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**AL FAJR - THE DAWN**

**الفجر صوت الدروز**

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# Special Report

## *The American Druze Foundation*

**Reported by: Shauki Halime  
USA**

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# American Druze Foundation

## ★ Mission & Goals ★

To establish and manage a permanently endowed institution to advance the development of a deeper understanding and appreciation of the religious and cultural heritage of the Druze people, and to preserve and enhance the Druze faith and traditions within the Druze communities in the United States.

To provide an institutional structure through which the American Druze may participate in diverse inter-faith activities and programs, and may share the richness of Druze values and traditions with other religious and cultural organizations.

To create and support comprehensive publishing, scholarship and research programs meeting high academic standards for the purpose of expanding the base of contemporary English language educational materials and publications concerning the Druze currently available.



The American Druze Foundation (ADF) was established in 1989 with a vision for the Druze Society and has accomplished much. It has grown through lessons of experience and hard work by Board members and many supporters.

Its major goals are to preserve and promote the Druze heritage and ensure its future, the Foundation continues to support scholarly work to:

- ★ Further explore the roots of the Tawhid faith.
- ★ Explore the development of the syncretic Druze Tawhid path (Maslak).
- ★ Follow the evolution of the community and its Diaspora and how it faces the challenges of modernity.

The Foundation continues in its efforts to engage the youth and address their concerns and aspirations, and encourage their involvement. The ADF maintains its sponsorship of a series of lectures to enhance among our youth, their understanding of the various aspects of our Tawhid heritage, and help develop a sense of pride in being part of the people of Al Ourfan (People of Knowledge), and of Ahl Al Mithaq (the people of the covenant) that consider religion a way of life, not a dogma.

The ADF also continues to focus on promoting the history of Tawhid, its spiritual, human, and social justice values of equality between men and women, respect of science and reason and respect of the belief of others; along with Tawhid's compatibility with modernity. The Foundation's future efforts would continue in the same path and will also focus on its institution building and on sponsoring fundraising events to enhance its capabilities to better serve the American communities.

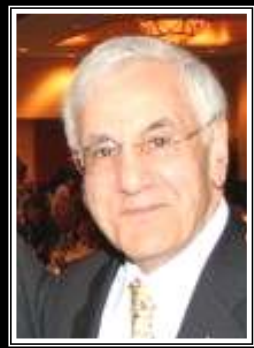


# American Druze Foundation

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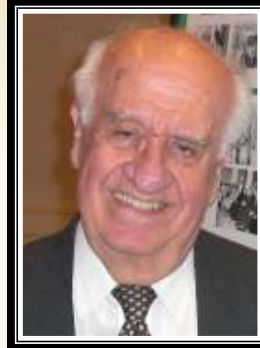
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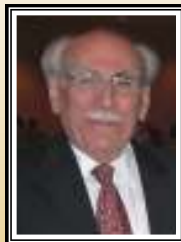


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# American Druze Foundation



## Achievements



### Endowment

The American Druze Foundation (ADF) has established an asset portfolio with a current value of over \$1 million. The majority of the contributions made to the ADF come from its board members, along with public support and investment appreciation making up the difference.

### American Druze Community Events

**Seminars and Publications:** Throughout the years the ADF has participated through some of its board members and has invited several renowned Scholars and religious authorities to participate in panels and seminars held at various community events nationwide. Topics covered included history, ethnicity and identity, philosophy, anthropology, religion, human rights, modernity, and interfaith dialogue. The ADF has made significant literary and financial contributions for community publications, including "Our Heritage" – the American Druze Society periodical.

**Cultural Events:** As part of its commitment to promoting art and culture that help in understanding our heritage, the ADF co-sponsored with Arab American organizations and academic institutions a piano concert performed by the acclaimed artist Diana Takieddine in Washington D.C. ADF also sponsored a major concert performance by the orchestra of the Lebanese conservatory (Conservatoire National Du Liban), at the UNESCO Palace in Beirut, celebrating the achievements of the legendary Arabic musicians Farid and Asmahan Al-Atrash. The Foundation also supported the production of videotapes and music CDs of the Al-Atrash concert. Moreover, an exhibit of rare Druze manuscripts was organized at the Library of Congress as part of the 2008 International Symposium on the roots and development of the Druze Tawhid heritage.

### American Druze Cultural Centers

The ADF has contributed to the funding & the establishment of a number of American Druze Cultural community centers across the nation, including Southern California, Michigan & Virginia. These cultural centers help strengthen ties within the community & enable us to preserve & share the richness of our values & traditions within the framework of our culture.

### Scholarly Research

The ADF supported the research & publication of Dr. Anis Obeid in his book "*The Druze & Their Faith in Tawhid*," an informed & thorough treatment of Druze History & beliefs. The ADF has also supported & helped sponsor academic events to enhance Druze research studies. These events were held at various universities including UCLA & San Diego State University. In February of 2008, the ADF co-sponsored an International Symposium with the US Library of Congress & its think Tank, the Kluge center, addressing the roots of the Druze Tawhid & the challenges of modernity. It is presently undergoing research to publish a book about "*Druze Americans in the 20th Century*."

### Educational Funds

The Zaineldeen Educational Fund – An ADF owned fund, has provided support to female graduate students specializing in areas that enhance better knowledge & understanding of our roots & values & equip them to meet the challenges of modernity.

### Youth Annual Awards

We are in the process of establishing an annual youth Awards competition in collaboration with the American Druze Society. Its aim is to encourage community involvement among young, male & female members of the community.

# American Druze Foundation Proudly Honors Dr. Abdallah E. Najjar

On Friday July 3, 2009 the ADF honored the distinguished **Dr. Abdullah E. Najjar** at the Annual Druze convention Hosted by the Washington, DC Chapter. It was an uplifting and emotional evening, the love the community has for the outstanding lifetime achievements of **Dr. Najjar**, it is an honor to know this humble gentleman.

Dr. Melhem Salman opened the evening with a wonderful tribute & presented **Dr. Najjar** "The Patriarch" with an engraved Silver Plaque with a beautiful and eloquent message, it included



Dr. Melhem Salman presents Plaque to Dr. Najjar

two Arabic words - TAQDIR (appreciation) & WAFAA (being faithful).

Many others also spoke & gave tribute to **Dr. Najjar**. Dr. Anis Obeid wrote a special poem in honor of Dr. Najjar and presented it to him (included in this report).

Dr. Nadim Kassem, Mr. Ray Helal, Mr. Ghassan Saab, and Mrs. Manal Saab also gave moving speeches in regards to Dr. Najjar & his life dedicated to the Tawhid way of life. **Dr. Najjar**, forever humble, remarked "I hope to be able to measure up to the kind words the speakers articulated and hope to continue my service as an Arab-American and as a Mouwahid."

"**THE PATRIARCH**" as written by Dr. Melhem Salman. "Dr. Najjar's pride, commitment and devotion to his Arab,



Dr. Najjar - "The Patriarch"



**DR. NAJJAR**

Lebanese and Tawheed roots helped him ignite within the community, men and women, young and old, a fire of love, solidarity, and a deep spirit of commitment to the group's welfare. His efforts towards progress are everlasting. He is a true modern Muwahhid catalyst leader who leads by example. His pioneering leadership and multifaceted decades of generous spiritual and earthly contributions not to mention his tenacity, have been a light of hope and an example to follow."



**Mr. Shauki Halime with Dr. Abdullah Najjar and his lovely wife Gerri.**

"Like Fakhreddine, the symbol of the Maani Lebanon, Dr. Najjar continues to promote his deep solid roots, and like the oak tree that expands its branches towards its world, he continues to expand his love, wisdom, mind, and hand to his American, Arab, and Lebanese communities in his adopted country, the United States of America, a country that he served with distinction, overseas and locally."



**Mr. Ray Helal**

and continues to fight introversion, feudalism, & parochialism, and always practiced truthfulness

"Indeed Dr. Najjar has developed an exceptional track record, and he did it not out of his Tawheed roots and values....but because of them. He fought

and provided leadership & protection of the brothers and sisters. To him, Tawheed particularism holds within it a responsibility to be a better catalyst, work harder to seek knowledge and share it, and practice general goodness. He took that responsibility on...."

"We all know no man can reach such achievement without the support of a special wife and life companion, Gerri, and a loving family, Mark, Alan, and Omar."

Abdallah E. Najjar, PhD, has had a distinguished career along with years of service to his community. He is a retired U.S. Public Health Service Official and a World War II veteran. He received his higher education at the American University of Beirut, Concord University, Athens WV, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and the Universities of Teheran and Ain Shams.



**Mr. Ghassan Saab congratulates Dr. Najjar**

**Dr. Najjar** capped his 31 year career in disease control & prevention at the U.S.

# DR. NAJJAR

Centers for Disease Control (CDC) in Atlanta Georgia, where he established and directed the Office of International Services.

**Dr. Najjar** published articles and book chapters on malaria epidemics in Ethiopia, on parasite resistance to anti malaria drugs, on malaria eradication progress in India, and others.



**Dr. Anis Obeid presents Poem & congratulates Dr. Najjar**

Hygiene, 1978; Personalities of the South, American Biographical Institute, 1978; Founder, committee on Charitable Affairs, American Druze Society, 1979; Who is Who in Government, 1979; Druze Foundation

Member, board of trustees, for Social Welfare (DFSW) 1980, Treasurer, American Druze Foundation, 1989; President, Arab American Fund of Georgia Inc. 1990; Medal of Honor, American Druze Society, 1996; Envoy, Olympic Games, 1996; Helped establish the Alif Institute as a committee of the AAFGA, 2001; George Hixon Award of Kiwanis International, 2004; Founder Council of Elders, ADS, 1979; and Honorary Dean, Arab American Community of Georgia. †



**Dr. Nadim Kassam**

Being a member of the Druze minority of the Middle East, he conducted research and authored several publications on Druze theology, ethics and moral code.

**Dr. Najjar** is the recipient of many awards, including Honor Award of the Republic of Egypt; American Druze Society National Award; Outstanding Kiwanian of

the Year; Commander of the Disabled American Veterans; ADC Life Time Achievement Award; Recognition Award for public health service from the Shah of Iran, 1953; Recognition Award for public health service from Emperor Haile Selassie, Ethiopia, 1959; Founding Member, Committee on Religious Affairs (CORA) of the American Druze Society, 1970; Recognition Award for public health service from Emir of Kuwait, 1977; Chairman, membership committee, American Society of Tropical Medicine and



**Mrs. Manal Saab**



DR. NAJJAR

*A Poem in Honor of  
Dr. Abdullah Najjar*

*By : Dr. Anis Obeid*

نحيي ما تعزز في اللقاء  
وكان القلب ينبض في الرجاء  
وقلب قد تكلم بالصفاء  
لغير الله ينبوع العطاء

عن الأحقاد عن مكر الدهاء  
لصدر وسعه وسع الفضاء  
جريئاً صادقاً كالاولياء  
تلاشي فيه عزم الأقوياء  
وصار الجهل نهجاً في الخفاء  
وبات الحكم في كف القضاء

تمرس في مكافحة الغباء  
على من كان محروم الضياء  
إلى الخلق المميز في العلاء  
محاصرة بغرب الكبرياء  
على جهل فما نفع البناء  
على صمم فما نفع الغناء  
ليطرد فيه أشباح الفناء  
يكفر من يحدق بالسماء  
تشل الفكر من ألف لياء  
الام الطب يبخل في الدواء

وهذا اليوم رمزٌ للوفاء

مهداة إلى الدكتور عبدالله النجار بمناسبة تكريمه من قبل  
المؤسسة الدرزية الأميركية في واشنطن في تموز ٢٠٠٩

د. أنيس عبيد

سلاماً يا رفيق الدرب جننا  
تخاطبنا فكان الحس وحياء  
وجاء الحلم يجمع بين عقل  
أعبدالله ما أنت بعبد

أعبدالله يا جبلاً تسامى  
حباك الله من نعماه رحباً  
وعقلاً راجحاً في كل حقل  
تألم إذ رأى نهجا قويماً  
وصار العلم للإنسان خصماً  
وغط العزم في نوم عميق

أعبدالله يا علماً ونوراً  
لكم حاولت أن تلقي ضياء  
اعدنا للحضارة يا مربى  
خبرت الشرق حيث الشرق روح  
ويزهو بازدهار ثم يبني  
فهل يشفى العليل إذا تغنى  
وبات يعطل الأوهام سرا  
يخون من يخالف نهج حكم  
خطوطاً رسم التقليد حمرا  
أعبدالله يا رمز التفاني

رفاقي إن عبدالله رمزٌ



# American Druze Foundation

5335 Wisconsin Avenue, NW • Suite 440  
Washington, DC 20015  
202-895-2789

*Preserving Our Heritage*

**Established 1989**

*Ensuring Our Future*

Washington DC; July 12, 2009

**Dear Shauki, Allah Maak;**

I would like to share with you, on behalf of the **American Druze Foundation (ADF) Board of Trustees**, our sincere appreciation, our congratulations and propose to you venues for future collaboration.

You and your wife Sarah have been pioneers in establishing an electronic WORLD WIDE network linking our people together. The spontaneous worldwide responses to your important initiative confirm its need and its success. SHOUKRAN !! The ADF would like to let you know that we are proud of you, & that ADF wants to assist you in strengthening your project and in consolidating it; if agreeable to you.

Moreover, Sarah's volunteer work with the **American Druze Society** before launching this great network was equally very important. The **American Druze Foundation** gives you full credit for her adoption of our Tawhid communities & for the important volunteer work both of you, as a couple, have been able to initiate at your own expenses. **You have addressed a major need, on your own, without waiting for anybody's support.**

This work, based on your own initiative, *IS INDEED AN INSTITUTIONAL WORK* that you should feel very proud of. ADF does. This is a labor of love & devotion to the community. May God bless you!

**Dear Shauki, Dear Sarah**

The scope & magnitude of your work is huge & its potential for growth is unlimited. **The American Druze Foundation** will be more than happy to collaborate with you to assist in developing a sustainable long term evolution of your project. Personally, as I have already discussed with you, I am ready to share my thoughts & experience to consolidate your efforts through linking up with media academics & others.

I shall propose to the Board to invite you to attend a future ADF Board meeting to discuss options and strategies. **As an expression of our appreciation, the ADF Board would like to present you and your wife with a Life Membership in the American Druze Society.**

**Thank you for promoting our heritage & our Tawhid values** of truthfulness (sidk al Lissan), protecting the community (Hafz al Ikhwan), seeking knowledge & using reason, not blind dogma. We need to join efforts to promote our Tawhid particularism and openness to our natural Arab American environment, and to the American modern & democratic values that are similar to the Fatimid Tawhid values of a thousand years ago.

We need to work together to highlight the modern aspects of Tawhid values, its protection of men and women rights, social & economic justice, democratic election of the leadership along with dialogue, respect & tolerance. This is so important in the present time where dogma & sectarianism is gaining strength. Our people should feel proud of who they are & feel the responsibility to be role models, each in his/her environment.


**We look forward to our continued interaction.**

Sincerely,  
**Melhem D. Salman; Ph.D**  
**Chairman, American Druze Foundation**

## Some of the Comments we received:

*Dear Shauki & Sarah,  
Well deserved appreciation. It is amazing to see your dedication and motivation to the cause you believe in. You have a great responsibility in your hands which I know you take very seriously. I thank you for it and keep up the great work.*

**Dr. Dima Suki, PhD, Houston, Texas**



Shauki & Sarah,  
I full heartedly agree with Dr. Salman about your positive contributions to the ADS...Congratulations! Thanks,

**Peter Boukzam, Minnesota**

*Congratulations Shauki & Sarah,  
It was so nice meeting you at the convention. Keep up the good work, you can count on me to support you and your work.*

**Lina Shehayeb, New York, NY**

All we can say is congratulations for a job well done!  
Best of luck,  
**Fady & Lina Abdel-Malak - New York**

Dear Mr. & Mrs. Halime,

Congratulations. Good deeds never go unnoticed,. Your dedication, hard work and involvement with the community is recognized and that is very well deserved.

**Nabil El-Halabi, Toronto, Canada**

Dear Shauki & Lovely wife Sarah,  
What you have done & still doing is a tedious, hard & beneficial work. Every word said or written about this subject, you deserve it & much more. We are proud of you as a friend, relative & from same place and community. Humans are measured by their donations & you gave much. What I am conveying to you is the talk & feelings of my brothers & their families.

Best Regards,  
**Zouheir A. Jaber, Lebanon**

**VERY TIMELY & APPROPRIATE. SO GLAD DR. SALMAN HAS TAKEN THE INITIATIVE TO ACKNOWLEDGE & EXPRESS THE ADF BOARD'S APPRECIATION.**


**DR. ABDALLAH NAJJAR, PHD ATLANTA, GEORGIA**

*Dear Shauki & Sarah,  
The letter is just wonderful... a good tribute to all the work you both are doing for the community. Thank you. I know you will continue with your efforts and they will bear fruit. You are doing a super job. Best of luck with all your future plans.*

**Kathy Jaber Stephenson, California**

What can I say Shauki! You and your wife personify the best in people.

Congratulations!  
**Sam Ackley, Washington, DC**



Dear Shauki,  
Just to add that the sentiments mentioned previously is not only those of the ADF Board. It is of every Mowahed who was touched by your and Sarah's work. You are a role model for each one of us trying to make a difference in our beloved community. Our best to you and Sarah.

**Rola & Giath Hamdan, Toronto, Canada**

Dear Mr. Halime,  
Alf Mabrouk to you & Sarah!!! Best regards & congratulations again!!!

**Carolina Masri, Florida**



# Sheikh Fouad Sleem

## ADS

### Druze of the Year



On July 4th, the Druze community celebrated **Sheikh Fouad Sleem** as the ADS Druze of the Year at the 63rd Annual ADS Gala Evening held in the Grand Ballroom of the Wardman Hotel in Washington, DC. Mr. Sam Ackley gave an eloquent speech which summarized **Sheikh Fouad's** many accomplishments. The following is the speech Mr. Ackley presented that evening.

*"Tonight, we celebrate and salute the accomplishment of a loving and gentle man, **Sheikh Fouad Sleem**. He is truly a great Druze, a loving father, brother and grandfather, a wonderful cousin, and a loyal friend.*

*For many of us here--especially for his children, **Sheikh Fouad Sleem** represents a different era. Today, here in a City so far away from his birthplace, let us remember that he came out of and stood for an era that we would do well to recall and recapture in our own busy, modern lives.*

***Sheikh Fouad Sleem** cares deeply about his heritage and his old country. Despite what we might believe about someone who now lives so far from "home," his feelings do not simply reflect nostalgia. His heritage and country mean so much to him because it gave birth, life, and opportunity to so many people for whom he had such profound admiration and love.*

*His immense regard for family, friends and acquaintances from "the old country" enriched his ability to appreciate, throughout his life, the many wonderful people he met in his adopted country." His appreciation of those he meets along the road he travels can always be measured by the intensity with which he listens and cares, that is the truest measure of the dignity that he accords to all his brothers and sisters, Druze and others. He hears with his ears, but listens with his heart; and, with his heart or with his hand, he responds both genuinely and generously.*

***Sheikh Fouad Sleem** came to America in the early 1970's, initially working with Matz Child Engineering, a surveying company affected by the Watergate scandal that closed 6 months after he began employment. In 1974, he began his career with the Office of the Surveyor in the District of Columbia Government. While working in this office, he pursued a degree in higher education and earned his Bachelor of Science degree from George Washington University in 1980 and a Master of Science degree from the University of Maryland in 1983. In the Surveyor's Office, and as a Senior Cartographer, he was in charge of the Computing and Mapping section, with responsibility in land development, subdivision, computation of boundaries, description of streets and alleys, closing and opening of roads, and transfer of jurisdictional properties from Federal entities to the District of Columbia and vice versa.*



# Sheikh Fouad Sleem



George Washington was a Surveyor, a Commander of the Army, and the First President of the United States. He chose DC as the location for the Nation's Capital, and asked Pierre L'Efant, a French engineer in the American Army, to lay out a plan for the Capital. The plan itself was considered to be an excellent one. However, the engineers and surveyors who started executing L'Efant's great plan, did not establish a Coordinate System Plan for the District of Columbia, and did not depart from a geographic control point as is normally done. Instead, they started from the center line of the street or the corner of the building. Over the years this flaw caused a drift of the properties, in some areas causing overlaps, and in other areas, merely appearing as vacancies.



**Mr. Sam Ackley presents speech**

It was our own **Fouad Sleem**, ladies and gentlemen, who developed the 'pilot project' that corrected, to an absolute degree, the original L'Efant plan for Washington, DC!

Just imagine what this young man from Jabaa' El-Shouf has accomplished in his chosen profession! As a result of his exceptional work he received the highest award for refining Pierre L'Efant's original work of laying out the plan of the Nation's Capital. On May 1, 2008 the Mayor of Washington DC on behalf of the District Government presented an award to **Sheik Fouad Sleem** in recognition of thirty-four years of dedicated and exceptional outstanding Service to the residents of the District of Columbia.



**Sheikh Fouad Sleem surrounded by his family**

He has been a member in the ADC, AAI, American Society of Photogram, and recently a recipient of a "Lifetime Award" as member of the DC Association of Land Surveyors

Even before coming to the United States, working as a topographer for the Lebanese government, it was his final word, which settled complex disputes between landowners in Lebanon. He completed surveys of 12 towns in different parts of the country. No complaints were left for the Court to handle



**Left to right: Dr. Melhem Salman, Mr. Shauki Halime, Sheikh Fouad Sleem, Mr. Riad Al Awar**

before leaving his beloved country, Lebanon. He did everything in his power to bring the Lebanese people together and solve their problems.

No one person, ladies and gentlemen, can eclipse the charitable work of **Fouad Sleem** in the Druze Community. Over the past quarter century, his steady hand, guided by an unwavering belief in the inherent righteousness of our homeland has raised and delivered more than half a million dollars to Druze Charities. He was personally responsible for collecting and sending more than \$78,000 to help Druze families who suffered during the Civil War. Additionally, every year he sponsors 10 orphans (5 from the Martyr's Children; and 5 from the orphanage in Abei). **Sheikh Fouad** has a genuine love for creating wealth, so he can support the hundreds of generous endeavors in which he is involved. He has earned the respect, the admiration, and the affection of the entire Druze community.

This reminds one of the great saying: "Generosity is

# Sheikh Fouad Sleem



giving more than you can, and pride is taking less than you need."

**Sheik Fouad** held major positions in both local and National Druze Organizations, such as Chair of the National Membership from 1995-1996, doubling the membership from 600 to 1,200 in only one year!

As you may know, he is the elected Director to the Council of Presidents and is a *d i r e c t* representative of Mshyakht Al-Akl, performing many legal and religious services in this country.

This man, **Fouad Sleem**, receiver of the Cedar of Lebanon award, among many others, richly deserves our gratitude for his tremendous commitment to the Druze cause.

It is only very special persons that choose to dedicate themselves and their time, and to give back to one's community. You see, they have discovered a great secret that many people in today's society neither realize nor appreciate, that you get more out of life by giving more to others. A Chinese proverb sums it up! "If you want happiness for a year, inherit a fortune; but if you want happiness for a lifetime, help someone else."

**Sheikh Fouad** is a great Optimist who looks at the "sunny side" of everything! A person once was asked, "What



is an optimist?" He responded by saying, "An optimist is a person who, when you throw cold water on their spirits, they warm it up with enthusiasm, they make steam and they push forward." This ladies and gentlemen is **Sheikh Fouad Sleem**.

**Sheikh Fouad** is both an honorable and decent man.

He has been first among us in fostering and shaping the development of the Druze family concept in our consciousness. He is a brother who has earned the title of father--a father whom we have come to admire, respect, and love. His immense regard for friends and acquaintances from the country of his father, and our fathers, enriches his ability to appreciate the many wonderful people he has met over the years. His dedication has enriched them, and us, in turn.

dedication has enriched them, and us, in turn.

**Sheikh Fouad** is greatly appreciated by all of us who know him and feel his love, warmth, and gentle nature. In the good deeds, he lives, and in the purity of heart that he personifies, he is a giant among men.

Some people come into our lives and quickly go. Others stay awhile, make footprints on our hearts and we are never, ever the same. Sheikh Fouad is clearly among them.

**Sheikh Fouad**, congratulations on a well-deserved honor. Your dedication and commitment to the Nation of Bani Maarouf is an inspiration to all of us, and this will never go unnoticed

God Bless you **Sheikh Fouad**, God bless the American Druze Society, and God bless America. Now, please join me in giving due accolade to this honorable Druze citizen of the world. I present to you **Sheikh Fouad Sleem!**"



**Congratulations Sheikh Fouad on your lifetime of service to the Druze Community at large.**  
**Shauki Halime**

We are now collecting  
stories and photographs for:

**“DRUZE AMERICANS  
IN THE  
20TH CENTURY-  
THE FIRST YEARS”**

Sponsored by  
**The American Druze Foundation**



We are looking for  
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1956. If you have any  
information or photos from  
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To Preserve our stories & our American  
heritage Send information to:

**Kathy Jaber Stephenson, Writer**  
564 N. Bellflower Blvd.  
# 109  
Long Beach, CA 90814  
Phone: 562-494-1657



*When the golden sunset,  
Sets over the amber hills,  
And when the moon shines bright,  
And all the world stands still,  
There is beauty, awesome beauty.  
God took the dust and formed a man,  
He paints each sunrise with His hand,  
He took all the love within His heart,  
And gave us beauty from the start,  
There's beauty, awesome beauty.*



**Druze Conventions** *Important DATE!*  
**Coming Up:**  
**Mark your Calendars:**  
**More information to follow**  
**Check website for details.**

**USA - Cleveland, Ohio**  
November 25 - 29, 2009  
**VENEZUELA - Maturin**  
January, 2010  
**AUSTRALIA**  
January, 2010  
**CANADA - Toronto, Ontario**  
May 21 - 24, 2010  
**USA - Michigan**  
June - July, 2010



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وقد حققنا نجاحاً كبيراً بذلك  
بمشيئة الله وبتشجيعكم.  
مع الف شكر  
حفظ الله طائفة الموحدين الدروز حول العالم

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شكرا.

## What we are about ...

This complimentary Druze Magazine is a non-political communication vehicle for the Druze community worldwide. It is our pleasure to be part of globally connecting our diverse Druze societies with one another.

With our common roots we have flourished & now reside in every country around the world. In an effort to keep our uniqueness & traditions in a fast paced and changing world; we need to maintain a method to transcend the requests for conformity.

We have the ability to share our unique culture & customs in a very accessible cyber world while maintaining the efforts required



to preserve those elements which have defined our past, & bring it's relevance & significance to our future generations.

This magazine is an attempt to stem the tide and assist with the evolution of our culture, as the world will surely dilute us if we are unable to define ourselves in a manner that will uphold our unique destiny into the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

We are at **The Dawn (Al-Fajr)** of our time to make a difference and create an identifiable culture that will be impossible for anyone to extinguish. **We want to hear from everyone on their ideas and thoughts.**

**We have the widest Druze network available & the magazine is posted on the [www.DruzeWorldwide.com](http://www.DruzeWorldwide.com) website for it to be accessible around the globe for all to read & enjoy. It is also supported through social media websites such as [Druze Worldwide Group on Facebook](http://DruzeWorldwideGroup.com) and others.**

Everyone is welcome to submit an article or opinion for publication consideration. All ages are included & encouraged. We reserve the right to review, edit, accept or decline articles as well as revise for clarity, content & space.

**Until the very exciting next issue, wishing the best to everyone!!**

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