

The MeccOdyssey: ICNYU Umrah Trip 2013

Join the Islamic Center at NYU for its Fourth Annual Umrah Trip this Spring!

In March 2013, the Islamic Center at New York University will once more lead students, alumni, young professionals, and families, from the U.S., Canada, and the Middle East, in a one-week religious experience like no other. This trip is open to all Muslims, regardless of your affiliation with New York University. Just another part of the amazing community experience the Islamic Center works so hard to build!

We're working with Dar El Salam Travel Agency, a leader in hajj and umrah travel for many years, to ensure that people from all over the United States, Canada and other parts of the world can travel with us safely, securely and with peace of mind. Thanks to Dar El Salam, we have access to the best facilities, efficient connections and an easy on-the-ground experience, so we can concentrate on what matters most: The chance to worship in Mecca and Medina, surrounded by friends, family, and a great and welcoming group. With learned guides, you'll experience Islamic history like never before.

This year's group will be lead by Imam Khalid Latif, Shaykh Dawood Yasin and Imam Omer Bajwa!
(bios below)

Register Today By Clicking Here

This one-week package includes all of the following for one low per-person price:

- Round-trip flight from New York's JFK to Jeddah (flights are available from other US and Canadian cities). Depart New York Thursday, March 14th, 2013, and Return Saturday, March 23rd, 2013.

- One-Way Airfare from Jeddah to Madinah

- Four nights accommodation in Madinah: Classes and organized trips to the Prophet's Mosque.

- Half-day sightseeing trip of the Madinah "Mazarat": A guided tour of Islam's most sacred sites.

- One-way Ground Transportation from Madinah to Mecca

- Four nights accomodation in Mecca. Package will include 'umrah at the Haram, as well as classes and visits to the sites surrounding Mecca.

Quad Room Price: \$2,195.00 per person*

Triple Room Price: \$2,295.00 per person*

Double Room Price: \$2,450.00 per person*

Child Rates

Up to 2 years of Age: \$250 only

2 - 7 years of age without bed: \$1595 no bed

7 - 11 years of age with bed: -\$250 from the adult rate

12 years of age and up: Adult rate

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* These

prices are based on travel from New York's JFK airport, and include all the above services and features. Other departure options are available throughout the USA and Canada but prices may vary. Please contact Syeeda Alston at salston@darelsalam.com for more information.

Should you have any questions or concerns, feel free to contact us at any time at 212.998.4712 or via email at umrah@icnyu.org

Scholarships and Payments Plans

Limited
funding for Scholarships are available on a case-by-case by case

basis and payment plan options are also available. If you require financial aid or a payment plan for The MeccOddyssey, please email Imam Khalid Latif at KL442@nyu.edu with a brief explanation and we will try our best to accommodate inshallah.

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Traveling without a Mahram

Last year, we had received an approval for individuals to travel without a mahram for our Umrah trip. This year, we plan on again being in conversation with the appropriate offices to get the necessary approvals and will need to show them a list of registrants as part of the process. As such, it would be very important for those of you who are interested in attending without a mahram to register so that we can show those offices that there is a high need for the approval. If you would like to travel with us and are without a mahram please register as soon as possible.

- If you are a convert, the Saudi embassy will grant you a visa to travel for umrah without a mahram regardless of your age
- If you are 45 or older and are female, the Saudi embassy will grant you a visa to travel for umrah without a mahram
- If you are 18 or older and are male, the Saudi embassy will grant you a visa to travel for umrah without a mahram

If you do not fit into one of the above categories, you will need to either travel with a mahram or we will need to put in a special request for your visa approval to travel without a mahram.

In the event that the visa approval is denied, you will be refunded any deposits and subsequent payments that were made. Please do your best to register in a timely fashion.

[Register Today By Clicking Here](#)

Imam Khalid Latif is a University Chaplain for New York University, Executive Director of the Islamic Center at NYU, and a Chaplain

for the NYPD.

He was appointed the first Muslim chaplain at NYU in 2005 where he began to initiate his vision for a pluralistic future on and off campus for American Muslims. He was also appointed the first Muslim chaplain at Princeton University in 2006. Spending a year commuting between these two excellent institutions, he finally decided to commit full-time to New York

University's Islamic Center where his position was officially institutionalized in the spring of 2007. Under his leadership, the Islamic Center at NYU became the first ever established Muslim student center at an institution of higher education in the United States. Imam Latif's exceptional dedication and ability to cross interfaith and cultural lines on a daily basis brought him recognition throughout the city, so much so that in 2007 Mayor Michael Bloomberg nominated Imam Latif to become the youngest chaplain in history of the New York City Police Department at the age of 24.

Imam Latif has not only managed to solidify the basis of a strong Muslim community at NYU that seeks to emphasize inclusiveness and understanding of others without compromise, but has also worked tirelessly to foster dialogue with people of other faiths in order to clarify misconceptions and encourage mutual education. Through his work Imam Latif has demonstrated not only an exceptional dedication to gaining and disseminating religious knowledge and values, but has begun to carve out a much-needed space for young American Muslims to celebrate their unique identity and have their voices heard in the larger public sphere. He is a sought after speaker, having lectured throughout the United States and in various parts of the world and has been quoted, featured and appeared in numerous media outlets including the Huffington Post, BBC, NPR, CNN, the NY Times, Katie Couric New York Magazine, The Colbert Report, Newsweek, Time Magazine, BET and GEO TV. Amongst many awards and distinctions for leadership and community service over the last few years, Imam Latif has been named a Global Interfaith Visionary by the United Nations Temple of Understanding (2010), one of 100 NYC Luminaries by the New York Public Library (2011), one of the 500 most influential Muslims in the world by Georgetown University's Prince Alwaleed Bin Talaal Center for Muslim-Christian Understanding and The Royal Islamic Strategic Studies Centre (2009 & 2010), a Millennial Leader for Social Justice by Auburn Seminary (2011), listed to the Christian Science Monitor's "30 Under 30" list (2012), and most recently a Hollister Award recipient for his outstanding work in the Multi-faith World (2012).

Omer Bajwa was appointed Yale's Coordinator of Muslim Life in fall 2008. Born in Pakistan, Omer emigrated to the United States at the age of three and grew up in Upstate New York. He earned his Graduate Certificate in Islamic Chaplaincy from Hartford Seminary, and he has been engaged in religious service, social activism, and educational outreach since 2000.

Before coming to Yale, he served as the Interim Muslim Chaplain at Cornell University (2007-2008). He received his M.A. in Near Eastern Studies, with a specialization in Islamic Studies, from Cornell, where he also served as Outreach Coordinator. He also has an M.S. in Communications from Cornell and a B.A. in English Literature and Rhetoric from Binghamton University.

In addition to his academic training in Islamic studies, he has also studied Islam from a traditional, normative perspective. He spent considerable time throughout his undergraduate and graduate career studying several classical Islamic sciences with traditional ulama from Pakistan, England, and the United States.

His interests include Islam in the United States, interfaith activities, Islam and the global media, and transnational religious and intellectual networks. He regularly lectures about these topics and others at campuses, congregations, and communities across the country.

Shaykh Dawood Yasin is currently the Muslim Life and Service Trips Coordinator at the Tucker Foundation at Dartmouth College. In his role Dawood provides spiritual and religious support, offers educational seminars, and leads congregational prayers for Muslim students at Dartmouth College and residents of the greater Hanover area. Dawood also works to foster understanding and dialogue among diverse campus groups by building and maintaining interfaith relations.

During his residence in South Africa Dawood converted to Islam and then spent five years in Damascus studying Arabic, Islam, and spirituality. Upon completion of his studies he relocated to New Haven CT where he served as as Imam of Masjid Al-Islam. While in New Haven he also worked as a teaching assistant and engaged in research at Yale University. Most recently, Dawood served as Director of Outreach at the Zayed Center for Islamic Culture in the United Arab Emirates, engaging in public speaking within U.A.E. and abroad, emphasizing ethics and tolerance between Muslim and non-Muslim communities.

Dawood lives in Vermont with his wife and children. He is currently completing a masters degree in Globalization at Dartmouth College.

