

**UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN-ANN ARBOR  
MUSLIM STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION PRESENTS...**

**SACRED TIME PROJECT  
WINTER 2011:**

**ISLAM AND THE  
CHALLENGE OF  
REALITY**

**FEATURING:  
DR. SHERMAN JACKSON  
USTADH ABDULLAH BIN  
HAMID ALI**

**PROGRAM BOOKLET**

# THE SACRED TIME PROJECT

The Sacred Time Project is a weekend-long retreat devoted to developing its participants both mentally and spiritually. The purpose of the program has been to serve participants with a basic knowledge of Islam and impart within them an appreciation for the religion's texts, scholars, and sciences in modern-day context.

## THE ORGANIZERS

Sara Abraham  
Farhana Arif  
Omar Attalla  
Gibrael Barlaskar  
Adjanni Dixon  
Osama El-Sayed  
Obada Ghabra  
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Ayesha Noorulla  
Adam Siddiqui  
Bilal Zaidi  
Nader Hakim  
Yazan Kherallah  
Noha Moustafa  
Nabeel Salka

# SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

## **Dr. Sherman Jackson**

Sherman A. Jackson is the Arthur F. Thurnau Professor of Near Eastern Studies, Visiting Professor of Law and Professor of Afro-American Studies at the University of Michigan. He received his Ph.D. from the University of Pennsylvania and has taught at the University of Texas at Austin, Indiana University, and Wayne State University. From 1987 to 1989, he served as Executive Director of the Center of Arabic Study Abroad in Cairo, Egypt. He is author of several books, including *Islamic Law and the State: The Constitutional Jurisprudence of Shihâb al-Dîn al-Qarâfi* (E.J. Brill, 1996), *On the Boundaries of Theological Tolerance in Islam: Abû Hâmid al-Ghazâlî's Faysal al-Tafriqa* (Oxford, 2002), *Islam and the Blackamerican: Looking Towards the Third Resurrection* (Oxford, 2005) and *Islam and the Problem of Black Suffering* (Oxford, 2009). He has been featured on the Washington Post-Newsweek blog, "On Faith," as well as the Huffington Post. In 2009, he was named among the 500 most influential Muslims in the world by the Royal Islamic Strategic Studies Center in Amman, Jordan and the Prince Alwaleed Bin Talal Center for Muslim-Christian Understanding. He has also been recognized by Religion Newswriters Association ReligionLink as among the top ten experts on Islam in America.

## **Ustadh Abdullah bin Hamid Ali**

Shaykh Abdullah bin Hamid Ali serves as a resident scholar for Zaytuna Institute in Berkeley, California and is the first American to attend and graduate (2001) from the University of Qarawiyin's faculty of Shariah in Morocco. He specializes in the Islamic sciences of Fiqh (Jurisprudence), Usul-ul Fiqh (Legal Theory) and Aqeeda (Islamic Doctrine). His intimate knowledge of the Islamic Law has earned him the respect of many of today's most prominent Eastern and Western scholars of Islam. Prior to traveling overseas to study, he studied in the United States

with Imam Aberra of Eritrea, Ustadh Anwar bin Nafea Muhaimin, Ustadh Anas bin Nafea Muhaimin, Dr. Khalid Blankinship, The Institute of the Arabic and Islamic Sciences of Fairfax, Virginia, and with other locals of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

During his time in Morocco, he had the good fortune to study with Shaykh Muhammad Al-Ta'wil (Mufti of Fez), Dr. Muhammad Al-Rugi, Shaykh Ghazi al-Husayni (Grand Mufti of Morocco), Shaykh Ahmed Zwietin, Dr. Abdullah Ghaziwi, Ustadh Muhammad Al-'Alami, Dr. Hasan 'Azuzi, Ustadh Muhammad Al-Sarrar, Dr. Muhammad ben Jebbour, Dr. Muhammad Abd al-Wahhab Abyat, Ustadh 'Ashur La'shshash, Ustadha Rashida Nasir, Ustadha Na'ima Bennis, and many others. He is the author of the Muslim Funeral Guide (Lamp Post Productions), The Attributes of God (Amalpress), and over 40 research papers and articles. He served as full-time Islamic chaplain for the State Correctional Institution of Chester, Pennsylvania for five years.

## THE PROGRAM

🌸 Saturday, March 26th 2011 🌸

**Registration & Breakfast**  
9:00-10:00am

**Opening Qur'an Recitation and Introductions**  
10:00-10:15am

**Session 1: Fiqh Unraveled: History & Terminology**  
***Ustadh Abdullah bin Hamid Ali***  
10:15-11:45am

**Session 2: Sacred Principles: the Higher Aims and Objectives of the Shar'iah**

***Dr. Sherman Jackson***

**11:55-1:25pm**

**Lunch and Dhuhr Prayer**

**1:30-2:30pm**

**Session 3: Infinite Scope: Fiqh and Everday Life**

***Ustadh Abdullah bin Hamid Ali***

**2:30-4:00pm**

**Session 4: The Balancing Act I: Between Principles and Scripture**

***Dr. Sherman Jackson***

**4:10-5:40pm**

**Break for Asr Prayer**

**5:40-6:10pm**

**Session 5: Preserving the Heart in the Modern World**

***Ustadh Abdullah bin Hamid Ali***

**6:15-7:45pm**

**Maghrib Prayer and Dinner**

**7:45-9:00pm**

**Session 6: Questions and Answers with our Speakers**

***Dr. Sherman Jackson & Ustadh Abdullah bin Hamid Ali***

**9:00-10:30pm**

**'Isha Prayer**

**10:30pm**



﴿﴿Sunday, March 27<sup>th</sup> 2011﴾﴾

Fajr

6:30am

Tower Plaza Musalla – 24F

Breakfast

9:00-10:00am

Session 7: The Balancing Act II: Deriving Rulings from Principles

*Dr. Sherman Jackson*

10:00-11:30am

Session 8: American Controversies

*Ustadh Abdullah bin Hamid Ali*

11:40-1:10pm

Lunch and Dhuhr Prayer

1:10-2:10pm

Session 9: Getting Beyond Piety 101: Practical Applications

*Dr. Sherman Jackson*

2:10-3:40pm

Session 10: The Role of Muslims in the Modern World

*Ustadh Abdullah bin Hamid Ali*

3:40-5:10pm

Break

5:10-5:20pm

Closing Remarks

*Dr. Sherman Jackson & Abdullah bin Hamid Ali*

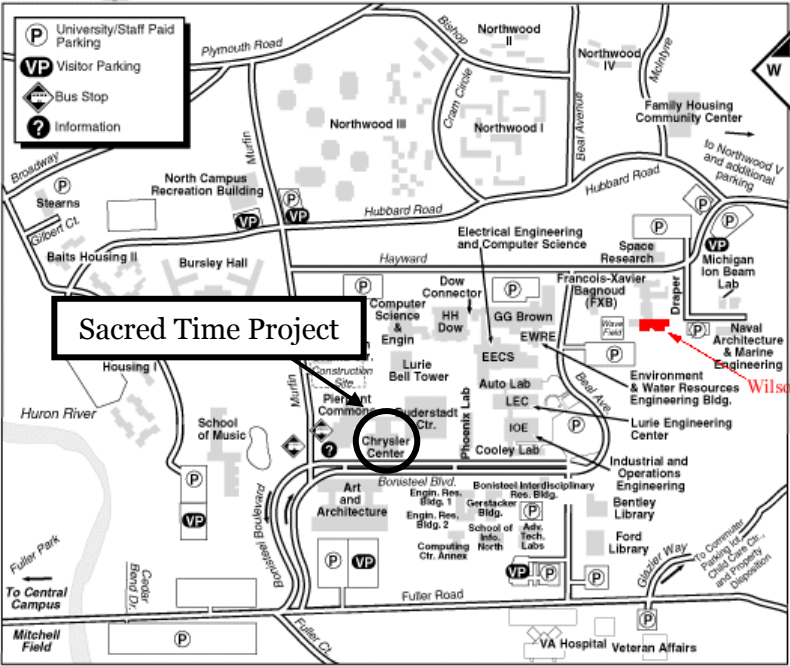
5:20-6:20pm

Asr Prayer and Dinner

6:20pm

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