

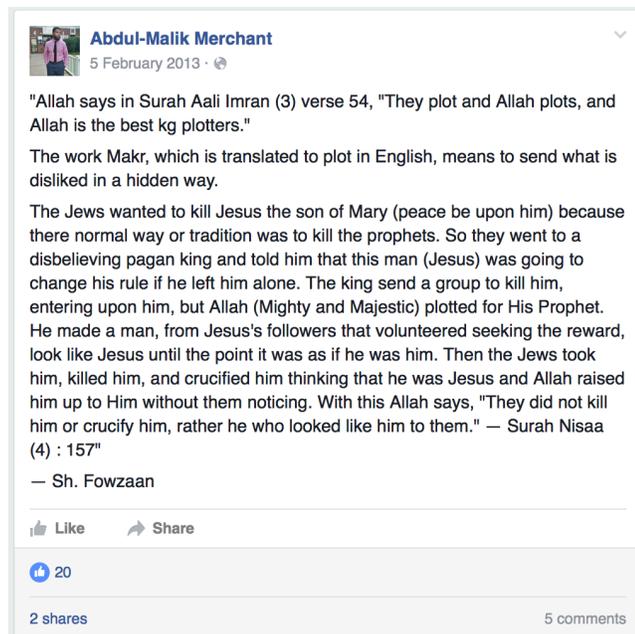
Boston Islamic Seminary

At first glance, the Boston Islamic Seminary (BIS) appears at to be a welcome addition to Boston’s diverse religious communities. BIS is an educational institution dedicated to training the next generation of Muslim religious leaders, [advocating](#) that: “Muslims should be vibrant members of America’s pluralistic society, working collaboratively with people of other faiths.” However, a look at BIS’s founders, speakers and faculty reveals extreme Islamist beliefs.

BIS is a new project of the [Islamic Society of Boston](#) (ISB), one of the largest mosques on the East Coast. Its founder, Abdulrahman Alamoudi, was jailed in 2004 for his role in a plot to assassinate the Saudi crown prince, and he was [subsequently named](#) by the federal government as a key Al Qaeda operative. Other ISB trustees [have included](#) senior Islamist leaders, including the spiritual leader of the Muslim Brotherhood, Yusuf Al-Qaradawi. Today, the ISB and its BIS project remain closely connected with Muslim Brotherhood organizations, and continues to offer jobs and give platforms to preachers from Muslim Brotherhood, Salafi and Deobandi networks.

In 2016, for example, the ISB hired Abdul-Malik Merchant as an associate imam. The ISB describes Merchant as a convert and former student of Umm al-Qura University in Saudi Arabia.

Merchant appears to harbor a particularly strong dislike of Jews. In a Facebook post discussing Jewish “plotting”, he [published](#) text claiming: “The Jews wanted to kill Jesus the son of Mary (peace be upon him) because there [sic] normal way or tradition was to kill the prophets.” And on a blog [run](#) by Merchant, a variety of anti-Semitic scripture is [quoted](#): “Oh assembly of Jews! You are the most disgusting of the creation to me. You killed the prophets of Allaah...”



Merchant also [displays](#) hostility towards homosexuals. He promotes articles published by Christian fundamentalist groups claiming that homosexuality is the product of “exposure to pornography or sexual abuse.” In another Facebook post, in which Merchant [expresses](#) support for keeping “gays” out of fighting sports, Merchant ‘likes’ a comment stating: “i’m cool wit sayin i don’t like fags. love what allaah loves and hate what he hates.”

After Merchant’s extremism was brought to light, the ISB published an apology by Merchant. *Fox News* [reported](#) that “local Jewish leaders said neither the ISBCC nor the mosques it operates should be judged by the actions of a few.” Since then, however, the ISB’s seminary has employed and given platforms to anti-Jewish and anti-gay preachers. At what point should we consider these “actions of a few” as representative of the Islamist institution that promotes and funds this extremism?

BIS Faculty

Suheil Laher

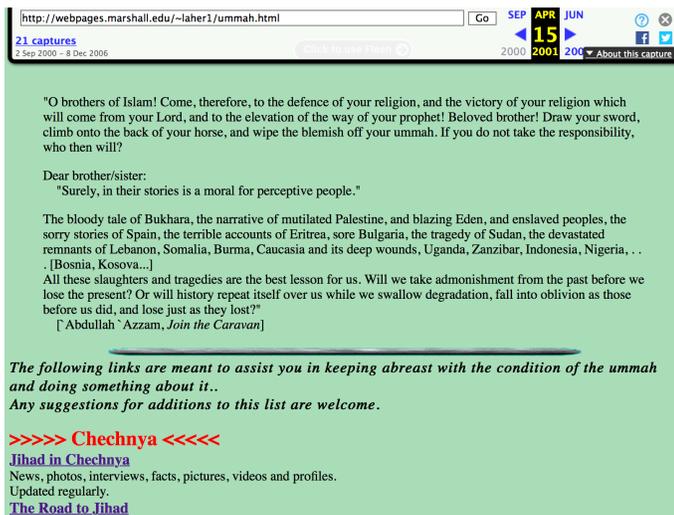
October 21st-22nd, November 4th-5th 2017: [Madhhabs: Development and Differences](#)

Suheil Laher is a Salafist cleric who formerly served [as head](#) of the infamous Boston-based [Al Qaeda charity](#), CARE International.

Laher's personal website previously [featured](#) attacks on Jews, Christians, and *kuffar* (nonbelievers); [cited](#) Abdullah Azzam's infamous call to jihad; and [linked](#) to an Al Qaeda [fundraising website](#).

On his current website, Laher [refers](#) to homosexuals as “depraved sinners,” and [justifies](#) the imposition of a tax on Jews, Christians, and Zoroastrians in an Islamic State.

As former Muslim chaplain at MIT and faculty adviser to [MIT Muslims Students Association](#), Laher served as a mentor to [Aafia Siddiqi](#), an MIT student who became one of the FBI's most wanted Al Qaeda terrorists. She is currently serving an 86-year sentence for attempted murder.



Walid Fitaihi

September 16th 2017: [Managing Wellness: The Highest Well of Worship](#)

Dr. Walid Fitaihi was previously a trustee of the Islamic Society of Boston and today remains a key official. As the [Weekly Standard](#) has noted, Fitaihi has denounced Jews as the "murderers of prophets" and claimed that Jews "would be punished for their oppression, murder and rape of the worshippers of Allah." Fitaihi also declared his scorn for the "Zionist lobby in America... which has recruited many of the influential media."

Dr. Amr el-Fass

October 7th 2017: [*Navigating Change: Lessons on Leadership from the Seerah*](#)

Dr. Amr el-Fass serves as the executive director for the Islamic Society of Boston's mosque in Cambridge, MA, which has a [long history of links](#) to extremism and terror. El-Fass's Facebook page [includes](#) posts referencing Quranic stories that claim that the Jews were to blame for fighting between Arab tribes – and suggests the same is true “these days.”

Hisham Mahmoud

October 13th-14th and October 27th-28th 2017: [*The Prophet and I: Heeding the Voice Within*](#)

Hisham Mahmoud is an Islamic Studies lecturer who [has taught](#) for over a decade at Yale, Princeton, and Harvard Universities. Mahmoud has been criticized for his anti-gay rhetoric. [According to the student newspaper](#) at George Washington University, in 2008, Mahmoud said: “No jurist will ever accept homosexuality as a practice” and condoned punishment for homosexuality.

A Muslim gay rights organization took notes of the same event, [reporting](#) that Mahmoud:

“showed a PowerPoint display that listed homosexuality alongside ‘pedophilia,’ ‘rape,’ and ‘bestiality’ as examples of *haram* sex. Even so, he admitted that all the hadiths about killing gays have been proven weak and cannot be used to legislate. Since there is no Qur'an text specifying punishment, no valid hadiths on the subject, the punishment has been left to the discretion of judges.” Mahmoud also “attacked the practice of ‘coming out’ by saying the ‘veil of Allah’ allows gays to conceal their sinful homosexual identity from the people.”

Dr. Yahia Abdul Rahman

November 18th-19th and December 2nd and 3rd 2017: [Introduction to Islamic Finance](#)

Yahia Abdul-Rahman is a [noted expert](#) on Islamic banking, and has written two books on the subject. While working at Citigroup, Abdul-Rahman launched the “first ever Sharia-compliant stock portfolio.” In addition, he helped establish the Industrial Bank of Kuwait and the LARIBA Bank of Kazakhstan. Under Abdul-Rahman’s guidance, LARIBA established the first sharia-compliant bank in America.

Abdul-Rahman is also, however, a determined anti-Semite. His Facebook page is replete with unpleasant jokes about Jews, support for the Muslim Brotherhood’s struggle against Israel and links to neo-Nazi websites. In August 2015, Abdul-Rahman [posted](#) a link to “The Ugly Truth,” a website that describes itself as “intelligent ‘anti-Semitism’ for thinking Gentiles.” The website contains conspiracy theories about Jewish control of governments and media; as well as claims of Jewish plots to murder children and discussions about “de-Judifying America.”

Abdul-Rahman also spreads Muslim Brotherhood conspiracy theories that Egyptian leader Abdel Fattah el-Sisi is of [Jewish origin](#) and his government is [secretly supported](#) by Jews. Another post shared by Abdul-Rahman [claims](#) that any Muslim who fails to oppose Israel is no longer a Muslim, and has a “Jewish heart.” In addition, in a joke supposedly exposing Jewish complicity during the 2008 financial crisis, Abdul-Rahman [posted a story](#) explaining how a Jewish merchant swindled an entire village out of its savings and assets.

 **Yahia Abdul-Rahman** shared **حسين هادي حمود**'s post. 6 September 2015 · 🌐



حسين هادي حمود is with **حسين سوداني** and **مؤمل العبودي**. 27 August 2015 · 🌐

قصة الحمار واليهودي

لن تصدق ان هذا الحمار هو اساس الازمة المالية العالمية الاخيرة ؟؟؟؟؟

احترار الناس في فهم حقيقة ما جرى في الازمة المالية العالمية الأخيرة !!
فتم الطلب من خبير مالي محتك أن ييسط للناس العاديين أسباب الكارثة التي حدثت في أسواق
البورصة فحكى لهم قصة قديمة لتاجر يهودي:
ذهب اليهودي إلى قرية نائية، عارضاً على سكانها شراء كل حمار لديهم بعشرة دولارات، فباع قسم
كثير منهم حميرهم، بعدها رفع اليهودي السعر إلى 15 دولاراً للحمار، فباع آخرون حميرهم، فرفع
اليهودي سعر الحمار إلى 30 دولاراً فباع باقي سكان القرية حميرهم حتى لم يبق في القرية حماراً
واحداً !! ..

BIS Guest Speakers

Abdelrahman Murphy

June 25th 2016: [Bismillah: A New Chapter Begins](#)

Murphy is a former [employee](#) of the Islamic Society of Boston as well as a student of Abdul Nasir Jangda, a Deobandi cleric who [has defended](#) the use of female sex slaves within Islam and supports the killing of apostates and adulterers. Murphy [works](#) with Jangda at the Qalam Institute, a Deobandi seminary that frequently runs events with the ISB. One of the Qalam Institute's most popular courses – titled "The Prophetic Code" – [warns](#) Muslims to seek “cleanliness” and “purity,” so “do not resemble the Jews.”

On Twitter, Murphy has [tweeted](#): “Israeli terrorist running over a Palestinian native with his Mercedes. There is no such thing as an innocent Israeli.” In addition, he once [posted](#) a video praising Sheikh Ahmed Yassin, the founder of Hamas.



Yousef Abdallah

June 25th 2016: [Bismillah: A New Chapter Begins](#)

Yousef Abdallah is the East Coast Operations Manager for Islamic Relief, one of the largest Muslim charities in the world. As a senior official, Abdallah frequently speaks on behalf of the charity [in the media](#), at "[peace-building](#)" events, on [Islamic television stations](#), and at dozens of different events across the country. When he is not in front of the cameras, however, his private social media posts reveal an intense, violent anti-Semitism.

When Republican politician Chris Christie backtracked after referring to the West Bank and Gaza as "occupied,"

Abdallah [wrote](#): "Christie kneels down on his knees before the jewish lords and says 'I am sorry'. Only money makes stuff like this happen. Mr. Christie.. Muslims should remember this very well."

Abdallah has also [published](#) a story romanticizing "martyrs" who provide guns to "kill more than 20 jews" and "fire rockets at Tel Aviv."



The image is a screenshot of a Facebook post. At the top, it shows the profile of 'Yousef Abdallah' with a small profile picture and the text 'March 31, 2014 · The Huffington Post ·'. Below this is the text of the post: 'WOW.. Christie kneels down on his knees before the jewish lords and says " I am sorry". Only money makes stuff like this happen. Mr. Christie.. Muslims should remember this very well.' Underneath the text is a photograph of Chris Christie, the Governor of New Jersey, speaking at a podium. He is wearing a dark suit and a yellow tie, and is gesturing with his right hand. The background of the photo includes a sign for the 'REPUBLICAN JEWISH COALITION'. Below the photo is the title of the article: 'Christie Apologizes For 'Occupied Territories' Remark, Says He 'Misspoke''. Below the title is a short summary: 'New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie (R) apologized Saturday for using the term "occupied territories" at an event hosted by billionaire GOP donor Sheldon...'. At the bottom of the post, there are icons for 'Like' and 'Share'.

Abdallah's other posts [included](#) references to Jews as "stinking," and claims that "the Jews put the outside wall of Al Aqsa [the mosque in Jerusalem] on fire." Abdallah also 'likes' a comment on his Facebook post that calls on God to wreak "revenge on the damned rapists Zionists. O God they are no challenge for you. Shake the Earth beneath their feet and destroy them as you destroyed the peoples of 'Ād, Thamud and Lot."

Tariq Ramadan

March 31st 2017: [Knowledge Trumps Ignorance](#)

October 1st 2017: [Islam: A New Way- The Essentials](#)

Tariq Ramadan is a Swiss-born academic and the grandson of Muslim Brotherhood founder Hassan al-Banna. Ramadan recently released [a 10 minute video on Facebook](#) attacking critics of Female Genital Mutilation (FGM). Ramadan stated Muslim leaders who advocate for FGM should be understood as "brothers," part of "our community" and Muslims who disagree should engage them with "internal discussion" and are instructed "not to expose them."

In 2004, Ramadan was banned from entering the United States, after authorities [found](#) that between 1998 and 2002, he had given \$1300 to Association de Secours Palestinien, a Swiss-based charity [designated](#) by the Treasury Department as a front group for Hamas.

As the Middle East Forum has [previously noted](#): "Ramadan finds [nothing to reject](#) in al-Banna's supremacist ideas; he has been accused of [links to terrorists](#);

he has [justified bombings](#) in Israel, Russia, and Iraq as legitimate resistance; he went no further than calling for a '[moratorium](#)' against stoning while the practice is debated; he [supports restrictions](#) on the public lives of women; he demands that integration [take place on Muslims' terms](#); and he [led a boycott](#) against the 2008 Turin Book Fair because it honored Israel.”

Yasir Qadhi

June 3rd 2017: [Annual Ramadan Fundraising Iftar](#)

Yasir Qadhi is a prominent Salafi cleric with a long history of publicly espousing anti - Semitism, violence against homosexuals and Holocaust denial. He has [advised](#) his audiences to read a book titled *The Hoax of the Holocaust* and has also [expressed](#) support for the notorious British Holocaust denier, David Irving.

The *London Times* recently [reported](#): “Yasir Qadhi, a Saudi-educated American academic, has been recorded apparently telling students that killing homosexuals and stoning adulterers was part of their religion. Dr Qadhi, who features in an eight-city tour starting this month, described Islamic punishments such as cutting off the hands of thieves as ‘very beneficial to society.’” In the [sermon in question](#), Qadhi states: "...to kill, by the way, the homosexual – this is also our religion. The *fiqh* rulings say that the homosexual be killed, OK? ... This is all a part of our religion. This doesn't mean we go and do this in America... but I'm saying if we had an Islamic state we would do this.”

Siraj Wahhaj

June 10th 2017: [Unlocking Your Potential](#)

Siraj Wahhaj is a familiar name to observers of the Islamist lecture circuit. For decades, Wahhaj, a Salafi imam, has been a regular speaker at events organized by Islamist organizations across the country.

Wahhaj's sermons are [peppered](#) with bigoted and violent statements. He has [insisted](#) to his congregants that "Woe to the Muslims who pick *kafirs* [non-Muslims] for friends. Woe, woe, woe to the Muslims who take *kafirs* as friends. *Kafir* will take you away from the remembrance of Allah...Take not into your intimacy those outside of your race. They will not fail to corrupt you. Don't you know our children are surrounded by *kafirs*. I'm telling you, making the hearts of our children corrupt, dirty, foul."

Wahhaj has also [instructed](#): "The thief, the one who steals, man or woman, male or female, chop off their hands. If they steal, chop off their hands. This is a commandment of Allah, *subhanahu wa ta'ala*... And you know what, believe me, you chop off enough hands, all the people will get the example."

In the wake of the 1993 World Trade Center bombing, authorities discovered that Wahhaj and his mosque were closely linked to the attack's mastermind, [the late Omar Abdel Rahman](#). U.S. attorney Mary Jo White [named Wahhaj](#) a possible unindicted co-conspirator in the bombing plot. Wahhaj served as a [character witness](#) for Abdel Rahman at trial, praising him as a "respected scholar."