

# MUSLIM CHAPLAINCY

## 2025-2026 newsletter



**Muslim Chaplain  
Khan Asfandiyar Shairani**

### **Peace and blessings on you and welcome to Tufts University!**

The Muslim Chaplaincy at Tufts University supports the vibrant and culturally and spiritually diverse community of Muslim students, faculty, and staff. The global Muslim community stretches from here in the United States to every corner of the world. Thus, the members of our community come to us from every corner of the world, and it is our privilege to welcome them and make them feel safe and at home here on campus. Beyond that, we celebrate that diversity and recognize the value in our differences.

In partnership with the Muslim Students Association (MSA) and graduate student organizations, we offer a space to build a community together, one in which we can learn from one another, find friendship, and forge bonds that will last a lifetime.

Through Jummah prayers in the Interfaith Center, to spiritual circles to discuss various topics, to celebrating the breaking of the fast during Ramadan, the Muslim Chaplaincy is committed to offering a multiplicity of spaces for Muslim students to find a connection to their spiritual roots and connect with others.

The Muslim Chaplaincy supports student-led efforts at advocacy, awareness, and teaching about different topics related to the Islamic world. Additionally, I hold sessions with the community centered around textual study and spiritual programming. As the Muslim Chaplain to both the undergraduate and graduate community, I look forward to building solidarity and networks between our different campuses to support our students' physical and spiritual wellbeing and inculcating a sense of community where students can feel at home.

Salām alaykum,

**Khan Asfandiyar Shairani**

Muslim Chaplain

### **Regular Programming**

- Jummah Prayers on Fridays at the Interfaith Center
- Chaplain-led text study and discussions
- Social and spiritual programs at Muslim House
- Ramadan iftars and group prayers
- Community dinners and study breaks
- Eid Celebration



**Community members gather for  
Jummah prayers in the Interfaith Center,  
Summer 2025**



**The Muslim Chaplaincy strives to provide a safe space for all students where you can come as you are, grow spiritually, and build strong bonds that will support you on your path.**

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**Muslim Chaplaincy**  
chaplaincy.tufts.edu

### Program Spotlight: Interfaith Iftar

Each year during Ramadan, the Muslim Chaplaincy and the Muslim Student Association host the Interfaith Iftar as a way to bring our broader Tufts community together to celebrate the important practice of fasting and breaking fast together in community. We invite our professors and our fellow students to learn about our community and perhaps even join us in fasting for a day if they would like. During the dinner, we reflect on the privilege we have in the sharing of food, community, and our values with our entire community. People from all different backgrounds join the fasting community in solidarity. We rejoice at the diversity of ethnicity, traditions, and histories that are represented at this annual gathering.



Students gather in Spring 2025 for Interfaith Iftar in Breed Memorial Hall



"Coming to Tufts after a year of stay-at-home orders and social distancing, I had forgotten what community felt like. We were all relearning together how to socialize as I took my first steps at Tufts.

The Tufts Muslim community defined my college experience for the best. I found a diverse and kind community who was just happy to have me there. I was able to join the MSA executive board and work with the Muslim Chaplaincy to welcome others as I had been, through reading together, social events, and many opportunities to learn and deepen my engagement with my own tradition. From my first Ramadan on campus to my last Eid prayer, I've been able to make friends I will have for life!"

—Ayub Nur, AG26

## 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 community library books and resources for a deeper study of Islam
- **\$75** contributes to the guest speaker fund, bringing scholars, alumni, and community members to events
- **\$150** supports student needs during Ramadan, including halal food for iftars, suhoor kits, and an Eid celebration



Give Today!

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 University Chaplain Elyse Nelson Winger:

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Thank you for your generosity and support.

**Tufts University Chaplaincy | Interfaith Center | 58 Winthrop St., Medford, MA 02155**

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