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American Muslim leader to debate Tempe Imam at Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law at Arizona State University
Dr. M. Zuhdi Jasser to debate Imam Ahmad Shqeirah on "Is the Islamic state a threat to democracy?"

WHO: The Muslim Law Students' Association at Arizona State University will host a debate on "*Is the Islamic State a threat to democracy*" at the Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law. The event will feature a discussion between Dr. M. Zuhdi Jasser, the president and founder of the [American Islamic Forum for Democracy \(AIFD\)](#) and Imam Ahmad Shqeirah of the Islamic Community Center-Tempe-AZ.

Dr. Jasser's position is that the "Islamic state" and its ideological root of political Islam (Islamism) is not compatible with the foundations of a nation like the United States, based in the principles of universal freedom and liberty. Representing the counterargument, Imam Shqeirah will argue that although principles of an Islamic state and those of democracy may differ in some respects, those differences do not necessarily constitute a threat.

WHAT: A debate on "*Is the Islamic state a threat to democracy?*"
Cost: Free and open to the community – Food will be served
Contact mlsa.azstate@gmail.com with any questions

WHEN: **Tuesday, April 10, 2012**
12:00 Noon – 1:30 PM

WHERE: **Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law, Arizona State University**
Room 105
ASU Main Campus
Tempe, AZ

MEDIA: **Open Press**
Media Note Dr. Jasser will be available for interviews

ABOUT

DR. JASSER: Dr. Jasser is a devout Muslim and a former Lieutenant Commander in the United States Navy. He is a nationally recognized expert in the contest of ideas against political Islam and American Islamist organizations. He currently serves as a commissioner on the U.S. Commission on International Religious Liberty. Dr. Jasser has been featured in the [Wall Street Journal](#), [The Washington Times](#), [The New York Post](#), [The Dallas Morning News](#), [CNN](#), [CBS](#), [Fox News Channel](#), [MSNBC](#) and [BBC](#) in addition to nationally syndicated radio programs. He has testified before the U.S. Congress on Muslim radicalization and spoken at hundreds of national and international events including universities, places of worship, and government venues.

Dr. Jasser's current passions include AIFD's **Muslim Liberty Project (MLP)** and involvement in the [American Islamic Leadership Coalition \(AILC\)](#). The Muslim Liberty Project seeks to instill the ideas of liberty into young Muslim adults in order to inoculate them against the viral threat of political Islam. The project brought together its first class of Muslim Youth in March 2011 with tremendous success. AILC is a broad based coalition of diverse Muslim organizations that provide a stark alternative to the domestic and global network of Islamist organizations.

ABOUT

Ahmad Shqeirat: Ahmad Shqeirat is the Imam (Minister) of the Islamic Community Center-Tempe-AZ. His family is originally from Jerusalem going back generations. Mr. Shqeirat was born and raised up Jordan, but lived in Jerusalem for a while. He is married with 6 children. He has a Ph. D. in Islamic theology. He is a member of Tempe Interfaith Ministry and is the author of several books in religious studies. Shqeirt is a founder of Interfaith Resolutions (www.interfaithresolutions.info) and a board member for Imams for Human Rights .

ABOUT

AIFD: The American Islamic Forum for Democracy (AIFD) is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) charitable organization. AIFD's mission advocates for the preservation of the founding principles of the United States Constitution, liberty and freedom, through the separation of mosque and state. For more information on AIFD, please visit our website at <http://www.aifdemocracy.org/>.

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