



Community Newsletter

April 2025 - June 2025

Islamic Society of Baltimore

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Islamic Society of Baltimore
isb.org

“None of you will enter Paradise until you have faith (īmān), and none of you will have faith (īmān) until you love one another.

Shall I not tell you of something which, if you do it, you will love one another?

Spread the salām among yourselves.”

PROPHET MUHAMMAD ﷺ

SOURCE: SAHIH MUSLIM



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ISB's first 5K Run & Walk raised funds to help build new athletic fields!

JUNE 2025

A Muslim community following the Sunnah of staying active, together.

This was a beautiful day where the community came together for this first annual race, and brothers, sisters, children, and even babies in

strollers participated. T-shirts and prizes ensured that we will remember this day for years to come!

From our runners and walkers to our volunteers to our leaders including Imam Ismet Akcin, this was a true show of unity where every step mattered - and inshaAllah, was done with the intention of being ibadah (worship) for the sake of Allah (SWT).

By the will of Allah (SWT), your contribution allows us to build ISB's athletic fields — a space for our youth and community to grow strong in both body and faith. Thanks to the volunteers from ISB's MAP (Muslim Athletic Program) for organizing it.

May Allah (SWT) allow us all to come together like this, again and again.



ISB honors Volunteers & Staff

APRIL 2025

Have you made dua for the masjid volunteers and staff recently? MashaAllah, this past Ramadan, our volunteer and staff team went above and beyond to contribute to helping things run smoothly.

From longtime staff members to rising stars who began volunteering this year and rose to the occasion, the team behind the scenes truly keeps the masjid feeling like home for everyone.

With a new system in place to make it easier to volunteer at the masjid, this year's team welcomed new faces to the crew and we could not have done it without them.

That's why we held a volunteer and staff appreciation day, where our team came together and ISB leadership gave them gifts, food, and genuine thank-yous.

May Allah (SWT) reward them for their hard work, their positive intentions, and their contributions inshaAllah.



Community gathers for Du'a and Iftar on the Day of Arafah

JUNE 2025

The feeling of the community coming together on the Day of Arafah embodies what makes a masjid into a home, mashaAllah.

Thank you to everyone who came out for a beautiful iftar and night of ibadah (worship), showing that we as Muslims can come together for the Day of Arafah with just as much unity as we can for Eid!



From a beautiful dua for our Ummah and for those who are facing oppression around the world, to friendly faces and a shared meal- our friends, families, and neighbors came together on the last of the blessed days before Eid al-Adha.

Every event, every Jummah, every prayer in congregation: This is our home, because you make it feel like home, by the will of Allah (SWT).

And that's one way we continue to strive to have a truly Prophetic Community, inshaAllah.



One unified Eid prayer at Security Square Mall

JUNE 2025

Our masjid transformed a mall parking lot for Eid al-Adha salah outside together in one huge congregation- and truly felt the barakah!

SubhanAllah, our community has grown so much that in order to accommodate everyone, we teamed up with Gwynn Oak Masjid Al-Ihsan and hosted one huge Eid prayer at Security Square Mall, followed by a community Eid celebration. We also held a smaller Eid salah at 6am at the masjid with priority for our elders.

With thousands of attendees, this was not only an opportunity to follow the Sunnah of praying Eid outside, but it was also a fantastic Dawah opportunity.

With free activities for guests including games, a climbing wall, a mechanical bull, and more, plus vendors on-site, it was also a beautiful way to celebrate Eid.

From our guests to our wonderful volunteers and staff, thank you to everyone who made this new experience something special.

Because no matter where Eid is hosted - by the will of Allah (SWT), it is you that turns this community into a home.



Our Cemetery Restoration Project has begun!

APRIL 2025

Behind our masjid, adjacent from our playground area, is a small cemetery that many community members may be aware of.

This cemetery marks the graves of some of our early ISB community members- and with the growth of our masjid as well as the discontinuation of burial opportunities being available on the ISB campus, it was in need of restoration and beautification.



Now, with the dignity of the gravesite in mind, we are renovating what will be known as Al-Rahmah Cemetery with the intention of giving this space the respect it deserves, inshaAllah.

We have added several fences around the area, and - thanks to the help of the Interfaith Partners for the Chesapeake and the Alliance for the Bay - have planted trees around the cemetery to increase beauty and privacy.

InshaAllah in the coming months, we will add a sign, a gate, and more additions, as well as implementing weeding, cleaning, and care for the gravesite.

May Allah (SWT) bless and forgive those community members who are buried on our campus. To Allah (SWT) we belong and to Allah (SWT) we return.

Thank you to everyone who has contributed to making this restoration possible.



We recognized 25 Years of our Hifdh program and its graduates

JUNE 2025

Every year, we look forward to the Al-Rahmah Quran Academy Hifdh Graduation Ceremony. A long-running tradition, young people who achieve the blessed accomplishment of memorizing the entirety of the Quran come together with the community to be honored for this achievement.

This year marked 25 years of our Hifdh Program, alhamdulillah.



May Allah (SWT) reward our recent and longtime graduates as well as their teachers and supportive family members, and may Allah (SWT) keep them steadfast on His deen.



Young adult Muslims gather at Revive's bonfire night

JUNE 2025

Another bonfire night for Muslim adults ages 18-30 hosted by our Revive program

With an engaging Islamic talk, food, sweets, and coffee on-site, the opportunity to play



some fun outdoor games - and delicious s'mores - it was halal summer fun and a display of brotherhood and sisterhood.

Revive offers a go-to space for young adult Muslims to focus on their deen and connect to the community. Outside of events like our bonfire, Revive's regular halaqas (talks) offer the chance to learn from resident scholars and guests speakers. Afterwards, it's a place to make new friends and to socialize with peers, with vendors on-site, every Thursday.



ISB hosts Islamic Funeral rites and Burial preparation workshop

JUNE 2025

In June, ISB hosted a workshop led by Shaykh Yaseen Shaikh and Sister Nasreen, who has been part of a team of experienced volunteers who assist with burials and upholding Islamic funeral rites within the ISB community.

Attendees learned how to perform ghusl (ritual washing), prepare the body, and follow Islamic burial procedures with diligence and care. This important knowledge, often overlooked, is a communal obligation and an act of worship.

Shaykh Yaseen emphasized the spiritual significance of this service and its reward. We thank Shaykh Yaseen, Sister Nasreen, and the team for empowering our community with this very necessary understanding of burial preparation.

May Allah (SWT) bless their efforts and guide us all in honoring our loved ones for His sake.



ISB welcomes Miftaah scholars for night of Seerah

MAY 2025

Alhamdulillah, ISB had the honor of hosting Miftaah Institute's In the Footsteps of the Beloved — an inspiring evening centered on the life, character, and teachings of Prophet Muhammad (SAW).

With powerful reflections from Shaykh Abdullah Waheed, Ustadh Ubaydullah Evans, Shaykh Waleed Basyouni, Mufti Hussain Kamani, and Shaykh Tariq Musleh, the event reminded us that following the Prophet (SAW) means embodying compassion, humility, and service in our everyday lives.

We thank Miftaah Institute and our incredible speakers for this unforgettable night. May Allah (SWT) help us walk in the footsteps of the Beloved (SAW) with sincerity and love.



Al-Rahmah School graduates from all grades recognized

JUNE 2025

Graduation season at ISB is more than a milestone—it's a celebration of identity, growth, and connection to the deen.

Every year, we commemorate students across our Al-Rahmah School and Nursery programs as well as Sunday School, each marking a special chapter in their unique journeys.



Our Nursery students took their first steps in learning and loving the deen, bonding with teachers, and discovering the world around them. Their graduation marked the beginning of a lifelong journey of growth, mashaAllah.

Sunday School students completed another year of learning Qur'an, seerah, and Islamic values, growing spiritually and building friendships rooted in imaan.

For our Middle School graduates, this milestone reflects years of building confidence as young Muslims—through salah at the masjid, acts of service, and meaningful memories that will stay with them as they enter high school and beyond.

May Allah (SWT) continue to guide all of our students on their paths of knowledge and imaan. Ameen!



Renowned scholar from Qalam Institute visits ISB

MAY 2025

Did you know Qalam came to ISB?! Our Signs of the Day of Judgement 2-day intensive with Mufti Muntasir Zaman as well as our ISB Resident Scholars was a beautiful success alhamdulillah.

Coming together as a masjid community to study our deen in the company of Scholarship is a part of what keeps our Ummah strong.



From longtime masjid-goers to new attendees to guests from other states, this event was more than an intensive- it was a renewal.

May Allah (SWT) allow us to continue to gather for His sake like this, and truly embody the values of a Prophetic Community.

Thank you to Mufti Muntasir and Qalam Institute for coming to our masjid!



ISB's Flag Football team wins Championship at Islamic Games in NJ

JUNE 2025

The Muslim Athletic Program (MAP) proudly represented the Islamic Society of Baltimore at the Islamic Games in New Jersey, one of the largest Muslim sports tournaments in the country, bringing together athletes from across the region.

We're excited to share that our MAP Flag Football Team won the championship two years in a row, making them back-to-back champions! Their hard work, teamwork, and dedication on and off the field truly reflect the spirit of our program.

These tournaments are about more than just competition — they're a celebration of brotherhood, sportsmanship, and community.

We're proud of our youth for representing ISB and MAP with excellence.



Golden Age Seniors Visit the Air & Space Museum

APRIL 2025

Our ISB Golden Age seniors enjoyed a field trip to the National Air & Space Museum in Washington, DC. MashaAllah, it was a wonderful chance for friends old and new to explore historic aircraft and spacecraft exhibits, from the Wright Flyer to lunar modules.

We're grateful for trips like these that remind us of the beauty of learning together—inside and outside the masjid walls.



Two “Champions of Dementia” Certifications

APRIL 2025

Congratulations to two of our Golden Age members who were honored as “Champions of Dementia” by Baltimore County!

These dedicated volunteers have been leading our Memory Café—held every 2nd Wednesday—to cultivate a dementia-friendly space for Muslim seniors and their caregivers.

Dr. Emily Kearns of the Baltimore County Department of Aging presented the certificates in recognition of their compassionate service and leadership. May Allah ﷻ reward their efforts in bringing comfort, connection, and care to those navigating memory challenges within our community.



The Impact of our Golden Age Village

JUNE 2025

Our senior community at ISB thrives through regular gatherings—Sisters’ Halaqa & Brunch every Tuesday, Qur’an Class every Thursday, Memory Café on the first Wednesday of the month, Tai Chi, and our Monthly Seniors’ Dinner on the third Sunday—where friends come together for enriching discussion, heartfelt du’a, worship, and warm fellowship.

This quarter alone, Alhamdulillah, we:

- Served 1,418 fresh, nutritious meals during these events
- Made 196 home-visit and “Visiting the Sick” calls, offering du’a and companionship
- Provided one-on-one Medicare guidance to 10 seniors at our Medicare Simplified sessions

By combining deen, spiritual nourishment with practical care, we strengthen health, dignity, and belonging—embodying the Prophetic model of compassion for our beloved senior community.



Welcoming Our New Al-Rahmah School Principal: Sister Maryam Sullivan

JUNE 2025

We are excited to welcome Sister Maryam Sullivan as the new Principal of Al-Rahmah School.

With nearly 18 years of experience in education, Sister Maryam brings a wealth of knowledge and leadership. She holds a B.A. in Liberal Studies & Communication (with Honors), an M.A. in Writing & Literature, an M.Ed., and a Graduate Certificate in Educational & Nonprofit Leadership.

Originally from Massachusetts, Sister Maryam moved to Maryland three years ago and is passionate about serving the Muslim community through education. As someone who didn't have access to Islamic schooling growing up, she is deeply committed to helping students grow in both their academics and their deen.

We look forward to the positive impact Sister Maryam will have in shaping the next generation of confident, deen-driven Muslim youth.

Be sure to stop by, meet Sister Maryam, and see how you can support our school community, inshaAllah!



New ISB Council introduced at General Body Meeting

APRIL 2025

What has the ISB Council been working on recently? And who are the new faces joining our leadership team?

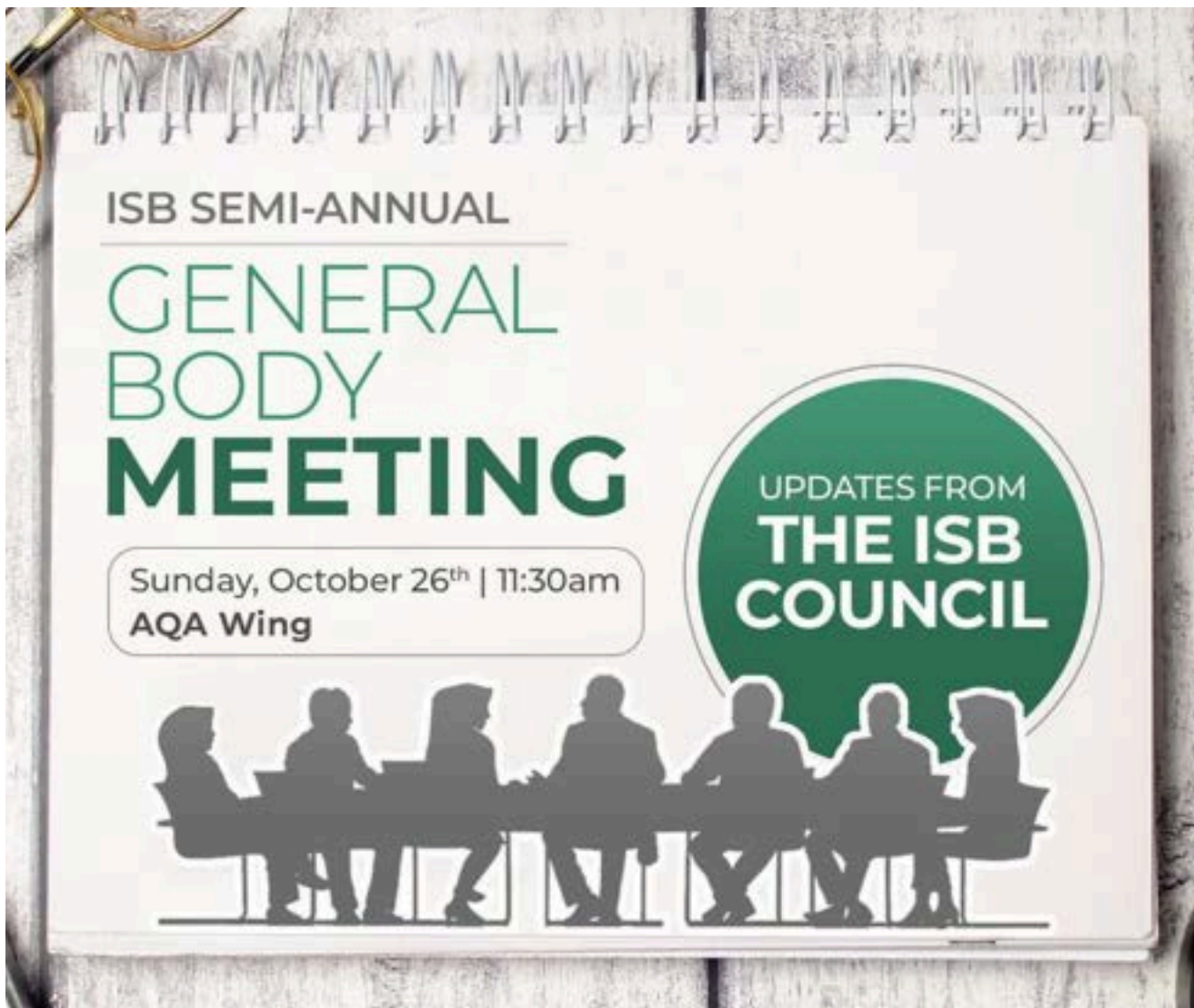
Alhamdulillah, our recent General Body Meeting was a great success, as we introduced the newly elected Council members to the community.

It was an opportunity for everyone to meet the team that will be guiding ISB forward.

During the meeting, we reviewed some of ISB's recent accomplishments and discussed ongoing efforts to serve the community. The Council also answered questions from attendees, fostering open communication and transparency.

By the grace of Allah (SWT), it's your ongoing support that allows ISB to thrive.

We thank each of you for being a part of this journey and look forward to working together with our new council to continue serving our community.



Save the Date! General Body Meeting

Don't forget to mark your calendars for our semi-annual General Body Meeting, scheduled for **October 26th, 2025 at 11:30am**.

Learn updates, and give your feedback! Your participation and input are essential when it comes to building our community's future, inshaAllah.

Testimonials

"I can't believe this, good job encouraging brothers to be healthy and strong"

- Sadaf Hashimi, on Sh Ismet's fitness initiatives

"Best day EVER. My daughters loved this day! Great memories."

- Lubna Nabulsi, Mother of ARS Student on Field Day

"Our Imam is really a cool dude Ma sha Allah. We are blessed to have him in our community. May Allah bless him with good health and Grant protection to his beautiful voice for recitation."

-Ashraf Siddiquee

"Masha'Allah, what a beautiful Ummah."

-Gigi Cantu, on Day of Arafah Iftar

"It is a nice place where Muslims from different parts of the world gather to bow to almighty ALLAH swt. Five times a day. It is a pride to have such a nice institution in Baltimore, MD. Me and my wife [are] enjoying being their neighbors."

-Mahmood Abbasi

Meet the ISB Council

2025-2028 Term



Hasan Hammad



Faizan Mahmoodi



Mikail Ocasio



Eram Abbasi



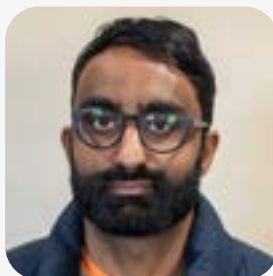
Wajiha Farooqi



Umar Maharoor



Umar Saleem



Jamal Ali



Adam Butt

**“We are always ready to serve you,
our community.”**



Jazakumullahu Khairan for your continuous support. It's donors like you that help make this possible! May Allah reward you and continue to bless you and your family.