

# Muslim Life in America

## Join Us for Personal Stories and Dialogue

Exploring what it means to be Muslim today in America-- its diversity of interpretations, practices, value system and the struggle for identity. Our panelists are:

**Iqbal Talib:** I am a Muslim of the Shia Imami Ismaili Muslim interpretation (an Ismaili for short). This is a small sect within Islam, a community comprising no more than 15 million adherents, spread out over most countries in the world. Keeping a strong sense of balance between Din and Duniya (approximate translation would be faith and the world, esoteric and exoteric, spirit and the body) is one of the hallmarks and an imperative of being a Muslim.

**Uzair Siddiqui** I am originally from Pakistan. I was raised in a quasi-practicing Sunni household. I finished the Quran when I was 9. After a 35+ year hiatus, in my mid forties, I returned to studying religions generally and Islam particularly - not following any formal curriculum. It has been 5+ years that I have been trying to finish my first explanation of the Quran. I expect to finish next year. I came to the US in 1981 to study civil engineering. I make it a point to go to a different/new mosque whenever I can. I do my best to attend Friday prayers. Primarily due to logistical ease, I go most frequently to the Shirley Gate Mosque.

**Fazia Deen:** I was born and raised in Guyana, South America and graduated high school in Toronto, Canada. I served as a lawyer for 11 years in Indiana. I recently moved to Falls Church, Virginia in order to better serve Muslims and the greater American community. I have advocated for immigrants and refugees by successfully assisting them with acclimating to American life through a variety of programs. I have a Bachelor of Science in Management and Marketing and received a J.D. from Thomas M. Cooley Law School. I am the mother of three children.

### **Kuzzat Altay**

I came to the United States eight years ago as refugee from China. The rest is long story which I will relate in my presentation. I am Muslim. I am a follower of Fethullah Gulen and the Hizmet movement. I have a high school diploma. I am married with 3 children. Currently I am CEO and Co-Founder at Cybertek, an IT training and consulting firm located in McLean, VA.

In addition, an open exchange with the audience will follow.

**Wednesday, January 4, 2017 from 7:15pm to 9:00pm**

Chapel of the Program Building, UUCF campus  
Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Fairfax  
2709 Hunter Mill Rd, Oakton, VA 22124

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