

MUSLIM CHAPLAINCY

newsletter

***As-Salāmu ‘alaikum wa-rahmatullahi wa-barakatu
May peace, mercy, and blessings be upon you and yours***

As the Tufts Muslim Students Association (MSA), it is our joy to warmly welcome you on behalf of the Tufts Muslim community. Here at Tufts, Muslim life is exceptionally robust. Many of our Muslim life gatherings focus on cultivating religious learning, giving back through service, or engaging in social activities with the Muslim community at Tufts or in the greater Boston area. Through the MSA, we celebrate many Muslim holidays such as Eid and the month of Ramadan. We have also adapted virtual programming to be deeply engaging. We connect with many other faith organizations at Tufts and with other Muslim student groups in surrounding schools, and we have had many events that educate on Islam to strengthen our faith and learn about Muslims in the wider world.

Tufts has two custom-designed Muslim prayer rooms in Curtis Hall and in the Tufts Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy. On the campus you can also find the Muslim Culture House which functions as an undergraduate residence hall. There is a student-led daily prayer along with a regular Friday prayer at Tufts Interfaith Center all throughout the academic year. More information can be found on the Muslim Chaplaincy website.

The Tufts Muslim community is open and engaged. We look forward to welcoming you to the Tufts Jumbo family!

The Muslim Student Association Executive Board

*As of Fall 2021, the Tufts University Chaplaincy is conducting a search for our new Muslim chaplain.
The University Chaplain is available to all Muslim students.*

We pray the Muslim Chaplaincy can serve as a space where you can come as you are, grow spiritually and emotionally, and build a healthy new community that you will remain connected to after your time at Tufts.

Regular Programming:

- Weekly Jummah service (sermon and prayer) at the Interfaith Center
- Regular community learning, including the speaker series, "Spring into Islam," and the study group, "The Opening:
- Exploring Surah Al-Fatiha to Understand God's Divinity"
- Ramadan preparation lecture series
- Eid prayer and celebrations
- Welcome back barbeque and regular community dinners



Muslim Students Association Fall Dinner, 2019



Eid 2021 Celebration outdoors on Fletcher Field

Program Spotlight
Ask Me Anything: Islam

This two-part series, held virtually this year, invited Tufts community members—students, faculty, and staff—to ask anything of former Muslim Chaplain Imam Abdul-Malik Merchant. The first hour of each session invited broad questions about Islamic tradition, texts, and rituals; the second hour allowed for deeper inquiry to personal questions asked by participants. Questions could be submitted anonymously, and Imam Merchant answered warmly from his experience and scholarly training. It was a candid, welcoming event that highlighted the community’s rich tradition of learning together.



Prayer room in the Cabot Center at the Fletcher School on the Medford/Somerville Campus



“Few other groups of friends and peers have simultaneously been what I needed at the right moments and exactly what I didn’t know I needed at the harder moments. College does take a lot out of you, whether you’re ready for it or not. But for all the moments over the years rife with doubt and worry, my good friends at Muslim House, the new and old friends I see after Jummah, the Muslims I connect with in class—they get it. They get it in a way no one else does. I feel like I get to be part of the most caring, diverse, and downright hilarious group of friends at this university, and often, it feels like family, like really belonging somewhere. Without it, I would truly be lost.”

- Hasan Khan, A22

Support Muslim Life at Tufts University

A vital portion of our programs are made possible by community donations. Here are some suggestions for how you can help make a difference in students’ lives:

\$25

Builds up our books and resources for our community library for deeper study of Islam

\$75

Contributes to the guest speaker fund, bringing scholars, alumni, and community members to events

\$150

Supports Ramadan celebrations, including suhoor kits and a large community meal for Eid

To give to the Tufts Muslim Chaplaincy Fund online, please visit <http://go.tufts.edu/giveMuslim>. To discuss a major gift, endowment, or bequest, please contact our Advancement liaison Lorraine Sparrow:

(617) 627-2052 | Lorraine.Sparrow@tufts.edu

Thank you for your generosity and support.