

# Newsletter

## A Newsletter of the Mobile Islamic Community

**Speak Only When Your Words Are Better Than Silence.**  
**Think before you speak and utter only kind words.**  
**Speak to them a word of easy kindness.**



**Read, Listen, and Study  
Lectures of Imam W.D. Mohammed**

### IMAMS SPEAK

February is a month which begins a year of remembrance and reflection on the African American experiences throughout history. Below are excerpts and quotes from Imam W. D. Mohammed to include in our thoughts as we reflect.  
“The purpose of the Nation of Islam was to give us enough faith in our own original creation to make us have faith in our ability to think for ourselves, to think independently. I can be a factor for that change, because I refuse to give up the practice of thinking for myself.”

“G-d created all of us to travel the earth and the universe with our minds and our intelligence and with our hearts. Innocence in the spirit of humanity brings us to see a concept that has been presented in so many different languages and so many different cultural ideas or concepts”.  
Sources: Muslim Journal; *And Follow The Best Thereof* by IWDM.

### Stories of the Prophets

(Peace and blessings on them all)  
Bismillahir Rahmanir Rahim  
Allah is One. The Prophets that came to humanity with Revelation were one. We understand the unity of purpose of these Messengers. They all were sent by the Creator for humanity to better understand religious knowledge and

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**Read the HOLY QURAN daily.  
An-Nahl-The Bee; Al Anbiya-The Prophets; Al-Waqiah-The Inevitable; Al Iklas-Monotheism**

### FOOD FOR THOUGHT

## Covid-19 Vaccine Tips

**What is a vaccine?**  
Current vaccines contain **safe** amounts of weakened or killed virus (unable to replicate) so your own immune system can make antibodies against a virus.

**What is this new method being used for the COVID-19 vaccine?**  
Pfizer and Moderna are using a new method to make vaccines: using messenger RNA (mRNA), something the body uses everyday, that is specially coded for the COVID-19 virus (spike protein, also known as an antigen). This does **not** change your DNA.

**What happened in the vaccine trials?**  
In both trials, there were ~74,000 participants who did NOT have COVID-19 (ages 56-85). Some were high-risk patients and from diverse ethnicities. They were given 2 injections approximately 1 month apart. Both were 95% effective in preventing COVID-19. The vaccines also lowered the severity of the infection.

### TIPS CONTINUE ON PAGE 2

The National Muslim Task Force on COVID-19 and the National Black Muslim COVID Coalition recognize the need for guidance to help the American Muslim community make informed decisions about the new COVID-19 vaccines. The joint recommendation is based on consultations with public health experts and religious leaders. Due to newsletter space, visit [National Black Muslim Covid Coalition Statement](https://www.imana.org/covid-19/) or <https://www.imana.org/covid-19/> for complete information about **Key Points from the Joint Statement Regarding COVID-19 Vaccines.**

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**Congratulations President Joseph R. Biden and Vice President Kamala D. Harris. May Allah Protect You In Your Service To Our Country.**

### FOR YOUR INFORMATION

The takeover of the U.S. Capitol occurred on January 6, 2021. It is memorable and monumental for the history of America and the world. Even after this unprecedented takeover, some Congress men and women still pledged NOT to certify the Electoral College votes verifying the election of Joseph R. Biden and Kamala D. Harris as the legal and official President and Vice President of the United States of America. Below are those Alabama members of Congress who pledged to vote against certifying the 2020 Presidential election of President Biden and Vice President Harris.

U.S. House of Representatives  
Robert B. Aderholt, Ala.  
Mo Brooks, Ala.  
Jerry Carl, Ala.  
Barry Moore, Ala.  
Gary Palmer, Ala.  
Mike Rogers, Ala.  
U.S. Senate  
Tommy Tuberville, Ala.

### OF NOTE

Over 73,000 of the 100,000-dollar goal was acquired by the end of the IMMC 20<sup>th</sup> year Anniversary Gala. (see previous Newsletter). Thank you to all for your support of the only Museum of its kind.

understanding. "And remember Our slaves (servants), Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, (all) owners of strength (in worshipping Us) and (also) of religious understanding. Verily, We did choose them by granting them (a good thing, i.e., the remembrance of the home in the Hereafter); and they used to make the people remember it, and also they used to invite the people to obey Allah and to do good deeds for the Hereafter. And they are in Our Sight, verily, of the chosen and the best! And remember Ismael, Elisha, and Dhul-Kifl, all are among the best. Holy Quran 38:45-48

Ibn Ishaah said that Elisha (pbuh) was sent to the children of Israel after Elijah (pbuh). He lived among the people, calling them to Allah and abiding by the message and laws of Elijah until he passed away. Then dissension rose among them, and events took momentum. Sins increased everywhere, and the tyrants increased and killed the Prophets. According to Al-Hafiz Abu Al-Qasim Ibn Asaker, Elisa was Ibn Adi, Ibn Shultam, Ibn Aphraem, Ibn Joseph, Ibn Isaac, Ibn Abraham. It was said that he was the cousin of Elijah. Other sources said also that he had been hiding with Elijah in a cave in Mount Qasium to escape from the King of Ba'alabak, and when Elijah died, Elisha succeeded him as a Prophet among his people. Sources: Holy Qur'an; Stories of the Prophets by Imam Ibn Kathir (pages 271-272). Submitted by: Imam Kamal H Saleem



The video below was sent by our Sister Joyce Haseeb. Click and enjoy your journey.

[The Train of Life](#)

Memorials on column 3

The visual summarizes recommendations made by the task force and its signatories: National Task Force on Covid-19, National Black Muslim Covid Coalition, American Muslim Community Foundation (AMCF), American Muslim Health Professionals (AMHP), Association of Muslim Chaplains (AMC), Fiqh Council of North America (FCNA), Initiative on Islam and Medicine, Islamic Medical Association of North America (IMANA), Islamic Relief USA (IRUSA), Islamic Society of North America (ISNA), Khalil Center, Muslim American Society (MAS), Penny Appeal USA, The Mosque Cares, The Nation's Mosque.

**\*Long term safety data and effectiveness will continue for the next 2 years.**

**What are the side effects of the vaccine?**  
Fatigue, fever, headache and redness at the injection site (these usually happened after the second injection). These side effects resolved fairly quickly and are also seen with other vaccines.

**How will the vaccine be given to those who need it?**  
The vaccine will be available in phases. The first phases will likely be for frontline workers, elderly, long-term care facility residents, and those in medically high-risk groups. The final phase will likely be March or April 2021.

**How does a vaccine get approved?**  
It goes through intense medical review, data safety monitoring boards, vaccine project monitoring boards, and the CDC advisory committee. They are an independent group of scientists with no connections to government or drug companies.

**Is the vaccine halal?**  
It is the majority opinion that the Pfizer and Moderna vaccines are Shariah-compliant. The Pfizer and Moderna vaccines have **NO** pork products or dead tissue remains.

**Can I stop wearing a mask and stop social distancing?**  
The vaccine doesn't stop the spread of COVID-19 if someone is already infected. This means you still have to practice prevention measures to stop the spread of the disease: wear a mask, wash your hands and social distance.

This is in collaboration with the Health Professionals Committee of the National Muslim Task Force on COVID-19

**To receive newsletter guidelines, or for questions or comments send email to [newsletter1559@gmail.com](mailto:newsletter1559@gmail.com)**

## AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY

### Gordon Parks: Segregation Story in Mobile. 1956.

From January 16- September 5, 2021, the Mobile Museum of Art (MMA) 4850 Museum Drive, Mobile, AL 36608, phone number 251-208-5200, "brings the iconic photographs by Gordon Parks during the Jim Crow era back to the city where they were captured. Public programs to be announced, pending guidance from public health authorities".

Gordon Parks, Department Store, Mobile, Alabama, 1956, Archival pigment print.



Eddie Ahmed Shahid passed this life January 2021. He was a pioneer in the Mobile Islamic community. He was a goodwill ambassador to everyone he met. Memorial donations can be made to the Qasim A. Shahid Endowed Memorial Scholarship for Computer Science at <https://give.ua.edu>

The Janazah for Sister Nelro Muhammad was held at Masjid Hamza, Houston, Texas. She was a Pioneer member of Temple #58, Mobile, AL, later Mobile Masjid of Al-Islam, and resided in Ocean Springs, MS for many years.

Heartfelt condolences to the family of Henry and Joyce Haseeb on the passing of Bro. Henry's brothers: Serlett McKinley on January 25<sup>th</sup>; Roy McKinley in December 2020; and Brady McKinley in November 2020. Extending prayers of comfort to all the families.