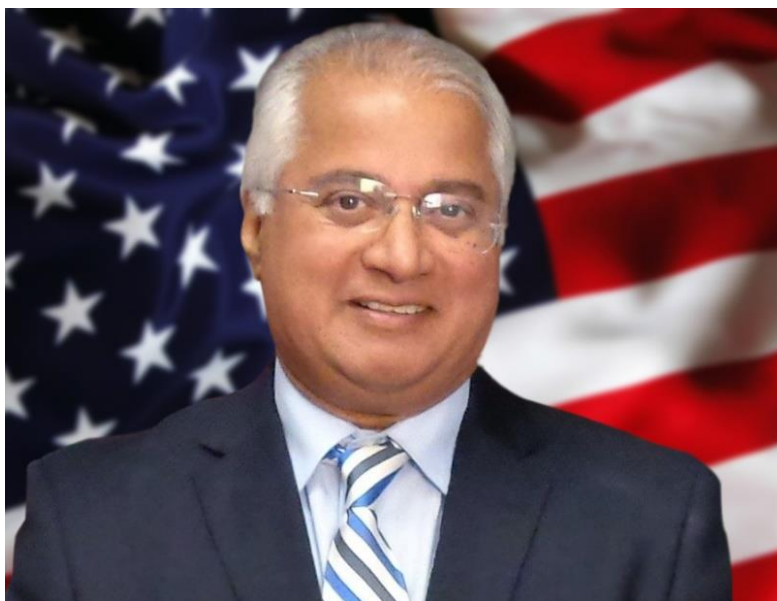


Mike Ghouse, A Profile

SPEAKER | AUTHOR | PLURALIST | NEWSMAKER



PLURALISM | RELIGIOUS FREEDOM | HUMAN RIGHTS
Workshops on building cohesive societies and work place

Mike is committed to building cohesive societies and workplaces, and offers pluralistic solutions to the media, civic, religious and political institutions on issues of the day. Whatever he does, he does it wholeheartedly and puts his heart, mind, and soul into it.

Mike delivers on every project he undertakes. He takes the time to envision the outcomes and puts an effective plan together to achieve the desired results. He picks up the ball and runs with it. Nothing he has done has been done before, indeed, he is a trail blazer.

Mike has reached a pinnacle in public, media, customer, government and community relations in projecting the policies and practices of the organization accurately. He is further empowered by his experience in dealing with people from different faiths, races, ethnicities, nationalities and sexual orientation.

He is committed to creating a cohesive work environment where fellow workers, managers, and consumers stay focused on producing and enjoying their work, and go home and enjoy their time with their families rather than battling with others and carrying it home.

One of the greatest assets of Mike is communications. He listens to the team, and incorporates the best ideas into the plan and goes for the execution. He is a team player, and everyone around him knows the next step to take in going forward and achieving the organization's mission and the goals.

Whether it is starting a new Homes subdivision, or kick-starting a low oxygen operation, setting up a non-profit, remodeling an apartment complex, business operations, he has the experience and intuition and takes up challenges.

He offers pluralistic solutions to the media, business, civic, religious, and political institution on issues of the day. As we learn to respect the "otherness" of others and accept the God-given uniqueness of each one of us, conflicts fade and solutions emerge. He has committed his life for this purpose and offers programs to bring about a positive change—to create cohesive societies.

His passion is to open people's hearts and minds towards fellow beings. He has seen the fruits of his work where individuals with extreme resentment for each other have come together.

Mike is a frequent guest on National TV and Radio and has a strong presence in social media. He is a thinker, writer, newsmaker, human rights activist, interfaith wedding officiant, and a Public Speaker.

Whatever he does, he does it wholeheartedly and puts his mind, heart, and soul into it.

PAGES INDEX

Page Number and the Title of the page

Much of the work listed in this handbook pertains to Pluralism in religion, politics, society, workplace, and culture. His work is published in over 300 publications across the globe on a range of topics including Islam. Each page listed below is a summary of a mini-book.

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STATISTICAL SUMMARY

Mike's work is all documented

- ❖ Google Search - Mike Ghouse _____ with the name of any religion, you will find articles on most faiths, if not all.
- ❖ Google Search "Mike Ghouse _____" with the name of most religious festivals, you will find the essence of each festival. The purpose is to understand each other's festivities and commemorations
- ❖ Google Search "Pluralism Speaker" or "Interfaith Speaker" and even "Muslim Speaker" - Mike Ghouse work will be displayed in the first three pages of Google.
- ❖ Google has logged 64 Million views of Mike's profile
- ❖ Google for Mike Ghouse Videos' - there are over 2,000 videos on the topics of religion, politics, foreign policy and economy
- ❖ Over 300 TV appearances including 125 on Fox News with Sean Hannity and Stuart Varney, and over 200 Nationally syndicated Radio interviews
- ❖ Face book has over 35,000 friends and followers.
- ❖ Linked in has over 4000 connections.
- ❖ Mike's "Yahoogroups" membership runs over 10,000.
- ❖ Mike has a personal mailing list of over 36,000 classified by religion.
- ❖ Mike has Published 3500+ articles in 300+ newspapers around the world.
- ❖ Mike is a news maker and you'll find items from or about him on any given time

STANDING UP FOR OTHERS

Why should anyone stand up for you?

Security hinges on the security of people around us and our freedom depend on the freedom of people around us. "Injustice to one is an injustice to all." As Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. had said. It makes sense to stand up for the rights of others. Indeed, no one should live in apprehension and fear of the other.

Freedom to think and speak is the most fundamental of all human rights, and it behooves each one of us to defend, protect and guard that God-given right. Standing up for others is the right thing to do; every human goes through a period of invincibility to vulnerability, and if we don't stand up for those who are vulnerable, then why should anyone stand up for us when we become vulnerable?

Dr. Mike Ghouse is blessed to have stood up for the rights of people of every faith from Atheists to Zoroastrians including Native Americans, Pagans, immigrants, Wicca and LGBTQ communities across the globe. He has a solid record of work for each one of these communities, and a book is being written chronicling this work as an encouragement to people to enjoy the joys of standing up for others. [Video addressing immigration rally](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OrjU0KULv-Y)
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OrjU0KULv-Y>

Google search the following:

- ❖ Standing up for Ahmadiyya
- ❖ Standing up for Atheists
- ❖ Standing up for Christians
- ❖ Standing up for LGBTQ
- ❖ Standing up for Hindus
- ❖ Standing up for Immigrants
- ❖ Standing up for Jews
- ❖ Standing up for Native Americans
- ❖ Standing up for Sikhs
- ❖ Standing up for Baha'i
- ❖ Standing up for Buddhists
- ❖ Standing up for Jains
- ❖ Standing up for Muslims
- ❖ Standing up for Pagans and Wiccans
- ❖ Standing up for Phalun Dafa
- ❖ Standing up for Zoroastrians



SHAPING AMERICA'S FUTURE

We are committed to a cohesive America.

Ten years from now, you will not find a place of work, worship, playground, school, restaurant, theater and other areas of public gatherings where you will not see people of different faiths, races, and ethnicities interacting, working, studying, intermingling, playing and marrying together. This is bound to create conflicts.

A vast majority of us have heard things about others from our parents, friends, news, social media or our own knowledge of others; and we instantly form opinions about others. As responsible individuals, we must strive to stop stereotyping and build pathways to ensure the smooth functioning of our society, whether it is the workplace or our neighborhoods.

We need to reassure each other, particularly the disconnected ones, that together, as Americans, we are committed to safeguarding the American way of life. No American needs to worry about losing his or her way of life. Together, as Americans, we uphold, protect, defend and celebrate the values enshrined in our Constitution; which assures our way of life.

Mike will continue to bring non-stop actions in practicing pluralism in religion, politics, society, business, and culture and be a catalyst for a safe and a secure America for each one of us, as we move through this transition.

Bottom Line— we will train individuals to speak about Pluralism in Religion, Politics, society, and culture. Each one will be familiar with at least 12 different faiths, the politics of Republicans and Democrats, cultural and community in general.

Please visit our website and participate as a volunteer, sponsor or a donor. We are a Washington based non-profit 501 (c) (3) organization.





The idea for Unity Day USA was first conceived on Tuesday, September 11, 2001, and took its current form on Sunday, September 11, 2005. It is an initiative to bring Americans together to stand up for the safety, security, and cohesiveness of America.

On this Unity Day, Mike said, “We the people of the United States of America of every faith, race, ethnicity, culture, and background will gather to express our commitment to co-existence, in unity, in prosperity and in the well-being of our nation.”

He went on to say, “Our civic leaders including Mayors, Council Members, State Delegates, Representatives, Senators, and other officials will honor us with their presence. Additionally, our men and women in uniform including police and fire chiefs will be honored for their outstanding service to our nation.”

“Leaders from various faith communities will share a few words of wisdom from their respective scriptures, beliefs or oral traditions. Unity Day USA is about re-affirming our faith in the goodness of humanity, and the longing for peace.”



UNITY DAY USA - 15 YEARS | BRINGING AMERICANS TOGETHER ON 9/11



Mike proudly mentioned, "This is our oldest running annual event since it was established in 1993. The purpose for celebrating this event is to thank the Creator for helping us learn: to give thanks for the blessed life we all enjoy in these United States; to celebrate the diversity of creation; to enjoy the cultural heritage of each group that makes up America; to appreciate and recognize outstanding volunteers, and to bring new immigrants into our fold."

In the last 25 years, spiritual groups including Native Americans, Apache, Atheists, Baha'i, Buddhist, Cherokee, Choctaw, Christian, Hindu, Hopi, Jain, Jewish, Maya, Muslim, Shinto, Sikh, Tao, Wicca, Oloriya, Zoroastrian and communities from different races and ethnicities have come together to celebrate this event.

Five cultural dances are presented as a part of the evening;

The uniqueness of the program is highlighted with the Turkey Carving Ceremony. In previous years, several dignitaries have performed the symbolic Turkey Carving. This year, yet another dignitary will be honoring us with his/her presence.

"We salute the Native Americans for nurturing survival, and we salute Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and the Jewish Community for their outstanding contributions in making us all proud of the United States of America. We admire the Muslim and Sikh communities for withstanding all the difficulties and humiliation that was unleashed on them after 911, and their courage to continue to remain steadfast in their loyalty and patriotism in contributing towards the growth of this great nation. As a society, we must recognize and appreciate the people who have made a difference in the communities we live in, and it is our pleasure to honor and encourage these individuals and organizations.



20 years of Annual Thanksgiving Celebrations



We are deeply committed to education and relentlessly pursue building cohesive societies. We hope to create a model for the world to emulate.

There is a shameless cruelty in us. We shy away from or refuse to acknowledge the sufferings of others, worrying that it will devalue us or amount to infidelity towards our own cause. We cannot justify massacres arrogantly believing that the victims deserved it or asked for it.

We have to learn to acknowledge and to reflect upon the terrible things we have inflicted upon each other; and we have to commit to resisting the temptations to be prejudiced or to stereotype others. We cannot demand peace unless we are peaceful ourselves.

Our safety hinges on the safety of others around us, and it behooves us to work for the safety and security of others on this little planet of ours. We have to be continuously aware of the Holocaust and Genocides and prepare to avert such tragedies.



Mike's initiative, First time in World History for non-Jewish people of different faiths to commemorate and educate about Holocaust and Genocides – It continues for the 13th year

HOLOCAUST & THE MUSLIM GUY

A day to bring Americans together

Frequently, Mike is introduced in the following manner, “He is the first Muslim guy to commemorate Holocaust, and perhaps the first non-Jewish person to commemorate the Holocaust as well.”

Every year is commemorating Holocaust and also raising awareness of Genocides, since 2006, is the fulfillment of a lifelong desire.

“The most difficult and influential scene of my life,” he said, “was watching Jews inhumanely herded to a huge pit, and then shot into it during the Holocaust. The bad looks in their eyes have been very painful to me. I connected with their plea. At my college, I helped a friend with answers during the exams and was caught red-handed and taken to the Principal’s office. None of my friends stood up for me, I was looking at them, perhaps even for an acknowledgment, and they walked away as if I did not exist. I can never forget my helplessness, and I said, ‘Never again.’”

If we justify massacres arrogantly believing that the victims deserved it or asked for it, we need to re-examine our thoughts, for this thinking is criminal and will eventually interfere with our lives.

Read the full Story at: http://www.huffingtonpost.com/mike-ghouse/holocaust-and-the-muslim-b_4629509.html



The above picture is one of the most influential pictures shaping my outlook on human rights.

PLURALISM AWARDS

Recognizing individuals who are pluralists

Pluralist Awards were instituted in 1996 to recognize individuals who reach out and serve others. Their service is not limited to people of their faith or their country of origin or their race, but for all humanity without reservation. Over the years we have recognized and appreciated 45 individuals by presenting them a plaque during our public events to encourage and welcome such individuals.

The “Community Service Award” is in the same light for those communities who have gone beyond and stood up for others or have set an example of inclusiveness. The first such awardees were the African American Community and the Jewish community for their contribution in bringing about Civil rights and keeping the secular public space respectively. The other cities are the Muslim Community and the Sikh Communities for their exemplary display of patience and prayers for those who had wronged them.

These awards are based on the idea of encouraging good and creating role models in the society of people who are inclusive in every aspect of life. Exclusion destroys the smooth functioning of a nation and a people, whereas, inclusion buoys up people to be productive and happy and contributors to the greatness of a nation.



Appreciating and recognizing the Pluralists, the men and women who have no barriers between them and another soul. Since 1993, we have awarded 50 individuals

MEMORIAL DAY

Binding with fellow Americans

Mike counsels, “The freedom that you and I cherish did not come to us on a platter, and was not ‘a given’ either; it was earned for us through the sacrifices of men and women who fought for it. It is particularly an important day for all the immigrants who enjoy the freedom and all the opportunities America offers, and owe that gratitude to our veterans.

The tradition of Memorial Day observance began after the American Civil War to commemorate the Union and Confederate soldiers who died in the civil war. Indeed, it was the civil war that abolished slavery and was the stepping stone for passing the Civil rights Act of 1964 which allowed all immigrants to be equal citizens.

Given the alienation Muslims and others may feel with the current political rhetoric, the Memorial Day facilitates an opportunity to bind with each other, and to be one with all.

It is an incredible feeling; it is like being in a mother’s lap.

“Since 2010,” Mike reminisces, “I have been visiting every National Cemetery and paying tributes to our men and women. Google check Memorial Day Mike Ghouse to find many stories. You can also plug in Memorial Day in the search box at www.TheGhousediary.com

Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KUCHWggiwqw>



The veterans could not believe that a Muslim guy visits the veterans’ cemeteries, they give big hugs and we shared tender moments.

VETERANS DAY

Bonding with our Veterans

We thank our veterans for their patriotism, service, and sacrifice to our nation, and express our gratitude by paying homage to the places dedicated to our veterans.

It is a tradition among many faiths to pray for humanity and seek blessings for those who sacrificed their lives for the benefit of all, and many an American will be visiting the cemeteries around the country to pay their homage.

Members of the Muslim community will be visiting the Veterans Cemeteries including Arlington National Cemetery to pay their respect to the Veterans.

The freedom that we cherish today came to us through the sacrifice of our men and women right from George Washington down to the last soldier fighting for our freedom.

YOUTUBE- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DoWLyVXH6Ek>



We are thankful for their service!

AMERICANS TOGETHER

A documentary about America

What exactly do the majority of Americans want? They want a just society, where everyone feels safe and secure without the fear of other. How do we convince those cashing in on hate and fear mongering? How will we make the change? Can we find a way to make peace lucrative and redirect our energies towards creating a cohesive America?

Our Founding Fathers lay the groundwork for such a society, “We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness.”

Martin Luther King Jr. expressed this in his speech, “I have a dream that my four little children will one day live in a nation where they will not be judged by the color of their skin, but by the content of their character.”

Chief Seattle, a Native American said this perfectly, “All things are connected. Whatever befalls the earth befalls the sons of the earth. Man did not weave the web of life; he is merely a strand in it. Whatever he does to the webs, he does it to himself.” What are we doing to preserve that delicate web?



10 Minutes video <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YMxSTo4VYh8>

MIKE'S ROLE IN AMERICA

Commitment paves the ways to change



Mike is passionate about Pluralism and believes, “If we can learn to respect the “otherness” of others, and accept the God-given uniqueness of each one of us, then conflicts fade and solutions emerge.” Indeed, 20 years of research and studies have enabled him to crystallize the definition of pluralism as an attitude of respecting the “otherness” of others.”

As an Indian American Muslim, his contribution to America would be to strengthen America’s pluralistic heritage, which he learned from his upbringing in Pluralistic India.

Mike was a Commissioner-at-Large in the City of Carrollton. He was president of North Texas Cricket Association, Charity for fashions, Indian Creek Homeowners Association, and several other organizations. He was on the Board of Dallas Peace Center, Founding Director at Memnosyne Foundation, and several other organizations.

Pluralism runs through Mike’s veins, during the college days, he visited Mahabodhi Society every Thursday to listen to sermons on Buddhism, prayed in a Mosque on Fridays and sat down in the Hindu temple and sang Bhajans (Hindu Devotional Songs) on Saturday nights and considered himself a pluralist.



This “dare devil” is out front demonstrating, speaking and writing to remind us whenever our leaders go “off- track”. He is committed to building a cohesive America where no American has to live in apprehension, tension or fear of the other. All his actions, writings, talks and discussions are geared towards building one nation with, “liberty and justice for all”.

FIRST AMENDMENT

Free Speech is most enduring value of a society

The First Amendment is the basis for Mike's work in defending the freedom of faith, freedom of assembly and freedom of speech around the world. Mike defends that freedom with all his heart, mind, and soul.

He is guided by our immortal declaration, "We hold these truths to be self-evident: that all men are created equal; that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights; that among these are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness."

Mike is committed to teach and conduct workshops on Free speech around the world in general, and to the Muslim world in particular, referencing the Quran and Prophet Muhammad's example (pbuh).

There are innumerable situations that Mike has dealt squarely on free speech to his detriment — Professor Ghannouchi was denounced by Sean Hannity at Fox News wanted to prevent him from speaking at Yale University, Mike vigorously defended free speech on his TV show.

Pamela Geller was banned from speaking in the United Kingdom. Mike defended her free speech even though Geller is known for giving hate speeches.



The Arab League proposed to bring restrictions on speech about religious figures, particularly Prophet Muhammad, (pbuh) who is Mike's mentor as well; but he stood against any restrictions on free speech and wrote about the need to preserve free speech which is an enduring value he believes in.

Pastor Terry Jones was not criticized for his Quran Burning announcement. Instead, it was countered by a non-violent peaceful method—Muslims prayed for his well being, the well-being of American soldiers all around the world and for all Americans. There is a movie planned about free speech.

Pastor Robert Jeffress was not condemned for denigrating the Quran; instead, he was asked to study the difficult verses of the Quran. There is an extensive blog written on the conference held to honor free speech.

CFP also includes workshops on First Amendment in their work. It is free speech that has been instrumental in preserving one's freedom.

Every American's faith is included

The American spirit is not to ask the Government but do it ourselves. Here is what we can do to restore America at http://www.huffingtonpost.com/entry/america-will-always-be-a-great-nation_us_585d91b2e4b014e7c72edc45



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WISDOM OF MASTERS

Spiritual Masters who have contributed to the well being

Education makes all the difference in the world and I want to bring to the World what I learned in the Social Studies book from my 6th grade. It is etched in my mind, heart, and soul forever.

There was a page for each one of the spiritual Masters: Jesus, Krishna, Rama, Gautama, Mahavira, Moses, Nanak, Muhammad, and Zarathustra. “I learned about them.” Mike remembered, “As the public spiritual Masters, not as Christian, Hindu, etc. Their message was universal and each one had a distinct message. “

So we have started the series here in Washington DC, Mike Says, “Beginning with Prophet Muhammad’s birth celebrations. Throughout the year, we will be celebrating one religious people and talk about their contribution in making our world a better place for all of us to live.

These celebrations would be the birth of the religious founders who were committed to building cohesive societies or major festivals to represent every American. It is all about inclusion!



CELEBRATING THE WISDOM OF RELIGIOUS MASTERS REPRESENTING 12 FAITHS

ONE NATION UNDER GOD

What does it mean?

The world population today is 7.6 Billion, at the turn of the century it was 6 Billion, one hundred years ago it was 1.6 Billion and 200 years ago it was 1 Billion. If we keep going back to 2000 years the world population when Jesus walked the earth was a mere 200 Million. I cannot get figures when it was just two people by any name including Adam & Eve, but it must have started with two at the very beginning. We are all a product of that couple spread into many races, religions, and regions. Dharmic faiths call it Vasudhaiva

Kutumbukum, the whole world is one and the Abrahamic faiths say we all came from Adam & Eve. We are all one people. The God-gene (system of reproduction) is embedded in all life forms.

We are indeed one world “under God, indivisible with liberty and justice for all.” We are represented by every race, nationality, ethnicity, language, culture, and religion. We see God as one, none and many and in every form; male, female, genderless and non-existent, being and non-being, nameless and with innumerable names. Together, we are committed to preserving this pluralistic heritage of the universe.

God has created each one of us to be a unique being with our own thumbprint, eye print, taste bud, and DNA. Nothing in the universe is alike, diversity is creator’s intention and we need to respect that.

Religion is about humility and not arrogance. Humility builds enduring relationships and sustains peace, while arrogance kills the relationships and creates chaos. No matter what your faith is, to claim it to be superior is sheer arrogance.

Chief Seattle, a Native American said this perfectly, “All things are connected. Whatever befalls the earth befalls the sons of the earth. Man did not weave the web of life; he is merely a strand in it. Whatever he does to the webs, he does it to himself.”

Religions are systems designed to build cohesive societies where no human has to live in apprehensions or fear of the other. A continual equilibrium is sought with an environment, ecology, physical, emotional and social element of life. It gives room to re-establish the equilibrium of the functions.

Let’s pray that the creator gives us the sense to respect the “otherness” of others and accept the God-given uniqueness of each one of us. As we do that, conflicts fade and solutions emerge.

FREEDOM OF FAITH

If we don't seek freedom, who will?

Mike is blessed to have taken up the most difficult issues of the communities around the world. A few examples are: forced conversions by ISIS and Talibans in India and Pakistan, banning conversions in India, Iran, Saudi Arabia and Malaysia; forcing women to wear Hijab in Saudi Arabia, Iran and Afghanistan or the opposite—compelling women to remove their Hijab in France, the persecution of Falun Dafa in China, and the Unificationist in Japan and other causes as well. India is regulating what one eats, drinks, wears and believes.

These crimes are committed in the name of the religion which, ironically, abhors such practices. Assertive Education is the key and we need to allay the fears of these insecure self-appointed guardians of religions.

A lot of work is done, a few prominent ones that Mike took a stand are:

Asiya Bibi in Pakistan—A petition was drafted and articles were written and challenging Muslims to present the Prophet as Mercy to mankind, and now how he is perceived by the acts of a few.

Naderkhani in Iran— another petition and constant comments were written urging the Iranian government to release this gentleman. Islam guarantees freedom of faith and what Iran is doing is not in line with Islamic principles of freedom.

Toyota Super Bowl Commercial — was a good step forward but not inclusive enough. If you were ever excluded and ignored in a party, you would understand. Toyota needs to remake this spot. Check the Petition.

Mike has written to a Siberian town to lift the ban on Bhagavad Gita, wrote about apostasy case of Lena Joes in Malaysia, Abdur Rahman in Afghanistan. He wrote to the Minister in Indonesia to stop persecuting Ahmadiyya Muslims.

The list is endless; he has not attended to every atrocity, but done what is humanly possible. Thank God for giving Mike 67 years of life to do this work. We hope Mike has many more years to continue.



CHINA VIOLATES THE RIGHTS OF FALUN DAFU COMMUNITY – MIKE GHOUSE IS BLESSED TO HAVE STOOD UP FOR THE RIGHTS OF PEOPLE FROM ATHEISTS TO ZOROASTRIANS AND EVERY ONE IN BETWEEN.

INTERFAITH MARRIAGES

It amounts to building one nation under God

Marriage is indeed an expression of a commitment to a relationship between two individuals. The individuals who take the bold step to become one regardless of their origins, faiths, races and ethnicities must be applauded. They are setting an example of how to live in harmony despite their differences. They are indeed contributing to the idea of one nation.

Look at the universe; everything is programmed precisely! The moon revolves around the earth and the earth goes around the sun accurately. The seasons are programmed and the plants and animals have a determined cycle of birth and death. Within the human body, different organs work cohesively for a normal functioning (with of course built in anomalies) of the body. However, he did not program us how to relate to each other and live with each other. He gave us complete freedom to chart our own course of harmony with the other. God is happiest when two people can rise above their differences and live in harmony.

Interfaith marriages are becoming the new norm of the society. In a few years, one out of two marriages would be of interfaith. Yes, this is across the board, whether you are a Christian, Jew, Muslim, Hindu, Sikh, Baha'i, Atheist or the other. According to the Pew survey, 40% of people of faiths will be marrying a person of another faith.

Mike is blessed to have officiated secular ceremonies as well as religious ceremonies for Jewish-Christian, Hindu-Christian, Bahai-Jewish, Hindu-Jewish, Atheist-Jain, and several other combinations. Being a Muslim, he has officiated weddings for Muslims in a variety of combinations. The sermons reflect the essence of Bride and Groom's religious and cultural traditions. The couples who embrace genuine humanity by respecting the otherness of other, and accepting each other's uniqueness must be lauded as Patriotic Americans.



ASK NOT THE GOVERNMENT

It is our individual responsibility to bring change

Ask not what the Government can do to remove the ill-will, divisiveness, hatred, and anguish that Americans are going through now. If you look for others to hand a “harmonious America” on a platter for you, it won’t happen until “hell freezes over.”

Instead, Mike says to do your share of work in knowing fellow humans around you. He says that, that is the foundation for building a tension-less America; that you can bring about harmony at least around you and counsels that it is long-term work.

Center for Pluralism facilitates research, recommendations, discussions, and actions geared to build a secure America through knowing each other.

Our programs are designed to bring everyone from Atheists to Zoroastrians, and every one in between, to get to know each other. We are in this together and we have to work at it. Each event is an experience in itself. We sponsor

Monthly Workshops on religions to understand others

Interfaith experiential dinners

Interfaith bus tours for youth

Radio and Television appearances

Publications

Conferences on: Anti-Semitism, Racism, Xenophobia,

Homophobia, Idolatry-phobia, Misogyny and Islamophobia

HOLOCAUST AND GENOCIDES—FROM PAGE 16

“The most difficult and influential scene of my life, “ Mike painfully recalled, “was watching Jews inhumanely herded to a huge pit, and were shot into it during the Holocaust. The hurtful looks in their eyes have been very painful to me. I connected with their plea,” He went on to say, “In my college, I helped a friend with answers during the exams and was caught red-handed and taken to the Principal’s office. None of my friends stood up for me, I was looking at them, perhaps even for an acknowledgment, and they walked away as if I did not exist. I can never forget my helplessness and I said, ‘Never again.’”

COMMITMENT TO 9/11

A day of my life dedicated to 9/11 Unity each year

Mike has dedicated this day every year to serve the nation.

Mike's recollections of 9/11:

"Dallas, Texas. About 10:00 in the Morning of Tuesday, September 11, 2001, I was called in by AM Radio 1150 to address the situation; and 950 AM also joined in to simulcast the program. The great tragedy had left everyone speechless and had paralyzed everyone from doing anything. I was shaking but was committed to make sense out of the chaos and bring coherence to the day, and pave the way for relevant action.

At the end of the day, we got people to focus on these five things; 1) Donate Blood, 2) Donate Funds, 3) Hold interfaith prayers, 4) Understand that Bin Laden is the Terrorist and 5) Everything is going to be alright and we will be safe now."

"I was on the air for 7 hours straight, standing on my feet and getting just about every



community, religious, civic and business leaders and the general public on the air to talk about the situation. Many of them read prepared statements, and one by one they condemned the attack. I did not even get to eat or take a break. The calls were pouring in and I was completely absorbed in the situation.

"Among many who jumped on the idea to hold interfaith prayers were Mr. Joel Brooks of American Jewish Congress, Ms. Vinoda Kumar of the DFW Hindu Temple, Mr. Mohammad Suleman of the Islamic Center of Dallas, Mr. Poras Balsara of the Zoroastrian community and Kevin Rafrat from the Baha'i Temple, the list was endless... every faith tradition was involved!"

While this was going on, my late wife Najma had called in to announce about the blood drive and, sure enough, hundreds of people were lining up at

Wadley Blood center.

This is a long story and I hope it offers insights into what it takes to build a cohesive America, a genuinely free America where no one has to live in apprehension and fear of the other.

Read the full story: www.TheGhouseDiary.com—Over 2 Million reads.

PREVENTING A DISASTER IN 2020

If we don't shape our future who will?

By the end of 2020, there will not be a major city in America, and

perhaps in the world, where you will not find people of different faiths, cultures, ethnicities, races, nationalities and social backgrounds working, eating, playing, interacting, marrying, and participating in activities together.

This is bound to create social and personal conflicts, harming the smooth functioning of the corporations or of your local community.

We need to prepare ourselves for those eventualities, and to prevent possible conflicts, lay a good foundation for nurturing goodwill and effective functioning of the societies.

Exclusive workplaces will become a thing of the past. If you live amidst others, you must make an effort to know each other.

Each one of us tunes into a radio station called WIFM: "What's In It For Me." Diversity is beneficial to any organization.

You are who you are, and I am who I am. As long as we don't interfere with each other's space, sustenance and nurturance, and mind our own business, we all will do well.

The Center for Pluralism is committed to organizing effective events to promote the idea of knowing each other. Knowledge leads to understanding and understanding to acceptance of the otherness of others.

We will be happy to do a workshop for your organization. As we learn to "Respect the otherness of the other" and accept the God-given uniqueness of each one of us, then conflicts fade and solutions emerge.

FREEDOM OF FAITH

If we don't seek freedom, who will?

Mike is blessed to have taken up the most difficult issues of the communities around the world. A few examples are: forced conversions by ISIS and Talibans in India and Pakistan, banning conversions in India, Iran, Saudi Arabia and Malaysia; forcing women to wear Hijab in Saudi Arabia, Iran and Afghanistan or the opposite—compelling women to remove their Hijabs in France, the persecution of Falun Dafa in China, and the Unificationist in

Japan and other causes as well. India is regulating what one eats, drinks, wears and believes. These crimes are committed in the name of the religion which, ironically, abhors such practices. Assertive Education is the key and we need to allay the fears of these insecure self-appointed guardians of religions.

A lot of work is done, a few prominent ones that Mike took a stand are:

Asiya Bibi in Pakistan—A petition was drafted and articles were written and challenging Muslims to present the Prophet as Mercy to mankind, and now how he is perceived by the acts of a few.

Nadirkhani in Iran— Another petition and constant comments were written urging the Iranian government to release this gentleman. Islam guarantees freedom of faith and what Iran is doing is not in line with Islamic principles of freedom.

Toyota Super Bowl Commercial — was a good step forward but not inclusive enough. If you were ever excluded and ignored in a party, you would understand. Toyota needs to remake this spot. Check the Petition.

Mike has written to a Siberian town to lift the ban on Bhagavad Gita, wrote about apostasy case of Lena Joes in Malaysia, Abdur Rahman in Afghanistan. He wrote to the Minister in Indonesia to stop persecuting Ahmadiyya Muslims. The list is endless, he has not attended to every atrocity, but done what is humanly possible. Thank God for giving Mike 67 years of life to do this work. We hope Mike has many more years to continue.

AMERICANS TOGETHER

Our dreams, rights, and our spirit of togetherness

OUR DREAM: Each one of us has a dream... a dream to have livable wages, a loving family, children, a home, reliable car, decent health care, and comfortable retirement.

A majority of Americans want a just society with safety and security. We want to live our lives as good neighbors and let others live theirs.

OUR RIGHTS: Our founding fathers laid the foundation of the creed for such a society, "We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights, that among these are Life, Liberty, and the pursuit of Happiness".

OUR SPIRIT: Martin Luther King Jr. expressed the same in his famous speech, "I have a dream that our little children will one day live in a nation where they will not be judged by the color of their skin but by the content of their character."

OUR WORLD: Native American Chief Seattle said it perfectly: "All things are connected. Whatever befalls the earth befalls the sons of the earth. Man did not weave the web of life; he is merely a strand in it. Whatever he does to the web, he does it to himself."

OUR EMPATHY: Are we connected enough with each other? Can others empathize with us or even understand the truth about us? We are no different than them in our endeavors and aspirations of life.

OUR RESPONSIBILITY: President Kennedy pointed us in the right direction, "Ask not what your country can do for you; ask what you can do for your country". When we give to the country, we collectively receive as well. Details at www.AmericansTogether.org

FOREIGN POLICY

Based on winning hearts and minds in the long haul

Mike has a deep interest in foreign policy and has spoken and written extensively on the topic. He offers pluralistic solutions on issues of the day and believes that our nation can be better represented with the greatest product we have; freedom. One of the values that people around the world disagree with is free speech. If they knew the good it does in the long haul, they would subscribe to our ideals.

No family, community or a nation can have undue advantages over others. Such benefits are temporary and deleterious to lasting peace. Mike's life mission is to open people's hearts and minds towards fellow beings by mitigating conflicts and nurturing goodwill. He is a pluralist, peacemaker, collaborator and an educator.

Mike has appeared on Fox News regarding foreign policy issues.

ISRAEL-PALESTINE- Mike has visited and toured Israel and Palestine and has spoken at the Middle East Peace Initiative in Jerusalem. He has written over 60 articles and also published over 300 articles on his blog: www.IsraelPalestineDialogue.com

INDIA - There are nearly 3,000 Articles on his India blog, of which nearly 1500 are his own writings on India's politics, society, religion, foreign policy and conflicts – <http://MikeGhouseforIndia.blogspot.com>

Mike has made many TV appearances and written occasional articles on PAKISTAN, BANGLADESH, SRI LANKA, EGYPT, IRAN, SAUDI ARABIA, LIBYA, and the MIDDLE EAST .[OBJ]



COMMUNITY RELATIONS

Mitigating conflicts and nurturing goodwill

Every religion and every form of Government has one underlying theme—to build a society with the least conflicts, and utmost security for each individual, those invincible as well as vulnerable.

Arrogance is the root cause of all conflicts and it is a killer of relationships, the antidote is inculcated by religions by injecting the values, of humility and equality, which build bridges and harmony and add to the cohesive functioning of societies.

Often Mike has posited, “As we learn to respect the otherness of others and accept the God-given uniqueness of each one of us, then conflicts fade and solutions emerge.”

Towards this end, Mike has done an incredible amount of work in forging relationships between different faith-based communities.

Within the United States, Mike has worked on reconciliation by boldly confronting the conflicts within the communities through his programs, articles, speeches, and workshops.

Mike has written to Pope Frances to help him organize global conferences to put the conflicts out between Christians and Jews, Muslims and Jews, Christians and Muslims, between Hindus, Muslims and Christians.

Many initiatives and difficult conversations have taken place rather than shallow superficial conversations. For the benefit of these communities, a whole binder full of writes ups will be compiled into a book. There are a few Imams, Pundits, Rabbis and Pastor have made reckless statements that need to be addressed because there is no basis to make such incendiary statements.

This work will continue, and God willing we will train enough people to carry this work forward. Many more programs will be unveiled in 2018 and the years to come.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

An opportunity to build relationships

The Department of State has many outstanding programs, one of them is bringing religious leaders from across the world to orient them how America deals with multiple faiths, cultures, and ethnicities. When the Muslim contingent visited, invariably they were assigned half a day with Mike to share the religious landscape of America and how interfaith works through a power point presentation or a booklet like this for them to take home.

The program is beneficial to the United States as most of the visitors wanted to emulate us. In the long haul, it ensured America's influence and respect for the American way of life. It assured us long-term economic relationships and security for every American anywhere in the world.

Mike was sorely disappointed that this program was not capitalized to build upon the relationships. He has met Muslim groups from nearly 50 Muslim majority nations along with Muslims from Russia, China, UK and other nations. Invariably each group was excited when we talked about Pluralism, indeed, some of them start quoting Quran and Prophet's examples in support of Pluralism. Many of them were state ministers and major clergy and were willing to sign joint declarations whenever an uneventful thing happened like cartoons of the Prophet.

We the people, the Americans are fanatic about free speech and Mike is one too (Page 10). We have conflicts with others because most of the people around the world do not understand free speech that we cherish. When Mike quotes Quran and Prophet's examples to the Muslim visitors, they flip but love it, as they had not seen that perspective deeply rooted in their faith.

America has led the world in science, technology, medicine, and culture, it is time we lead the world by example with the American brand of Pluralism. Live your life and let others live theirs.

picture – Saudi/russian

INCLUSION WORKSHOPS

Diversity is God-given, and inclusion generates goodwill

What is the need to have diversity and how does it benefit you?

Every organization is made up of people who are loyal and committed to the prosperity and profitability of the organization. While a majority of the board members, associates and employees stick to the guidelines for smooth sailing, a few don't and pull down the productivity of the entire group.

The old-fashioned method was to fire the one who do not conform, and that turned out to be expensive in keep replacing employees. The smart ones have figured out the answer: Pluralism— i.e., respecting the otherness of the other. Best teams are built upon this principle.

This purposeful workshop would be beneficial not only to the corporate executives but also to the Ambassadors of many countries who are housed in Washington DC. All of us want members of our family, fellow employees at our offices, nations, workplaces and places of worship to function cohesively and effectively.

Inclusion is good for business, it turns any organization into an effective and productive and it is a joy to work.



EXPERIENCING OTHER RELIGIONS

If you are in other's shoes, you will see a big world

At an Interfaith Conference:

We are about Pluralism Studies and action in Politics, Religion, Culture, Society, Cuisine, Costumes and other Uniqueness. This uniqueness can be a source of conflict or harmony. Mike remembers an



Interfaith Conference when he said, "Tonight, you will walk out with new experiences to cherish:

"We will call on individuals to join us on the floor and organize 10 teams of 2 each. You will be randomly given a verse from any faith—i.e., if you are a Christian you may be called to become a Hindu for the next few minutes, and if you are a Muslim, you may get the assignment to be an Atheist, if you are not comfortable, sit back and enjoy others do it."

"Each team will be asked to read the verse and explain to the guests as to what it means to them. We hope through actually reading the verse, each one of us will be less biased toward the other and contributes to the idea of one nation."

No one wanted to get off the stage, they wanted to learn more, they enjoyed the freedom it gave them from bias and for the first time loved a religion they detested once, for example Hinduism and Islam. We have done over a dozen such experiments and will continue to do.

Understanding the **ESSENCE OF RELIGION**

Atheism to Zoroastrianism
and every tradition in between

13 faiths | 13 workshops

<http://centerforpluralism.com/workshops/>

When we live as neighbors, fellow workers, students, players, activists and inhabitants of the same city, it behooves us to learn about each other's beliefs, motivations, moments of celebrations, devotions or commemorations. The more we know about the other, the less "mythical" they would become, creating a friendly environment for all of us to function effectively in whatever we do. Knowledge leads to understanding and understanding to acceptance of the "otherness" of others leading us into tension-free and sustainable prosperity.

Program produced by Dr. Mike Ghouse (214) 325-1916

& Hosted by the Church of Scientology National Affairs Office

www.CenterforPluralism.com | www.Scientologyreligion.org

PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDAR

www.CenterforPluralism.com/workshops



Baha'i
NOV 2016



Buddhism
DEC 2016



Christianity
JAN 2017



Hinduism
FEB 2017



Humanism*
MAR 2017



Islam
APR 2017



Jainism
MAY 2017



Judaism
JUN 2017



Native Faiths
JUL 2017



Scientology
AUG 2017



Sikhism
SEP 2017



Wicca*
OCT 2017



Zoroastrianism
NOV 2017

▪ Humanism/Atheism
▪ Wicca/Pagan



Graduation
NOV 2017

NATIONAL INTEGRATION

Bringing Americans Together

As we become one with the nation, most of the attitudes towards Muslims, Hispanics, Blacks, and others will dissipate. What does it take to be one nation? We have to be a part of it.

We are not a perfect union yet, but a perfect union we will be, as we can continue our efforts to be an inclusive society. The Fourth of July should not simply come and go; we must make it a remarkable day. It should be a great happening to augment National Integration, where



Americans of all faiths, or no faith, races, ethnicities, nationalities, political, sexual and other orientations come together to celebrate the oneness of our nation.”

Muslims have been contributors towards the wellbeing of the United States of America from the very beginning.

Not only did Muslims acknowledge the new state, the treaty signed with Morocco and the United

States is one of the oldest operating documents.

Per Wikipedia, Morocco’s Sultan Muhammad III was the first world leader to recognize the sovereignty of the United States followed by Netherland’s Johannes de Graaf and Tipu Sultan of Mysore (India).

According to Dr. Range Gowda, an authority on Tipu Sultan, “That Tipu Sultan had firecrackers going up in Sriranga Patna, his Capital, cheering America’s independence. He faced the same enemy that the United States had faced- Lord Cornwallis.”

July 4th means freedom, understanding, and unity. It’s a time to once again reflect on what it means to be an American—the spirit to be creative, generous, and proud to, “extend a hand”. The program will change your relationship between yourself and all other Americans; No American regardless of background will be on the sidelines anymore, but a part of the American Story. Let’s come together and celebrate. Don’t forget to bring your own flags and chairs!

SYMPOSIUMS

Knowledge leads to understanding

1. **Anti-Semitism**—Not a week goes by without someone making an anti-Semitic remark, and shame on us for not saying a thing about it. If each one of us can stand up against Anti-Semitism, we will individually contribute towards a better society that we really want to live in.
2. **LGBTQ**—It is embarrassing to watch the fundamentalist vitriolic against LGBT's, yet they subscribe to our constitution where all men are equal. It is time to have a heart to heart talk.
3. **Racial issues** —We are developing the content for understanding racism and hope to make short documentaries and find solutions to this evil. It will not go away for a few generations. All we can do is to make an effort to reduce it and bring awareness to the society, how it hurts and affects the overall society.
4. **Stereotyping**—This is the most common form of ignorance that surfaces every minute of the day in our lives. Our freedom to think is lost when we stereotype people and fall in a ditch when we justify it. If we want others to treat us fairly, we have to do it too.
5. **Women's rights**—Women are 51% of our population, yet they are not fully represented in the government and leadership of the nation in civil and religious corridors. This has got to change for the sake of creating a better society. Misogyny has to go!
6. **Native Americans**—As Americans, we have not honored the treaties we made with the Native Americans. We continually violate their rights, just because we are powerful, this injustice will eat our spirituality. One way or the other, we have to change.
7. **Islamophobia, Xenophobia, Extremism, Sharia** and other issues have to be resolved as we move towards perfecting our union.
8. Countering Violent Extremism

RELIGION ON AIR

Essence of each faith

Each one of us is conditioned with certain beliefs whether we are Theists, Atheists or agnostics. We took the challenge to communicate the message to the general public in the most generic way we can. The idea was that every listener gets what Jesus meant, “Follow me”, Krishna Says, “Surrender to me” or Allah says, “Submit to my will.”

How does each religion, its values and practices contribute towards the well being of the society? As Chief Seattle, a Native American said this perfectly, “All things are connected. Whatever befalls the earth befalls the sons of the earth. Man did not weave the web of life; he is merely a strand in it. Whatever he does to the webs, he does it to himself.”

Each one of our audience member had Mr. Spock listening out for them. A scholar from each faith and Mike Ghouse presented the following program to make Religion easy to understand. A total of 728 Hours in addition to 24 hours on New Year’s Eve about joint program with all religious leaders.

Christianity—104 hours

Islam—104 hours

Hinduism—104 hours

Atheism—52 hours

Bahai—52 hours

Buddhism—52 hours

Jainism—52 hours

Judaism—52 hours

Sikhism—52 hours

Zoroastrianism—52 hours



GENDER PLURALISM

<http://genderpluralismcenter.blogspot.com/>

We will explore if misogyny is religiously sanctioned or men took it upon themselves to make things to work for them, and in the process, the unintended consequence was making a villain out of God and of religion.

A few Men tend to be insecure about their own worth compared to women, and devise ways to feel secure (what a false feeling) by causing women to be insecure. I am not talking about the Taliban in a far-off land, but our own Taliban mind set right here in America denying women the right to choose what she does with her body, rejecting and expecting them to completely obey the husband or beat them up. We need to raise boys to respect women.

"A woman should behave like a woman" "Her place is home" echo the conservative religious men from Christian, Jewish, Muslim, Hindu, Sikh, Buddhist and other traditions.

Mike says, "Women have put up with this way of thinking by men for far too long, it's time we feel, act and talk like equals. Should silence by the good people considered an endorsement of bad behavior? If not, we need to speak up. We need to be good for some good values and not good-for-nothing people."

A good functional society strives to be just to every citizen with "justness" becoming a norm in every aspect of life - be it between spouses, family members, members of the community, town, state or nation. Then people would trust each other and mind their own business.

"Don't look to anyone to blame," Mike says, "look at yourselves first. A sentence that I have been repeating lately is "for every Muslim ass, there is a Christian, Jewish, Hindu, Sikh or other ass" (add "hole" if you need).

In Islam, there were a few verses that were misinterpreted for ages, finally they have been corrected now.

Eventually, we need to realize that individuals must be held accountable for their wrong doing, and not their religion.

PLURALISM SPEAKERS

A new breed of speakers to build a cohesive America

The more we learn about each others' faith, politics and culture, the easier it would be for us to get along with least conflicts and suspicion. Freedom from fear and tensions is what builds successful societies.

A decade from now, there will not be a work place, hospital, community center, playground, theater, school and college where you will not find people of different religions, races, and regions working, studying, and even marrying together. This is bound to create conflicts, and as a member of a responsible society, Mike is planning to roll out programs to make life easier for everyone. No one should feel left out and a sense of belonging adds to one's happiness and productivity.

We trained a group of people to speak about Islam and how it contributes towards the well being of the society at large, and eventually with the funding; we hope to train individuals to speak about different religions as well as different forms of political ideologies and governance.



The speakers on Islam (anyone from any faith is welcome to learn) will talk about twelve Islamic values that contribute to a cohesive society. They are; accountability, truthfulness, justice, forgiveness, caring, humility, equality, pluralism, freedom, harmony and civil dialogue based in Quran and in the practices of Prophet Muhammad. Eventually, we will be training people to speak about each religion by non-practitioners of that religion.

It is the time we emphasize on Islamic values, rather than the rituals. Rituals are an integral part of everything we do, however, where those rituals achieve is the key to understanding Islam. These values contribute towards creating societies, in our case a cohesive America where all humans feel respected and no one has to live in apprehension or fear of the other.

What are the sources of conflicts, are they real or imaginary and how do we mitigate them and nurture goodwill.

OUR PROGRAMS

Designed to open each other's hearts and minds

We do research, conduct seminars and organize symposiums on burning topics of the day that affect Americans. We are all about Research, action and leadership. Please visit the tabs at www.CenterforPluralism.com

I. RELIGIOUS PLURALISM

- Understanding the Essence of Religions, all the beautiful religions
- Wisdom of Spiritual Masters— A talk series
- Festival of Faiths—an annual event Celebrating all faiths

II. POLITICAL PLURALISM

- Ad-hoc Seminars with Republicans and Democrats
- Issue based Seminars

III. CULTURAL PLURALISM

- Thanksgiving Celebrations & Awards Night—20 years
- July 4th—Annual Event
- Gender Pluralism—Seminars

IV. SOCIAL PLURALISM

- Unity Day USA—14th Annual Event
- Holocaust and Genocides - 13th Annual Event
- Memorial Day commemoration—Annual Event
- Veteran's day—Annual Event

PLURALISM NEWS

- News items on Pluralism—www.PluralismNews.com
- Essence of Festivals—write-ups on major festivals

MIKE'S ORIGINS

How else would you know then?

Mike was born and raised in Yelahanka, a suburb of Bangalore, India.

Mike's father, M. Abdul Rahman, was a Mayor (President of the Municipal council) of the town of Yelahanka in the early 50's and remained a council member through the late 50's. His Mother Khairun Nisa counseled women of all faiths. Both of them had friends from several different faiths. Mike's Paternal Grandmother was ahead of her time, fiercely independent and a liberated woman. Mike's Maternal Grandfather was an exemplary volunteer, he was also a council member and President of the Muslim organization.

His parents had "malice towards none" and raised him and his siblings to respect every faith tradition. Though they were Muslims, they celebrated Hindu and Christian festivals as their own and had good relationships with Hindus, Sikhs, Jains, Buddhists, Christians, Dalits, Tribals and the Zoroastrians. Unfortunately, there were no Bahá'í or Jews in the town.

Mike's father vigorously fought all the prevailing customs of the segregation of the Dalits (shamefully called as Untouchables once). Indeed, Mike's family members ate food and drank from the same utensils which was frowned upon at that time. Similarly, Mike fought with others to give equal space for Dalits at the street corner water faucets.

As a kid, Mike appreciated the civility with which dialogue between Shia and Sunni Muslims, and between Hindus and Muslims were carried out in the most civil terms. He has been a part of Interfaith dialogue since he was 14.

His first volunteering work began when he was a teen, and he formed a group of volunteers for the purpose of burying the homeless when they die. In his town, there were many who died on the streets. The group was named "Mauta (burial) committee".

WHAT SHAPED MIKE

Childhood experiences shape people

Mike owes his pluralistic nurturance to his parents. They “pounded in” three verses from the Quran: “respecting the ‘otherness’ of others,” “There is no compulsion in religion” and “You alone are accountable for your deeds on the day of accountability”.

Mike also credits his Urdu Madrasa (school) and his favorite teacher Abdul Hakeem. In his Middle School, the social studies book carried a page on every major religious world figure and his religion. Mike recites the names of most of the religious leaders in one single breath. That is what a school ought to be that book and that teaching has contributed towards his pluralistic attitudes.

One of the most influential events of his life happened when Jabalpur (India) riots broke out in the early 60's. Hindus and Muslims were killing each other. Mike's father gathered the family and simply said, “ you know the culprits are Ram and Rahim, not Hinduism or Islam. If they were punished for their crimes as individuals, the issue would not have become a Hindu Muslim issue and riots could have been prevented.”

That thought has become Mike's philosophy in conflict mitigation and goodwill nurturance, and Mike has articulated this on Fox News on Hannity show several times. Blame and punish the individual and restore trust in the society, because you cannot punish an intangible like religion; nor can you restore trust in the society. Why then “bark” at religion?

Mike is one of the most fearless leaders out there, he is polite and civil but firm and assertive in his approach toward offering pluralistic solutions on issues of the day.

MIKE'S IDEAL JOB

He executes it wholeheartedly

Mike has comprehensive experience in: business management, in turning distressed companies around, in home building, property Management, and real estate investments. He has worked for Fluor Corporation, Lewis Fire equipment, and major Home Builders. He currently manages the Center for Pluralism and runs World Muslim Congress, a think tank.

Whatever he does, he does it wholeheartedly;

1. Religious Freedom
2. Media Relations
3. Public Relations
4. Community Relations
5. Operations Management
6. Human Rights
7. Conflict Mitigation and Goodwill nurturance

Skills set: Precise communicator, Public Speaker, thinker, writer,

Organizer, the initiator, go-getter and a conflict mitigator.

Citizen: American

Ethnicity: Asian Indian | Born in Bangalore, India

Family: Single | Two Married children living their own lives.

Education:

- ❖ Doctor of Divinity (Hon) conferred by Trinity International Seminary
- ❖ MBA, University of Dallas, Texas – Operations Management. (1984)
- ❖ Master's Degree in cost accounting from Bangalore University (1974)
- ❖ Bachelor's Degree in Banking from Bangalore University (1971)

MIKE'S DREAM JOB

Passion to build cohesive societies

Mike's dream job is to be the Secretary of State. But his commitment remains steadfast: building cohesive work places and societies through religious and political freedom.

No family, community or a nation can have undue advantages over others. Such benefits are temporary and deleterious to lasting peace.

A healthy balance has to be maintained between our communities within the United States and with the community of nations. What is good for America, has got to be good for the world and vice versa to sustain peace and prosperity.

His life mission is to open people's hearts and minds towards fellow beings by mitigating conflicts and nurturing goodwill. He is a pluralist, peacemaker, collaborator and an educator.

Mike's civic Mission is to influence the policy makers of our country, to put our nation on the path of fairness, justice, and equity in dealing with our domestic and foreign affairs. "Just" dealings have the power to take us, and the World into the next century with relative peace and prosperity.

Mike has a dream, a dream to strengthen the pluralistic values of America, and the desire to encourage the community of nations to review our values of liberty, justice, free speech, responsible capitalism and co-existence as catalysts in the individual's pursuit of happiness.

Establishing the Center for Pluralism is his dream and he hopes to nurture pluralism through the center's programs in shaping a better world for the future.

POWER OF ENGAGEMENT

Positive engagement brings positive changes

Sean Hannity is the most watched TV talk show host in America. Most people hate him and don't want to go near him. Mike believes in engaging with people if we want a change. A verse from Quran has motivated him to take this stand, "Don't let your bias make you unjust towards the other." in this situation, don't just agree with me, but look at the results produced from engagement.

In February 2013, Sean had called in 25 individuals for his show that included Representatives Peter King, Louis Gohmert, Ambassador John Bolton and others including me, Mike Ghouse.

In the middle of taping another segment, Sean asked him to join him on the stage, while 23 others were sitting across on the bleachers. To paraphrase him (short version), "You are the only Muslim friend I know... and today I will do something for you that you have been asking for in the last three years....



BY FOX NEWS INSIDER // JUN 20 2014 // 10:27PM

From now on I will not use the word "Muslim terrorists" and instead call it Terrorists among Muslims, would that make you happy? Mike responded, "Hell yes!" and gave him a big salute while others cheered on. By the way, Stuart Varney of Fox News made the same commitment in November 2016 and has lived up to it. Sean has not. However, Sean has quit "bashing" the Quran, I have given him a copy of the "right, " most accurately translated Quran by Muhammad Asad."

The Boston Marathon bombing happened in April. The CNN camera went to Peter King, and this is what he said, "96% of Muslims are good people, and it is the 4% we have to worry about.. That is a 180 Degrees turnaround! The same man had called in to investigate every Muslim and every Mosque a year ago. That is a reasonable change! Thank you, Sean!

Personally, it is a mission accomplished - we place the blame where it belongs; the individuals and not religion. Engagement is the key to bringing any change. I will be happy to give a full talk on the topic.

Personally, it is a mission accomplished - we place the blame where it belongs; the individuals and not religion.

PLURALISM IS OUR FUTURE

Envisioning an American in the year 2020

At the Center for Pluralism, we have crystallized the definition of pluralism, “respecting the “otherness” of the others and accepting the genetic uniqueness of each one of us”. Pluralism is nothing but an attitude of living and letting others live, and it is applicable in every aspect of life including: culture, society, religion, politics, food, ethnicity, race and other areas of uniqueness.

In cultural terms, it is recognizing your culture as a beautiful expression of life to you, just as our own culture is to us. When it comes to food, it is recognizing that you will almost always enjoy what your taste buds are trained to enjoy. You might enjoy a well-done steak while some may relish the medium rare, or vice-versa. Religiously, it is learning to honor the way you worship or bow to the creator in gratitude. Mike says that, “Your faith is divine to you just as my faith is divine to me and “Beauty is in the eyes of the beholder”, faith is in the heart of the believer.



We need to prepare ourselves for those eventualities to prevent possible conflicts and lay a good foundation for nurturing goodwill and effective functioning of the societies.

Pluralism is our future, and as a futurist, based on the trends, Mike foresees that two generations from now, we would be comfortable in saying, “My religion, culture or lifestyle is my personal choice.”; and further down the road, a significant number will proclaim that my way of life is not superior or inferior to any.

The ideal society is where, no individual has to live in apprehension or fear of the other and can live his or her own life and let others live theirs. Mike says that If we can learn to accept the “otherness” of others, and respect the God-given uniqueness of each one of the 7 billion of us, then conflicts fade and solutions emerge. Indeed, that is the work of all spiritual masters including Prophet Muhammad (pbuh). He had a singular determination - for (all) people to live in harmony. The common values of justice, truth, trust and respect for the “otherness” of others, were the foundation for building such societies.

ARE MUSLIMS A PART OF AMERICA?

A critical self examination of ourselves

The following are Mike's thoughts about the need for critical self-examination: "Muslim are not a part of the society, indeed, they are apart from it. They are not connected enough with the mainstream society for a vast majority of Americans to stand up for us, empathize with us, or even understand the truth about us that we are no different than them in our endeavors and aspirations of life. We must, however, express our gratitude to the millions of Americans who have stood up for us, compelled by their sense of justness and fair play during the crises."

Professor Sherman Jackson observes, "Thus far, however, Muslims remain outside the American story, which is why despite their positive contributions to society; they seldom enlist empathy when they are jailed or discriminated against."

Mike continues, "As good citizens it is not only our right but it is our duty to be self-critical of our society; the Muslim as well as the American society. I hope that the conservatives among us will get beyond the self-righteous criticism and value the freedom that we are endowed with to exercise with pride and care."

"We must learn to re-examine our attitudes towards others and push the refresh button to understand the essence of Islam. We must do our inner jihad against the temptations to reduce Islam to rituals, we should not only be identified as Muslims by the ritual aspect of our religion but also be recognized by the spiritual and social aspect of 'being a Muslim'."

"Being a Muslim is volunteering one's time and effort for the general well being of the society, and serving it with blinders. Prophet

Muhammad said your responsibility is to yourselves, to your family members, to your relatives, to your neighbors around you and beyond. He did not advocate exclusion: "A neighbor is a neighbor is a neighbor. "

"We are Americans, indeed, but need to be Americans "in spirit" to seamlessly connect with fellow Americans."

Full story - <http://worldmuslimcongress.blogspot.com/2009/04/are-muslims-part-of-american-story.html>

MUSLIMS TOGETHER

Building cohesive societies

Our Mission at World Muslim Congress is to work for a world of coexistence through inclusiveness and participation. As a member of the diverse family of faiths, the efforts of WMC will be directed towards justice and equity to attain peace for humankind with a firm grounding in commonly held values. We cannot have advantages at the cost of others. Such benefits are temporary and deleterious to lasting peace. We believe what is good for Muslims has got to be good for the world, and vice versa, to sustain goodness.

Indeed we aspire to promote goodwill amongst people of different affiliations, regardless of their faith, gender, race, nationality, culture or any other uniqueness blessed by the creator.

Muslims forget that Prophet Muhammad was the first man on the earth to initiate the women's liberation movement. He was also the first spiritual master to have commenced Interfaith Dialogue. No one had ever done that before. He practiced the idea that we are all equal.

“Our short-term goal”, Mike says, “ is to understand different faiths and let the values of Islam be understood as well. We know very little about other faiths just as others know almost nothing about Islam. The idea is to know each other so we can be kind to each other. When we learn about each other, myths disappear and solutions emerge.”

Our Long term goal is simply to bring a realization that the purpose of all religions is to bring peace and tranquility to an individual and further create balanced relationships between the individual, society and the environment.

www.WorldMuslimCongress.org

Related websites: ShariaLaws.com | Quraantoday.com | RamadanNews.com
QuraanConference.com | BlasphemyLaws.blogspot.com |



THE AMERICAN AMIN AWARD

Encouraging Muslims to be Muslims



The American Amin Award is instituted for the first time in the world, to recognize and encourage individuals who follow the “Amin model” of the prophet.

What is Amin? It is an Individual who reaches out to every human regardless of his race, religion, region or other uniqueness. Jesus embraced everyone, and Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) continued that same tradition.

Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) was committed to peaceful societies and he knew one cannot build peace in the vacuum; one has to earn the trust of the society. One has to be truthful, reliable, and trustworthy and be someone who people feel safe and secure being around. So, he lived his life by example and earned the title of Amin from the Jewish, Christian and Pagan and other tribes. <http://centerforpluralism.com/awards-the-american-amin-awards/>

Mike says, that, “The next birth celebrations of the prophet falls on Friday, December 1, 2017 and we hope to recognize two individuals – one who has no bias towards others and the other who has most friends from Atheists to Zoroastrians and every one in between. The idea is to develop inclusive societies by encouraging interfaith relationships—a prophetic tradition.” encouraging interfaith relationships; a prophetic tradition.

IN DEFENSE OF ISLAM

Pursuing a Civil Dialogue

Mike has stood up for the rights of every human from Atheist to Zoroastrian and every one in between including Native Americans, LGBTQ and other communities, here is a sample of standing up for Muslims.

By Steve Blow sblow@dallasnews.com Published 19 September 2010

Over and over you hear it said: If Muslims oppose terrorism, why don't they stand up and say it? If that has been you, Mike Ghouse ought to be your hero.

It is hard to imagine that anyone has worked harder than the Carrollton resident to demonstrate the peaceful and moderate side of Islam.

And that effort includes personally visiting Dallas' First Baptist Church last Sunday just to put a friendly face on the "evil, evil religion" that the Rev. Robert Jeffress denounced a few weeks before.

"It was wonderful," Ghouse said of the visit. "We were so warmly received."

He hopes a quick chat with Jeffress will be the start of deeper discussion about Islam and the importance of respect between religions.

"I want to have a dialogue with him, not to say he is wrong but to share another point of view," Ghouse said.

The 57-year-old Muslim was born in India and has lived in the United States for 30 years. He owns a small property management firm. But most of his day is devoted to building bridges between people of different faiths. "It is my passion," he said in his distinctive raspy voice.

He has been a guest a dozen times on Sean Hannity's TV and radio talk shows. "I don't like the way Sean cuts me off, but I have to honor him for giving the American public a semblance of another point of view."

Ghouse said he can understand fear and criticism of Islam because he went through a time of similar feelings.

Full Article at ; <http://www.dallasnews.com/news/columnists/steve-blow/20100919-In-defense-of-Islam-pursuing-9397.ece>

PLURALISM IN ISLAM

Pursuing a Civil Dialogue

CRITICISM OF ISLAM

Free speech triumphs

We need to welcome every criticism of Quran, Islam and the Prophet and deal with it with grace. Let freedom of speech be the cornerstone of Islam.

Islam is not going anywhere; the Prophet is not going anywhere, and by opening ourselves up to criticism, we will learn a lot more about our faith than we ever would have known. We need to move away from intolerance to acceptance of a different point of view without having to agree with it. Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) lived through it and Muslims can learn from his example.

Criticism can fade away or rain upon us depending on how Muslims respond to it. Lack of conviction in one's faith breeds intolerance towards criticism; whereas firmness in faith can lead us to learn from criticism, explore infinite wisdom and realize the strength of our faith (Imaan); a worthy feeling to have, instead of living in doubt and shooing criticism away.



One of the most powerful sentences from Prophet Muhammad's (pbuh) last sermon is, "I leave behind two things, the Qur'an and the Sunnah and if you follow these you will never go astray." The responsibility to know was placed directly on us. It was not assigned to a University or a Spiritual leader to interpret for us.

We cannot compromise on free speech, however much a few may abuse it, but free speech is an enduring value and the hallmark of civilization. Muslims need to seriously consider the gains they have had, that far outweigh the tensions given by a handful of loonies.

The purpose of Islam was to inculcate the values of accountability of one's actions to preserve the harmony of the universe with which God created the universe. The role of Muslims is to mitigate conflicts and nurture goodwill. That is the primary duty of Muslims.

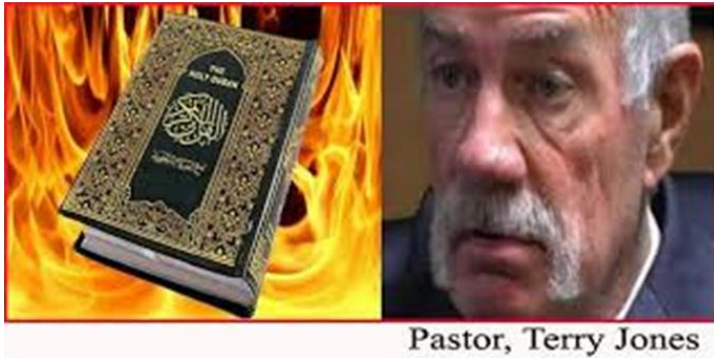
QURAN BURNING

A film is being planned

When Pastor Jones announced burning 2,998 copies of the Qur'an on Wednesday, September 11, 2013, one for each American life lost on September 11, 2001, Mike decided to bring a closure to that sacrifice of our men and women in the most honored way, and not by burning Qurans. He set out to achieve a few clearly defined goals:

To communicate to the Muslim World that our God-given right to freedom of speech is a value we treasure and hold dear. Ultimately, it is freedom that uplifts all of humanity. Indeed, Islam is one of the greatest beneficiaries of this freedom.

To offer an alternate Muslim behavioral model to become the standard for future conflicts, indeed, we can call it a genuine Islamic response based upon the Quran and the example of Prophet Muhammad (pbuh).



To be instrumental in the safety of fellow Americans serving in the armed forces, and of Americans traveling overseas in conflicts zones.

To build cohesive societies where no human has to live in apprehension, discomfort or fear of the other, we need to create this model to mitigate conflicts, nurture goodwill and offer pluralistic solutions on issues of the day.

The support from fellow Americans for this initiative has been encouraging in establishing this new paradigm. Muslim support from around the world has, indeed, also been encouraging. Just about every Muslim Newspaper has published our press release and many have endorsed this to be the right thing to do.

This is a new paradigm in bringing a change, a critical milestone for Muslims in the United States and around the world.

The Mulberry event planted the seed of change about how Muslims are perceived, and how they would react to a future Quran burning, should it happen, and to criticism of Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) and Islam. ***We have decided to make a film about this.***

QURAN BASHING

A critical self examination of Quran

The words of Pastor Jeffress generate fear, anxieties, hate and ill-will. It is because of him and not the fault of his Church; even if the congregation sheepishly claps and gives a standing ovation when the pastor calls out with full passion, “Islam is an evil, evil religion and the Quran is a book written by a false prophet.” The chronological sequence of the events from that day Pastor Robert Jeffress called Islam “an evil, evil religion” to the Quran Conference has been documented on Television and “Dallas Morning News” at www.QuraanConference.com

Myths are manufactured and perpetuated without any substantiation. It is an old business to malign others to have a momentary gain. The challenge was simple: I will present the right



translation of the Qur'an to Rev. Robert Jeffress and his congregation, challenge him to find 3 evil things about the Quran. If he does, I will go to work for his ministry. If he does not, I will ask him to retract the thoughtless and cavalier statements he has made about Islam and the Quran, and take up the challenge of becoming a peacemaker.

The unique thing about the Quran Conference was that, through audience participation, we were able to reduce 60 difficult verses down to 10, to be read by 10 non-Muslim clergy representing different faiths. The conclusion was that it is not the Quran that is the problem; it is the misunderstanding of the Quran. They then understood this to be the same problem with some misguided Muslims.

This formula is successful and Mike is strengthening the model to make it work on its own in every city in the world. Mike would be happy to facilitate and conduct discussions using this formula all around the globe.. The many details could fill a book:

<http://quraanconference.blogspot.com>

SHARIA CONFERENCE

<http://ShariaLaws.com/>

Muslims owe it to fellow Americans to clarify the myths about Sharia, and propose fixing this problem through a conference, to make it credible, with the Islamic scholars and those who are opposed to Sharia.

Americans, who are not familiar with American Muslims, get tense when they hear the word Sharia – it has come to mean stoning a raped woman to death, chopping off one's hand for small theft, beheading, hanging for apostasy, death penalty for Blasphemy etc.



American public deserves to know the truth, and they must be assured that the draconian Sharia Laws practiced in three out of 56 Muslim majority nations is the law of those nations, only, and not a law practiced in the Muslim majority nations.

No American Muslim Organization has asked for it, nor have a majority of Muslims sought Sharia Law be applied. They have subscribed to laws enshrined in our constitution and they believe it serves the justice fairly and equitably. Our goal is to bring clarity to the American Public.

We have plans to hold two conferences this year. Check out the Events and Conference Calendar at the www.CenterforPluralism.com and www.ShariaLaws.com



GROUND ZERO MOSQUE

<http://groundzeromosque.blogspot.com/>

We have to respect and honor the sentiments of everyone who has been a victim of terrorism and their friends and relatives who also may have suffered.

Mike feels that the Ground Zero Mosque is engaging the American Public and bringing emotions and intellectualism to the forefront raising the issue of co-existence. He says, "Questions abound; what is freedom of religion, what is first amendment, what kind of nation are we? Do we want to emulate the very nations we condemn or should we lead the world and set the standards for co-existence? What does it take to build orderly societies? What does it take for you, me and others to feel safe and live in peace?"



"We have to consciously create institutions and systems that would become a catalyst for a positive change and bring about the cohesive functioning of the society. It is our duty to keep law and order and faithfully guard the safety of every citizen."

This issue of building a mosque on "ground zero" is engaging the American Public, whether they be for or against it. As a Pluralist, Mike believes coexistence is the way for sustaining harmony, and will save links of the many articles he comes across as a reference for researchers.

A few people, on behalf of the men and women who have lost their loved ones, feel they should genuinely oppose building of the Mosque/Community Center. A few, who are altruistic and want the center to stand out as a "beacon of hope and peace"; and there a few are falling prey to the political opportunists.

While the tragedy will never fade from our memories, we have to consider the political opportunists who are opposing the Muslim Center near Ground Zero? The revelations are as 'clear as the daylight.' The right-wing politicians have gone berserk and hanging on to tiny branches to save their political careers, and it is an abuse of Patriotism to have political gains.

In the end, if we envision an America that is for all its citizens, we have to consider dropping the "I, my, me" and yield to what is good for America, "the land of the free".

PETER KING HEARINGS

<http://peterkinghearings.blogspot.com/>

Mike Ghouse, welcomed the initiative by Congressman Peter King, the then chairman of the House Committee on Homeland Security to hold the hearings on Islamic radicalism.

It is our duty to keep law and order and faithfully guard the safety of every citizen. Hate is one of the many sources of disrupting the peace in a society and it is our responsibility to seek the source of such hate and work to mitigate it.

We have to identify the criminals who are individually accountable for their actions and need to punish them expediently, according to the law. As a civil society, we must also resist the temptation to blame their family, nation and religion.

Indeed, the last few attempts to mess with our nation's security has come from men flaunting the Muslim label; and as Muslim Americans, it becomes our individual and collective responsibility to participate in ensuring the safety of every American so we welcome the hearings. We hope they lead us to finding the sources and causes of such erratic



behavior; and perhaps, point out areas of concern to be addressed and find lasting solutions.

We hope to separate realities from myths to help find these solutions.

The good news is the King Hearings did not produce what he was looking for. Indeed, they fell flat. Although we should resist random 'checks' in future, we welcome them now. It is for the safety of all citizens and the safety of all is our individual and collective responsibility as Muslims.

INTRA-FAITH DIALOGUE

First time in history—Sunni, Shia and Ahmadiyya Muslims talk



This is an extraordinary event in the Muslim World. If not the first in the world, it certainly is a rare event of intra-faith dialogue among Ahmadiyya, Shia, Sunni and WD Muhammad Muslim groups.

The Intra-faith Dialogue on Islam is a presentation of Boniuk Center's Bridge-Builder Series held at the Asia Society Texas Center, Rice University, Houston, Texas 77004 on Thursday, Feb. 21st, 2013.

Present were: Imam Azhar Haneef, Vice President of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community of the US, Silver Spring, Maryland; Imam Wazir Ali, Masjid Warithud-Deen Mohammed and Masjid Al-Qur'an, Houston, Texas; Imam Moustafa al-Qazwini, Founding Director of the Islamic Education Center of Orange County, California, and Imam Dr. Zia Shaikh, Author and resident scholar of the Islamic Center of Irving, Texas.

This event was critical to setting the tone of dialogue among Muslims, and as a pluralist activist Muslim who regularly interacts, speaks, writes and visits Mosques of every denomination with no prejudice, Mike Ghouse says, "This is a God-given opportunity for this organizer and a moderator of this event to make intra-faith dialogue a reality."

Full video— <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TNGfBUXGm4I>

PEACE TIME INITIATIVES

Best time to strengthen relationship among fellow Americans

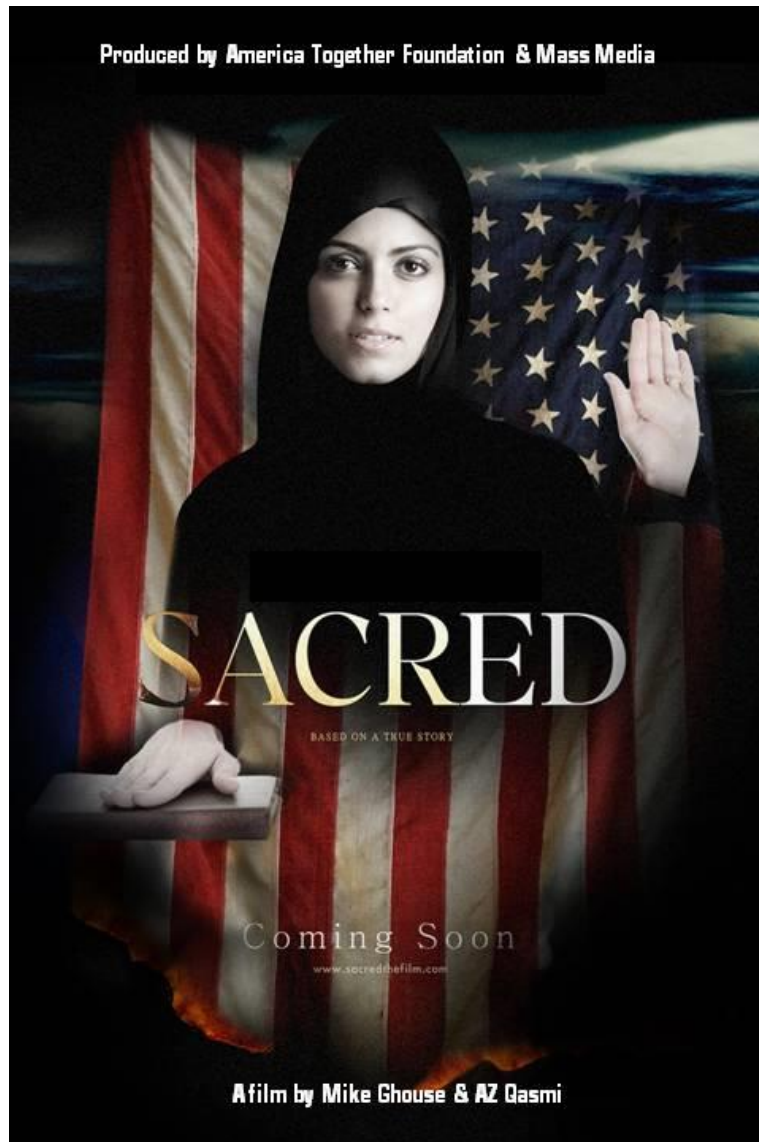
When nothing is happening, we take it easy and do nothing. This is actually the best time to build relationships for peace.

1. **Unity Day USA** | Bringing Americans together as one people www.UnityDayUSA.com
 2. **Thanksgiving Celebrations** | Celebrating Cultural diversity www.ThanksgivingCelebrations.org
 3. **Holocaust and Genocides** | Developing empathy for fellow humans
www.HolocaustandGenocides.com
 4. **The Amin Model**— A model of good citizenship
http://www.huffingtonpost.com/mike-ghouse/american-muslim-agenda-a-_b_5528706.html

http://www.huffingtonpost.com/mike-ghouse/how-i-connect-with-prophet-muhammad_b_2547782.html
 5. **The power of Engagement** - Fox News, shaping the future
<http://theghousediary.blogspot.com/2014/06/youre-dangerous-sparks-fly-between.html>
 6. **Standing up for others**, if you don't stand up for others, why should any one stand up for you? www.Standingupforothers.com
 7. **Intrafaith Conference**—Shia, Sunni, Ahmadiyya and others
<http://worldmuslimcongress.blogspot.com/2013/02/muslims-talk-with-muslims-at-boniuk.html>
 8. **Remove all the barriers for** women to be fully contributing members of the society.
<http://genderpluralismcenter.blogspot.com/>
- Ramadan Intra faith** and Interfaith Iftaars—<http://ramadannews.com>

SACRED: A DOCUMENTARY

The exciting story of Free Speech and Quran Burning



The film is about non-violent positive Muslim response to Quran burning. God willing, the perceptions about Muslims will change, and hopefully Muslims will become conflict mitigators and goodwill nurturers.

SACRED, A DOCUMENTARY

QuraanBurningPastorTerryJones.blogspot.com

What is sacred? Holy books, Mother, Prophet, Flag, and Freedom of Speech and...?

It is a successful real-life story set in Mulberry, Florida coupled with a compelling romantic saga woven around the Quran burning event, filled with human aspirations, relationship issues, suspense, humor, action, and disappointments. It has all the ingredients of a successful Hollywood film.

The film is an embodiment of conflict mitigation and goodwill nurturance based on teachings of Jesus Christ and Prophet Muhammad (pbuh). While Pastor Jones chose to avenge the deaths of 2,998 fellow Americans on 9/11, Mike said, "We prayed together as Americans as well as Muslims of many denominations, and donated the blood to honor victims of 9/11."

Sacred is an exemplary story of ordinary Muslim Americans working with fellow Americans in forging a new paradigm; a cohesive America.

It's a civic adventure in skillfully managing conflicting issues such as: upholding Freedom of Speech ie: Quran Burning, Safety of Americans overseas and Muslim reactions, radicalism and pluralism, Jihad and jihad, perceptions about Muslims and Islam, preserving the sanctity of religions and freedom, and establishing a new model for building cohesive societies, particularly a Pluralistic America where no American has to live in fear of the other.

Hopefully, the world will see a new paradigm in the making of what Muslims ought to be and how they will respond to future incidents of Quran-Burning, and criticism of Islam or to cartoons of the Prophet.

We also hope to firmly communicate the value of freedom of speech that is the foundation of democracies and free societies. What is good for Muslims has got to be good for the world and vice versa to forge sustainable harmony. Blessed are the peacemakers!

Standing up for others

WHY SHOULD ANY ONE STAND UP FOR YOU, IF YOU ARE
NOT WILLING TO STAND UP FOR OTHERS?



Standing up for others is the right thing to do, every human goes through a period of invincibility to vulnerability, and if we don't stand up for those who are vulnerable, then who will stand up for us when we are vulnerable? The book chronicles fascinating stories about standing up for others. It's about creating cohesive societies where no human has to live in fear of the other.

A book by Mike Ghouse

**SPEAKER | THINKER | AUTHOR | TV & RADIO COMMENTATOR
ON PLURALISM, POLITICS, ISLAM, ISRAEL/PALESTINE, INDIA,
FOREIGN POLICY AND BUILDING COHESIVE SOCIETIES.**

MIKE GHOUSE

Background

Dr. Mike Ghouse is a community consultant, speaker, thinker, writer, newsmaker, organizer and a mediator committed to building cohesive societies, offering pluralistic solutions to the media and the public on current issues. He is available to speak at places of worship, workplaces, schools, seminars, workshops, conferences and public events.



Mike has been a frequent guest on Fox News, “The Hannity Show”, and on nationally syndicated Radio shows, print and local radio networks.

He has spoken at international forums including the Council for a Parliament of the World’s Religions in Melbourne, Australia and Salt Lake City, Utah. the Middle East Peace Initiative in Jerusalem; and the International Leadership Conference in Hawaii, Chicago and Washington and many Universities in the US and India.

Dr. Ghouse is a member of the Texas Faith Panel at The Dallas Morning News and writes about issues facing the nation every week. He writes for The Huffington Post regularly, and occasionally for Washington Post and other periodicals around the world. Mike has published over 3500 articles on a variety of subjects. Three books are in the making for a while and hope 2017 will see them published.

Mike was a Commissioner for the City of Carrollton and President of many organizations including Home Owners Association, North Texas Cricket Association, and a board member of several non-profits such as the Dallas Peace Center.

Mike is a collaborator and much of his work revolves around the subjects of pluralism, interfaith movement, politics, justice, cohesive societies, Islam, India, Israel, Palestine and world peace.

WEBSITES & BLOGS

INVESTED QUITE A LOT

1. Americans Together www.Americanstogether.org
2. Center for Pluralism www.Centerforpluralism.com
3. World Muslim Congress www.WorldMuslimCongress.org
4. The Ghouse Diary www.TheGhouseDiary.com
5. Interfaith Marriages www.InterfaithMarriages.org
6. Interfaith Speaker www.InterfaithSpeaker.com
7. Muslim Speaker www.MuslimSpeaker.com
8. Motivational Speaker www.MotivationalSpeakerMikeGhouse.com
9. DMV Calendar www.DMVCalendar.com

1. The Ghouse Diary – <http://theghousediary.blogspot.com>
2. Mike Ghouse for India – <http://MikeGhouseforIndia.blogspot.com>
3. Mike Ghouse for America – <http://MikeGhouseforAmerica.blogspot.com>
4. Center for American Politics – <http://CenterforAmericanPolitics.blogspot.com>
5. America Together Foundation – <http://AmericaTogetherfoundation.blogspot.com>
6. Israel Palestine Dialogue – <http://IsraelPalestineDialogue.blogspot.com>
7. Redeeming Pakistan - <http://redeemingPakistan.blogspot.com>
8. Carrollton Diary – <http://CarrolltonDiary.blogspot.com>

9. Center for Pluralism – <http://CenterforPluralism.blogspot.com>
10. Hate Sermons – <http://hatesermons.blogspot.com>
11. Holocaust and Genocides – <http://HolocaustandGenocides.blogspot.com>
12. Thanksgiving Celebrations – <http://thanksgivingCelebrations.blogspot.com>
13. Unity Day – <http://911Unitdayusa.blogspot.com>
14. Standing up for others - <http://Standingupforothers.blogspot.com>
15. Urdu Hindi Pluralism – <http://urduhindinet.blogspot.com>
16. Terrorism Counter – <http://TerrorismCounter.blogspot.com>

17. World Muslim Congress – <http://WorldMuslimCongress.blogspot.com>
18. Sharia Laws – <http://Sharialaws.blogspot.com>
19. Blasphemy Laws – <http://blasphemylaws.blogspot.com>
20. Quran Today – <http://Quraantoday.blogspot.com>
21. Ramadan Exclusive – <http://Ramadanexclusive.blogspot.com>
22. Quran Conference – <http://QuraanConference.blogspot.com>
23. Quran Burning Pastor – <http://QuranburningPastorTerryJones.blogspot.com>
24. Ground Zero Mosque – <http://Groundzeromosque.blogspot.com>
25. Hadith and Islam – <http://hadithandIslam.blogspot.com>
26. Dallas Muslim Center – <http://DallasMuslimCenter.blogspot.com>