Relations has knowingly assisted violent Muslim terrorist groups (including al Qaeda and/or the International Islamic Front for the Jihad Against Jews and Crusaders) that would “commit an act of deadly aggression against the United States in the near future, using the resources and support supplied by CAIR.”²⁰

IBRAHIM HOOPER

CAIR Spokesperson



DR. PARVEZ AHMED

CAIR Chairman



COREY SAYLOR

CAIR Dir. of Government Affairs



OMAR AHMED

Co-Founder of CAIR



What the Council for American Islamic Relations is Saying and Doing

- In 2005, board member Hamza Yusuf said that America, “is facing a terrible fate, and the reason for that is because the country stands condemned. It stands condemned like Europe stood condemned because of what it did. And lest it forget, Europe suffered two world wars after conquering the Muslim lands.”²¹
- Representatives and affiliates hold key speaking positions at events held by the Islamic Society of North America as well as having financial ties to the North American Islamic Trust. Both organizations have known ties to the extreme Wahhabi campaign to penetrate U.S. mosques.²²
- Siraj Wahhaj, 2005 board member prayed that America’s “‘democracy [would] crumble,’ clearing the way for an Islamic theocracy.”²³
- The Council for American Islamic Relations partnered with The Department of Homeland Security’s Transportation Security Administration (TSA), and TSA published an online press release authored by the Council for American Islamic Relations expressing its approval of a TSA “sensitivity training” program about Islamic traditions.²⁴

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– Hamza Yusuf, CAIR board member



**RANDALL
“ISMAIL” ROYER**
CAIR National Civil
Rights Coordinator

CONVICTED CRIMINAL
Committed Terrorist
Crimes while working
for CAIR

USA Today, January 16, 2004

Islamic Society of North America (ISNA)

Location: Plainfield, Indiana

Website: <http://www.isna.net>

Who are they?

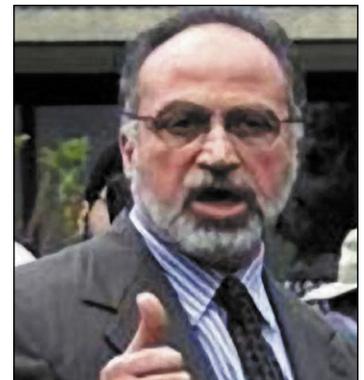
The Islamic Society of North America is a radical Muslim organization that owns and runs mosques throughout North America, functioning as an “umbrella organization” and “clearinghouse” to connect all Muslim activities in the United States.²⁵ Firmly believing in, and supporting, extremist Muslim views, the group places radical leaders within mosques, sometimes replacing current religious leaders with those of a more extreme persuasion. The Islamic Society of North America is connected closely to the Saudi-Wahhabi form of Islam, an extreme version of Islam which teaches that all non-Muslims are enemies and heathens.²⁶

While the Islamic Society of North America is much less public than the Council for American Islamic Relations and caters mainly to Muslim groups, it is dangerous because of its terrorist connections and campaigns to infiltrate mosques and eliminate all forms of moderation.

GHASSAN ELASHI
Founder of CAIR – Texas

CONVICTED CRIMINAL
Committed Terrorist
Crimes while working
for CAIR

Fox News, April 13, 2005



The Islamic Society of North America: Public Profile

- The Islamic Society of North America presents itself as “an association of Muslim organizations and individuals that provides a common platform for presenting Islam, supporting Muslim communities, developing educational, social and outreach programs and fostering good relations with other religious communities, and civic and service organizations.”
- The Islamic Society of North America professes goals and programs including Imam Training and Leadership Development, Involvement of Youth, Sound Financial Base, Public Image, Interfaith and Coalition Building, Community Development.
- The organization offers affiliation and membership programs including benefits such as a free newsletter, *Islamic Horizons*, “the ISNA magazine which connects over 60,000 Muslims across North America,” organizational endorsements and other “perks.”²⁷
- In 2007, the Islamic Society of North America will hold multiple events including an educational forum and annual conferences, one of which is entitled, “Islam in America.”²⁸

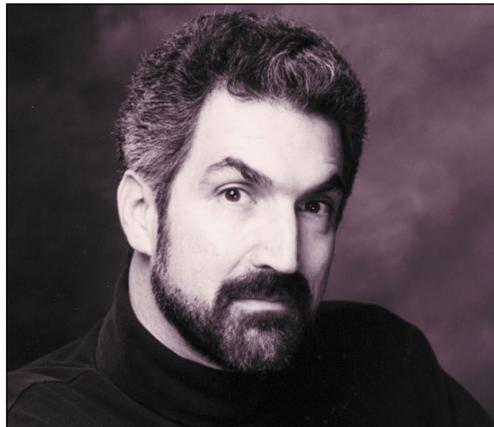
The Islamic Society of North America: Shadow Profile

- The Islamic Society of North America enforces Wahhabi [extreme Islamism] theology in the country’s 1,200 officially recognized mosques²⁹ specifically running and operating at least 324 mosques in the United States.³⁰
- According to an article published by Daniel Pipes, the Islamic Society of North America appears to be a key player in the channeling of Saudi Wahhabist money into the United States through its affiliation with the North American Islamic Trust, an Islamic financial clearinghouse with terrorist ties.³¹
- According to Paul Sperry, author of the book *Infiltration*, the group has been allowed to “control Islamic worship

services at federal prisons...the federal pen has become a recruiting ground for al-Qaeda.”³²

What The Islamic Society of North America is Saying and Doing

- Muzammil H. Siddiqi, president of the Islamic Society of North America during the 9/11 attack, said “America has to learn. If you remain on the side of injustice, the wrath of God will come. Please all Americans, do remember that, Allah is watching everyone. If you continue doing injustice and tolerating injustice, the wrath of God will come.”³³ Siddiqi has also publicly supported Hamas and Hezbollah (recognized terrorist organizations).³⁴
- Bassam Osman, President of the North American Islamic Trust, which owns a school described in a federal indictment as a criminal enterprise, sits on the board of the Islamic Society of North America.³⁵
- The Islamic Society of North America is also “getting cozy” with the White House, receiving an invitation to send a representative to participate in the White House Office of Faith-Based and Community Representatives’ “White House Leadership Conference” in 2005.³⁶



ISNA appears to be a key player in the channeling of Saudi Wahhabist money into the United States through its affiliation with the North American Islamic Trust, an Islamic financial clearinghouse with terrorist ties.

– Daniel Pipes, expert on Militant Islam.

Islamic Circle of North America (ICNA)

Location: Jamaica, New York
Website: <http://www.icna.org>

Who are they?

The Islamic Circle of North America works in conjunction with the Council for American Islamic Relations and the The Islamic Society of North America to promote radical Islamism through national conferences. “An Activist’s Guide to Arab and Muslim Campus and Community Organizations in North America,”

published in 2003, characterized ICNA as one of the, "less prominent groups within the Muslim extremist camp, aligned with 'neo-Wahhabi' extremists in Pakistan."³⁷

Many of its leaders have direct connections to terrorist organizations and widely function as leaders within the Council for American Islamic Relations, the Islamic Council for North America and the Islamic Society for North America.³⁸

The Islamic Council for North America: Public Profile

- According to the group's website, "The goal of ICNA shall be to seek the pleasure of Allah...through the struggle of Iqamat-ud-Deen (establishment of the Islamic system of life) as spelled out in the Qur'an and the Sunnah of Prophet Muhammad..."
- Program goals include "[The invitation of] mankind to submit to the Creator by using all means of communications" ... "[The motivation of] Muslims to perform their duty of being witnesses unto mankind by their words and deeds," and "[cooperation] with other organizations for the implementation of this program..."³⁹
- Since 9/11, the Islamic Council for North America has issued statements against the U.S. War on Terror, interventions in Afghanistan and Iraq, and the Patriot Act.⁴⁰

The Islamic Council for North America: Shadow Profile

- The Islamic Council for North America originated as a copy of the Muslim Brotherhood of Pakistan, Jamaat-e-Islami.⁴¹ Jamaat-e-Islami was recognized by officials to have direct ties to al-Qaeda terrorists and, in some cases, represent much of the population of al-Qaeda terrorists.⁴²
- In his book, *American Jihad*, terrorism expert Steve Emerson said, "The ICNA openly supports militant Islamic fundamentalist organizations, praises terror attacks, issues incendiary attacks on Western values and policies, and supports the imposition of Sharia [Islamic law]."⁴³
- The group works with other Muslim organizations that describe suicide bombings as "justifiable" and, in March 1996, U.S. Senator Mitch McConnell said, "One of the groups with Hamas ties is the Dallas-based Islamic Association for Palestine in North America, which, in turn,

apparently is allied with the Islamic Circle of North America in New York."⁴⁴

- A 2001 webpage of the southeast branch (located mainly in Georgia and Florida) included multiple links to violent terrorist groups such as Hizbollah (Hezbollah) and Hamas and called for visitors to donate to a site known to directly fund al-Qaeda activity and Taliban forces.⁴⁵
- In 2005, the Islamic Council for North America was under investigation for its connection to a violent Pakistani terrorist group with al-Qaeda links.⁴⁶

What the Islamic Council for North America is Saying and Doing

- Keynote speakers for the Islamic Council for North America conferences include known terrorists dedicated to perpetuating radical Islamism.
- Imam Siraj Wahhaj, also an advisory board member of the Council for American Islamic Relations, was named by U.S. Attorney Mary Jo White in 1995 as one of the "unindicted persons who may be alleged as co-conspirators in the attempt to blow up New York City monuments" including the World Trade Center in 1993.⁴⁷ Wahhaj has also called for the U.S. government to be replaced by Muslim social structure.
- Dr. Muzammil Siddiqi is a radical Muslim publicly advocating terrorist martyrdom: "Those who die on the part of justice are alive, and their place is with [Allah], and they receive the highest position, because this is the highest honor."⁴⁸
- At an Islamic Council for North America conference in 1996, Shikh Hamza Yusuf said, "I am a citizen of this country not by choice but by birth. I reside in this country not by choice but by conviction in attempting to spread the message of Islam in this country. I became Muslim in part because I did not believe in the false gods of this society, whether we call them Jesus or democracy or the Bill of Rights or any other element of this society that is held sacrosanct by the ill-informed peoples that makes up this charade of a society."⁴⁹

The North American Islamic Trust (NAIT)

Location: Burr Ridge, Illinois
Website: <http://www.nait.net>

Who are they?

The North American Islamic Trust is an organization that accumulates property by holding the titles to mosques, Islamic centers and schools throughout the United States, creating a network that includes approximately 25% of American Mosques.⁵⁰ Essentially, the organization acts as an investment pool and financial clearinghouse for Muslims in the United States. However, it has financial ties to the radical Islamic group, Wahhabi/ Salafi (based in Saudi Arabia) and its leadership has direct connections to terrorist activity in the United States.

The North American Islamic Trust: Public Profile

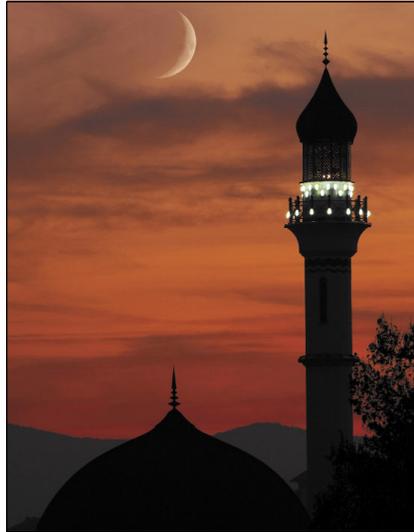
- The North American Islamic Trust functions as a real estate holding tank, that “safe guard[s] and pool[s] the assets of the American Muslim community, develops financial vehicles and products...[and] publishes and distributes credible Islamic literature, and facilitates and coordinates community projects.”
- According to its website, “NAIT facilitates the realization of American Muslims' desire for a virtuous and happy life in a Shari'ah-compliant way.” (The Shari'ah is a sacred law detailing social and individual duties.)
- The North American Islamic Trust publicizes programs instituted to create stable funding for Islamic schools, the perpetuation of Islamic beliefs and practices in institutions through financial investment, and a Dow Jones Islamic Fund acceptable to Islamic principles.⁵¹

The North American Islamic Trust: Shadow Profile

- *Newsweek* stated, “...authorities say NAIT has long been a

funnel for Saudi and other gulf money seeking to spread an often anti-American brand of Islamic fundamentalism in American mosques from southern California to South Carolina...”⁵²

- According to terrorism expert, J. Michael Waller, the organization owns between 50 and 80 percent of North American mosques and was raided in 2002 by the U.S. Treasury's “Operation Green Quest” for suspected involvement with terrorist financing.⁵³



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— J. Michael Waller, terrorism expert

- Sami Al-Arian former University of Florida professor and key figure in North American Islamic Trust was sentenced to four years in prison after being convicted of financially and verbally supporting Jihad by donating money to terrorist groups.⁵⁴

What the North American Islamic Trust is Saying and Doing

- The North American Islamic Trust owns the Islamic Academy of Florida – “a criminal enterprise” as described in the federal indictment handed down in February of this year against the school's founder, Sami al-Arian and others alleged to be Hamas fundraisers.⁵⁵
- In 2003, the group received a \$325,000 investment from the Muslim extremist front group, the Council for American Islamic Relations.⁵⁶

The Muslim American Society (MAS)

Location: Falls Church, Virginia
Website: <http://www.masnet.org>

Who are they?

The Muslim American Society is the American arm of the Muslim Brotherhood, a dangerous, underground organization that helped develop the Palestinian Islamic Jihad, Hamas and al-Qaeda.⁵⁷ As a front organization, it follows the vision of the Muslim Brotherhood: Muslim rule in the United States.⁵⁸ The Muslim American Society also has close ties to the North American Islamic Trust, the Islamic Council for North America,

and the Islamic Society for North America as well as multiple other radical Muslim groups.

The Muslim American Society: Public Profile

- According to its website, the Muslim American Society is “a charitable, religious, social, cultural and educational, not-for-profit organization. It is a pioneering Islamic organization, an Islamic revival and reform movement...”
- The stated goals of the organization include presenting the “message of Islam to Muslims and non-Muslims...to offer a viable Islamic alternative to many of our society’s prevailing problems...and to foster unity among Muslims and Muslim organizations...”⁵⁹

The Muslim American Society: Shadow Profile

- According to Paul Sperry, the violent Muslim Brotherhood uses the Muslim American Society as a front for operations in the United States.⁶⁰
- In 1994, it was disclosed that the Brotherhood had plans of “achieving Islamic rule in America... [to] convert Americans to Islam and elect like-minded Muslims to political office.”⁶¹ Their approach is gradual. “First you change the person, then the family, then the community, then the nation.”⁶²

What the Muslim American Society is Saying and Doing

- At a Muslim American Society conference, a speaker said that despite an “emotional attachment” to the idea of an Islamic state in America, the insufficient Islamic population creates, “hurdles...we can’t jump yet.”⁶³
- A Muslim American Society Chicago chapter website says that “Western secularism and materialism are evil and that Muslims should ‘pursue this eviforce to its own lands’ and ‘invade its Western heartland’.”⁶⁴
- The Muslim American Society chapter in Minnesota issued a *fatwa* (or Islamic edict) saying that “‘Islamic jurisprudence’ prohibits taxi drivers from carrying passengers with alcohol,” leaving nearly 100 airline passengers each month without rides.⁶⁵

The United Association for Studies and Research (UASR)

Location: Springfield, Virginia

Who are they?

The United Association for Studies and Research is an independent think tank located in Virginia. Very little is known about the organization besides its status as a think tank and its terrorist connections. As of 2006, the United Association for Studies and Research was functioning out of a boarded-up building in a D.C. suburb, using pre-paid cellular telephones for communication.⁶⁶

The United Association for Studies and Research: Shadow Profile

- In his prepared statement before the Senate Judiciary Committee, Steve Emerson said that the United Association for Studies and Research was, “a self described Islamic ‘think-tank’ which in reality served as a covert branch for planning Hamas operations and disseminating propaganda.”⁶⁷
- It was called, in an article published by Daniel Pipes, “The American arm of Hamas” and “the head of the political command for Hamas in the U.S.”
- Peter Leitner, President of Higgins Counterterrorism Research Center, called the United Association for Studies and Research “part of a shell game of international terrorism - phony organizations that are really terrorist cells [and] part of the international terrorist network.”⁶⁸
- The United Association for Studies and Research has close financial ties to the Council for American Islamic Relations and places founding members of the organization on its board of directors.⁶⁹

What the United Association for Studies and Research is Saying and Doing

- A large conference, sponsored by the United Association for Studies and Research, “focused on the need to respond to the Western ‘crusades’ against Iraq.”⁷⁰
- 2005 UASR Executive Director Ahmen Yousef called several known and incarcerated terrorists in the United

States, simply "open, moderate leaders, seeking cultural bridges." ⁷¹

The Muslim American Youth Association (MAYA)

Little information is available on the Muslim American Youth Association, but in an interview with the *Middle Eastern Quarterly*, Steve Emerson was quoted as saying, "I have analyzed materials from some ten MAYA conferences and have found repeated exhortations to audiences to strike against "infidels," to instill terror in the hearts of the "enemy", to slaughter Jews, to engage in jihad against the "West" and destroy it, and so forth." He also named it one of the largest constituent groups of the dangerous Muslim Brotherhood. ⁷²

ORGANIZATIONS CLOSED SINCE JUDICIAL WATCH'S LETTER TO THE INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE

The following is a list of organizations on Judicial Watch's list that have since been shut down.

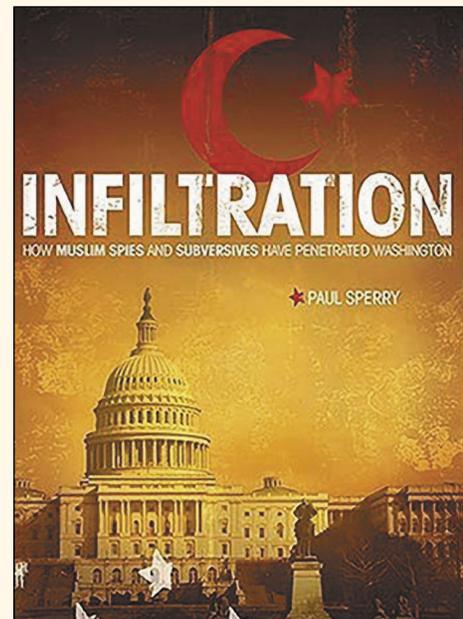
- **Islamic African Relief Agency (IARA):** On March 7, 2007, a federal grand jury indicted the Islamic African Relief Association and five of its officials for illegally sending millions to Iraq while denying known connections to Osama bin Laden and other terrorists. The group was originally shut down in 2004 following an FBI raid. ⁷³
- **Holy Land Foundation for Relief and Development (HLF):** On December 4, 2001, officials froze the assets of Holy Land Foundation for Relief and Development, the founding organization for the Council for American Islamic Relations. The foundation was charged in a 42-count indictment that "...accused Holy Land of being a Hamas front." ⁷⁴
- **International Association for Palestine (IAP):** In August 2002, a federal judge ruled that the International Association for Palestine "had acted in support of Hamas," and froze all its assets. The group parented the Council for American Islamic Relations and had close links to high-ranking al-Qaeda leadership. ⁷⁵
- **Quranic Literacy Institute (QLI):** According to expert Daniel Pipes, Quranic Literacy Institute is now defunct, falling under heavy accusations of terrorist activity. During the peak of its operations, the Quranic Literacy Institute

managed to launder nearly \$1.5 million dollars in overseas Hamas support funds. ⁷⁶

As of the writing of this publication, the following organizations are believed to have gone underground subsequent to Judicial Watch's letter to the IRS: the Islamic Relief Association, Mostan International, and the American Middle Eastern League for Palestine.

CONCLUSION

Many radical Islamic organizations are alive and functioning in the United States, operating under the guise of "mainstream" charities. They are jeopardizing United States national security by supporting terrorist groups working to destroy the U.S. and the American way of life but, disturbingly, the United States government seems to turn a blind eye to their activities in the name of political correctness.



"For the past thirty years, Muslim subversives have been working clandestinely to undermine America's constitutional government. Their goal, quite simply, is to replace the U.S. Constitution with the Quran... and turn America into an Islamic state."

— Paul Sperry, author of *Infiltration*

ENDNOTES

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