

**Khalil Abdur-Rashid**  
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**Background**

US born Citizen; African American

**Education:**

- Current: Doctor of Liberal Studies Program – Southern Methodist University, Dallas, Texas
- 06/2015 MPhil in Islam & Middle Eastern Studies - Columbia University, New York
- 06/2012 Certificate in Bioethics – Kennedy Institute of Bioethics, Georgetown University, Washington, D.C.
- 10/2012 MA in Middle East Studies & Islamic Law – Columbia University, New York
- 03/2010 Islamic Advanced Doctorate (*ijaaza ilmiyyah*) in Islamic Legal Sciences & Ethics – ISAR Seminary – Istanbul, Turkey
- 08/2002 Islamic Specialized License (*Ijaaza*) in Islamic Family Law – Dar al-Mustafa Seminary, Tarim, Yemen
- 05/2002 Bachelor of Social Work - Georgia State University, Atlanta, GA
- Dean List

**Work Experience:**

- 08/2018 - Current. **Adjunct Professor, Instructor on Muslim Studies, Harvard Divinity School, Harvard University**
- 07/2017 - Current **Muslim Chaplain**, Harvard University
- 06/2016 - 06/2017 **President & Co-Founder** - Islamic Seminary of America - Dallas, TX
- 08/2015 - 06/2017 **Adjunct Professor of Islamic Studies** - Southern Methodist University, Dallas, Texas
- 09/2013 – 06/2016 **Resident Scholar** - Islamic Association of Collin County Plano, Texas

- 09/2011 – 08/2013 **Muslim Programming Associate** (Imam) - Columbia University & Barnard College, Office of the University Chaplain, NYC
- 09/2011 – 08/2013 **Adjunct Professor of Islamic Law**, NYU Wagner School of Public Policy
- 04/2010 – 03/2013 **Imam & Resident Scholar**, Iqra Mosque, Brooklyn, NY
- 09/2004 – 08/2006 **Arabic Language Instructor**, Georgia State University; Atlanta, GA.  
**Social Worker / Medical Research Assistant**, Emory University School of Medicine; Atlanta, GA
- 2002 – 2004 **Social Worker and State Investigator**, Georgia State Child Protective Services; Jonesboro, GA

### **Publications**

1. Book Review: A Socially Responsible Islamic Finance;  
<https://www.themaydan.com/2018/07/book-review-socially-responsible-islamic-finance-character-common-good-umar-moghul-reviewed-khalil-abdur-rashid/>; July 2018.
2. *Islam and the Secular Age: Between Certainty and Uncertainty*;  
[www.yaqeeninstitute.org](http://www.yaqeeninstitute.org); February 20, 2017.
3. *What's the Matter with All Lives Matter?*; [www.muslimmatters.org](http://www.muslimmatters.org); July 14, 2016.
4. *The Soul of Islam*, Shifa Publications, Atlanta, GA. 2015.
5. *Lifting the Veil: A Typological Survey of the Methodological Features of Islamic Ethical Reasoning on Biomedical Issues*; Journal: Theoretical Medicine and Bioethics DOI: 10.1007/s11017-013-9251-7 – May 2013.
6. *Laws of the Heart*, Shifa Publications, Atlanta, GA. 2009. (republished 2015)
7. *From Fiqh to Social Sciences: The Loss of Islamic Identity*, in, Cüneyd Köksal (ed.) Entelektüal Bağlımlılık Aşmak, Istanbul, (2009) pp.131 - 146.
8. *A Solution to Child Welfare Problems: Analyzing Ustrushinis' Ahkam al-Sighar*, Marmara University Journal of the Faculty of Divinity, Istanbul, 34 (2008) pp. 93 - 120.

### **Foreign Language Competencies**

1. Modern and Classical Arabic – Advanced reading/speaking/writing proficiency
2. Modern Turkish – Advanced reading/speaking/writing proficiency
3. Ottoman Turkish – Intermediate reading proficiency
4. Persian – Intermediate reading proficiency
5. French – Intermediate reading proficiency

### **Lectures & Speaking Engagements**

1. February 2017 - “The Art of Islamic Spain” - Meadows Museum, Southern Methodist University
2. 2016 & 2016 - Dallas Mayor’s Iftar Keynote Address
3. 2015 - City of Plano Interfaith Prayer
4. July 2015 - Spokesperson and Representative for Collin County Muslims in Farmersville (see: [www.en.m.wikipedia.org](http://www.en.m.wikipedia.org) - Farmersville Islamic Cemetery entry).
5. 2015 & 2014 - Islamic Bioethics Seminar: End-of-Life Care (Dallas & Los Angeles)
6. March 2013 – “Pearls of the Quran” – Al-Madina Institute, DC
7. March 2013 – “Spirituality and Women in Islam” – United Nations, NYC
8. February 2013 – “Opening Invocation” – NYC Mayor’s Interfaith Prayer Breakfast
9. May 2012 – “Workshop on Sharia” – Plano Mosque, Dallas, TX.
10. February 2011 – “Universalizing the Particular: A New Paradigm for Muslim Community Leadership” lecture at Harvard University
11. February 2011 – “Lecturer at the Ivy League Muslim Chaplains Program” – Yale University
12. May 2011 – “Lecturer at the Ivy League Muslim Chaplains Program” – Princeton University

### **Community Leadership & Volunteer Service**

1. Serve on the board of Religious, Spiritual, and Ethical Life at Harvard University
2. Serve as advisor to the board of directors of Islamic Seminary of America
3. Served as advisor to Plano ISD School Board
4. Conducted weekly commentary of the Quran on Wednesdays livestreamed ([www.livesstream.com/MinhajDallastv](http://www.livesstream.com/MinhajDallastv)) and on podcast.
5. I have led 7 group trips overseas to Mecca and Medina for Umrah
6. Served on the Muslim Advisory Council to the Police Commissioner of the New York City Police Department
7. Served as the special advisor to the Chief of Community Affairs for the New York City Police Department
8. Served as the volunteer Muslim Religious Life Advisor (Muslim Chaplain) for Columbia University from 2011 – 2012.
9. Served as the volunteer Muslim Religious Life Advisor for Barnard College from 2011 until current.
10. Established the Iqra Reading Room in 2011 – the first Islamic public library in New York City.
11. Served as a Islamic law consultant for the American Society for Muslim Advancement (ASMA)

12. Developed an MA in Islamic law and divinity curriculum for Union Theological Seminary (currently not yet used)
13. Designed and drafted the curriculum for “Certificate in Muslim Leadership” at the Islamic Center at New York University

### **Interfaith Activities**

- 1.) Currently I serve on the board of Religious, Spiritual and Ethical Life at Harvard University
- 2.) I participated in monthly interfaith lectures representing the Muslim community at the Faiths in Conversation Program which hosts an Imam, Rabbi, and Pastor conducting interfaith dialogue sessions for several topics. I have participated in this for two years in Dallas.
- 3.) Delivered the Opening Invocation at NYC Mayors breakfast
- 4.) Served as an instructor for Muslim-Jewish retreat with Reconstructionist Rabbinical Seminary
- 5.) Lectured at the Plymouth Church in Brooklyn on Muslim-Christian Dialogue: “Paths to God”
- 6.) Muslim-Buddhist Dialogue Luncheon in NYC
- 7.) Invited as guest speaker at the United Nations Conference on Spirituality and Women of Faith
- 8.) Hosted Weekly Common Meals at Columbia University on Islam
- 9.) Lectured at the “People of the Book Series” at Columbia University on the words of Rumi
- 10.) Participated in the Dialogue Project: Interfaith Discussion seminars on Islam and Stereotypes

### **Courses Taught**

- 1.) Spiritual Cultivation in Islam (Harvard University)
- 2.) Logic, The Quran and Islam (The Islamic Seminary)
- 3.) Philosophy and Structure of Arabic Language (The Islamic Seminary)
- 4.) Islamic Theology and Creed (The Islamic Seminary)
- 5.) The Islamic Civilization (Southern Methodist University)
- 6.) Islam and Human Rights (Southern Methodist University)
- 7.) Islamic Law: Pre-Modernity to Modernity (Southern Methodist University)
- 8.) Philosophical and Legal Approaches to Islam (Wagner School at NYU)
- 9.) Contemporary Islamic Law (Wagner School at NYU)
- 10.) Islam in America (Columbia University)

- 11.) Introduction to the Islamic Civilization (Columbia University)
- 12.) Modernity and Islamic Law (Iqra Reading Room)
- 13.) Mothers of the Believers (Iqra Reading Room)
- 14.) The Soul of Islam (Islamic Center at NYU)
- 15.) Spiritual Laws of the Heart (Islamic Center at NYU)
- 16.) Islamic Funeral Services Workshop (Islamic Center at NYU)

### **Islamic Education and Experience in Muslim Contexts and Institutions**

- I have 20 years' experience studying Islamic law and its ancillary disciplines, both in the US and overseas and possess several advanced certifications as well as two full doctorates in Islamic scholarly & clergy training (*ijaza*).
- I completed a three and a half year program in Islamic Law and family law in Tarim, Yemen and received a specialized license (*ijaza*) to teach this subject.
- I completed a four-year advanced *ijaza* program in Turkey, and received two *ijaza ilmiyyah* of this caliber from two different masters (the highest legal certification in the Islamic tradition) and one *ijaza amaliyyah* (the highest spiritual certification in the Islamic tradition).
- I have completed a master's degree program in comparative Islamic law at Marmara University in Istanbul, Turkey.
- I have studied Islamic Law, Arabic, and its subjects for well over 20 years with various teachers in the United States and abroad.
- I received *ijaza* in the Quranic recitation style of Hafsa 'Asim.
- I have taught and trained numerous students in the *fiqh* of Janaza and have conducted Islamic Funeral Service (Janaza) workshops.

- I have served as Imam and scholar-in-residence of Iqra Mosque and Reading room in Brooklyn, New York.
- I have translated numerous books into English and taught from them.
- I am a trained social worker and counselor and have conducted trainings for Muslim social work professionals on Islamic social work.

❖ References available upon request.