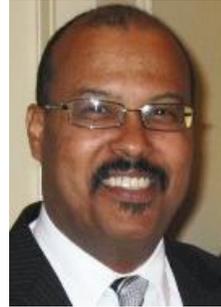


## Diverse Muslim Leaders Present at September 24<sup>th</sup> Congressional Meeting

### **Abdur-Rahman Muhammad** *Author and Former Imam*

**Email Address:** arm.legacy@gmail.com  
**Telephone:** (202) 276 - 1333  
**Website:** <http://singularvoice.wordpress.com/>



A Muslim convert of nearly 25 years, Abdur-Rahman Muhammad is an accomplished author and former Imam. He admits that he was once radical, but 9/11 changed him.

“When those towers went down it was a wake-up call; I couldn’t find anyone to condemn the actions and instead found in my circle of friends, individuals who were actually justifying the actions...I saw my friends living double lives and they were torn between this radical interpretation of Islam and the modern world...”

Unlike some of his friends who became atheists, Abdur-Rahman remained a Muslim; though no longer an Imam. He now works to counter the radical ideology espoused by the likes of Al-Qaeda and the Muslim Brotherhood. He started a blog called “Singular Voice” to help deconstruct some of the radical notions pervasive among Muslims; especially youth who are susceptible to radicalization.

He also writes articles for newspapers, magazines, and for the Association for the Study of African American History. His recent article, “Whether or not Ground Zero mosque is built, U.S. Muslims have access to the American Dream,” ran in the *New York Daily News* on September 5th, 2010.

### **Dr. Hedieh Mirhamadi**

*President, World Organization for Resource  
Development and Education (WORDE)*

**Mailing Address:**  
WORDE  
1875 I Street NW Suite 500  
Washington, DC 20006



**Telephone:** (202) 595-1355  
**Fax:** (202) 318-3047  
**Website:** [www.worde.org](http://www.worde.org)

An attorney by profession, Dr. Mirahnadi serves as legal counsel and consultant for several multinational non-governmental organizations, which cultivate an international network of support and

expertise to combat the spread of Islamic extremism and the means by which they advance their goals. She travels extensively on behalf of those organizations [e.g. Indonesia, Malaysia, Lebanon, Africa, Egypt, and UK] in order to learn about the methodology, ideology, infrastructure, and recruiting techniques of Islamist extremist movements.

As Executive Director and founder of the WORDE, she has combined her political, social and intellectual resources in the US and Muslim world to create the policy and networks that will transform stifled and oppressed Muslim societies into progressive, self-sustaining, institutions that are the cornerstone of a grass roots democracy. She is the author of several articles including *A Lebanon Freedom Foundation* (NY Sun), *The Sunni Disposition and Jihadi Tomb Raiders* (National Review Online), as well as books such as *Islam and Civil Society* and *The Healing Power of Sufi Meditation* (Ingram Publications). Her expertise earned her an appointment to the US Embassy in Afghanistan as Senior Advisor for civil society infrastructure. Recently, she was also appointed to the “Heritage Council” of the Office of the Director of National Intelligence.

**WORDE:** WORDE's mission is to help close the critical gap of communication and understanding between Muslim and non Muslim communities, the gap which leads to conflict, political instability, and social tension. WORDE bridges that gap by bringing together a wide variety of experts from diverse cultures that develop effective, long-term solutions for resource development, educational reform, and international security.

---

**DR. M. Zuhdi Jasser**  
*Founder and President*  
*American Islamic Forum for Democracy (AIFD)*

**Mailing Address:**

**Telephone:** (602)-254-1840

American Islamic Forum for Democracy

P.O. Box 1832

Phoenix, Arizona 85001



**Fax:** (602)-254-1226

**Website:** [www.aifdemocracy.org](http://www.aifdemocracy.org)

Dr. Jasser is a native of Wisconsin and the son of Muslim-Syrian immigrants who left the despotic oppression of Baathist Syria. Dr. Jasser received his B.Sc. from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee in 1988, graduated from the Medical College of Wisconsin in 1992, and completed his specialty training in internal medicine at Bethesda Naval Hospital in 1996. His tours of duty included Medical Department Head aboard the U.S.S. El Paso, Chief Resident at Bethesda Naval Hospital, and Staff Internist for the Office of the Attending Physician to Congress in Washington, D.C (1997-99). He received an Honorable Discharge from the United States Navy as a Lieutenant Commander and was honored with his highest military award, the Meritorious Service Medal.

Dr. Jasser is currently in private practice in the field of internal medicine and nuclear cardiology in Phoenix, Arizona. He is a recent President of the Arizona Medical Association and chairs the Bioethics Committee for a large medical center.

As a devout practicing Muslim, he is proactive in his study of Islam and its intersections with American culture. He remains active in interfaith work and is one of the nation's leading and most outspoken anti-Islamist Muslims. He is a regular columnist and contributing editor for major print mediums (e.g. *Family Security Matters*, *National Review*, *Arizona Republic*, etc.), appears frequently on major media outlets (e.g. *Fox News Channel*, and *CNN*.), and a frequent national radio commentator on Islam, Islamism, moderate Muslims, and counterterrorism.

**American Islamic Forum for Democracy (AIFD):** Founded in 2003 by Muslim professionals, AIFD's mission is to *advocate for the preservation of the founding principles of the United States Constitution, liberty and freedom, through the separation of mosque and state.* AIFD is a leading American Muslim nonprofit 501(c)(3) charitable organization fueling the liberty movement within the Muslim consciousness and community. Its work is accomplished through:

- Creation and dissemination of scholarly work such as white papers and editorial pieces that demonstrate that Islamism (a political and militant movement) is the root for terrorism and that in truth the Muslim faith embraces the principles embodied in the Constitution of the United States of America.
- Engagement of media and participation in public speaking and documentary making opportunities that affords us venues to openly debate Islamists
- Participation with noted think tanks and forums to further develop our concepts.
- Serving as advisor on Islamic affairs nationally and internationally so that leaders can develop positions and/or policies unaffected by the advocates for Islamism.

---

**Manda Zand Ervin**  
*Founder and Director*  
*The Alliance of Iranian Women*



**Mailing Address:**  
**Telephone:** (410)-531-6198  
Alliance of Iranian Women  
3538 Garrett Ct.  
Ellicott City, MD 21024

**Fax:** (410)-531-2567  
**Email:** mzervin@comcast.net

During the Iranian revolution Manda witnessed the execution of many innocent people including her high school principal because she was a woman and the secretary of education, at that time. She witnessed the human rights of the people, especially the women of Iran taken away from them, and her homeland turning the clock, going backward to the 6<sup>th</sup> century Arabia.

She came to United States as a political refugee on June 17<sup>th</sup>, 1980, became a citizen three years later and began her fight for the human rights In Iran.

As a Human Rights activist, Manda has been working to bring attention to the plight of the Iranian women, under the Islamic Sharia laws, to the western governments. She was able, to get the support of the Senators, to pass a resolution on the Human rights of the women of Iran through the Senate of the United States, in 2003. Manda has been consulted by some members of the congress on a few resolutions and legislations on human rights and Iran policy. She has testified to the Congressional briefings, Helsinki Commission and spoken at the United Nations.

Manda is a political analyst and a writer. She has written for many online magazines, like Front page Mag, wowowow, pajamas media, Hudson Institute, Family security matters and NRO etc.. She has been speaking on the TV and radio programs, nationally and internationally, like CNN, BBC, Radio France, VOA, Radio America and Cable television from California in to Iran. She also speaks at the Universities and conferences on the History of the U.S. / Iran relations, Europe/ Middle East history, human rights, and Islamic Shria laws.

In February of 2008 Manda was appointed, by the President of the United States, as the United States' Delegate to the United Nations' Commission on the Status of Women.

**Alliance of Iranian Women:** The Iranian American community is about 2 million and we are primarily secular. Members have all fled from the Islamic regime and do not attend any Mosque have never build one here in America. Inside Iran there are constant anti regime movements by women, youth and labor.

The people of Iran like America, the proof is the spontaneous candle light vigil that they held after 9/11 in the town square in solidarity with America and paid the price of getting beaten up by paramilitary forces.

If Iran becomes democratic United States will have a strong and grateful friend in the region.

In the interest of our adopted country and the home that we left behind and our own interest, Iranian American community wants to see the democratic movements inside Iran to be supported by our government for all our sakes.

---

## **Shadi Afshar**

***Board Member***

***Islamic Supreme Council of America***



**Mailing Address:**

ISCA – Main Office  
17195 Silver Parkway #401  
Fenton MI 48430

**Telephone:** (202) 747-1019

**Fax:** (202) 318-3047

**Web:** <http://www.islamicsupremecouncil.org>

Shadi Afshar is a Board Member of, and is representing, the Islamic Supreme Council of America (ISCA). ISCA is a non-profit, non-governmental religious organization dedicated to working for the cause of Islam on two levels.

On the first level, ISCA integrates traditional scholarship with a practical resolution of contemporary issues in order to help the practitioner maintain Islamic beliefs in a modern, secular society. On the second level, ISCA works closely and proactively with non-Muslim individuals and organizations to present Islam as a religion of moderation, acceptance, and social harmony.

ISCA stresses the common heritage of Islam, Christianity and Judaism in an effort to foster mutual respect between all cultures and religions. Through knowledge and education, ISCA believes we can reshape the Western view of Islam and Muslims together - to not only benefit American Muslims, but also to encourage positive U.S. policy towards countries with large Muslim populations.

- ISCA supports peace wherever it exists.
- ISCA supports the precept of “justice for all,” condemning all violations of human rights.
- ISCA openly and actively denounces all types of terrorism, whether intellectual, cultural or ideological.
- ISCA supports the non-proliferation of nuclear, biological and chemical weapons.
- ISCA commits to strengthening the values of charity, family love, education and public responsibility in American life.

Not affiliated with any government, political party or political agenda, ISCA stresses civil duty, active participation in societal endeavors, and taking responsibility for shaping the impression and practice of Islam throughout the world.

###