

Curriculum vitae

Omer Salem

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Education:

- 2011- 2013 Master of Arts in Religion (candidate), Yale University
New Haven, Connecticut, USA
- 1988- 1989 Post graduate studies, Graduate School of Business, Stanford University
Stanford, California
- 1982- 1984 Bachelor of Science in Engineering, University of California
Berkeley, California

Languages:

Fluent in Arabic and English
Familiar with Hebrew, French and German.

Honors and Awards:

- 2011 Scholarship Grant, Yale University
- 2011 Scholarship Grant, Slifka Center at Yale University
- 2011 Scholarship Grant, Neil Salem of University Investments.
- 2010 Honorary Doctorate, Darul Salam University, Oomerabad, Tamil Nadu, India
- 1982 Scholarship Grant, University of California at Berkeley
- 1981 Scholarship Grant, Foothill College, Los Altos Hills, California

Professional Affiliations:

- Advisory Fellow, the Foundation for Religious Diplomacy, New York, NY.
- Honorary Member of the World-wide Association of Al Azhar Graduates, Cairo, Egypt.
- Research fellow, Darussalam University, Oomerabad, Tamil Nadu, India.

Books:

The Road to Peace: the Abrahamic traditions in modern history, Heliopolis press, Cairo, 2012 (in preparation).

Articles:

- "What could happen if?" School of Language and translation, Al Azhar University, Cairo, Egypt. <http://waag-azhar.org/>
- "In Kiev, bringing Jews and Muslims together." In *Notes from the Quad. Alumni- e- magazine from Yale Divinity School*. <http://www.yale.edu/divinity/notes/110801/kiev.shtml>
- "It does not have to be this way." In Ibn Rushd institute web site. A civilized dialogue publication. <http://www.yale.edu/divinity/notes/110801/kiev.shtml>
- "Muslim Jewish Conference News". In Center for Muslims-Jewish engagement, a partnership between the Hebrew Union College- Jewish Institute of Religion, Omar Ibnul Khattab Foundation and University of Southern California Center for Religion and Civic Culture. <http://cmje.org/>
- "Al Ardul Muqaddasa: Daf ullahul Nas" (Arabic: الارض المقدسة: دفع الله الناس). The Holy land: Allah checks one set of people by means of another. In the High Institute of Islam, Hyderabad, India. <http://www.almahad.org/>

Lectures and Speeches

- February 10, 2012, "Our living miracle", the value and importance of the Quran, Baitul Mukarram Masjid, Danbury, CT
<http://www.bmmasjid.org/>
- February 3, 2012, "Ablution and prayers in Islam", the value and importance of reverence, veneration and profound respect. Quinnipiac University, Hamden, CT
<http://www.quinnipiac.edu/>
- January 27, 2012, "the Muslim identity" what does it mean to be a Muslim. Masjid eisa ibn Mariam. Stratford, CT.
<http://www.stratfordmasjid.net/>
- January 20, 2012, "The religion of mercy and knowledge", the true values of Islam which have been forgotten and replaced with phony beliefs. New Haven University, New Haven, CT .
<http://www.newhaven.edu/>
- January 5, 2012, "Israel and Palestine", the struggle for dignity, freedom, security and social justice. Masjid Ezzo, Dokky, Egypt.
- January 3, 2012, "Guarding the tongue in Islam", the ailments of the tongue and the dangers of back biting. Shaikh Hatem Zohdy and Tablighi Jamat. Masjid al Sahaba, Dokky, Egypt
- December 17, 2011, "Muslims and Christians as neighbors", discussions with Bishop Gordon Scruton and members of the Episcopal Church. Springfield, Massachusetts, USA <http://www.cccspfld.org/>
- December 16, 2011, "the works of Saïd bin Yūsuf al-Fayyūmi" The first important rabbinic figure to write extensively in Arabic, he is considered the founder of Judeo-Arabic literature. Sixteenth Street Synagogue, New York, NY.
<http://www.sixteenthstreetsynagogue.org/>
- December 11, 2011, "Ghazali's influence on philosophy". Side discussions during the 900th anniversary of the great Muslim Scholar. Abi Hamid Al Ghazali Yale University, New Haven, Connecticut.
<http://www.yale.edu/religiousstudies/>
- November 13, 2011, "Social Justice and Palestine", Palestine-Israel conflict is central to Islam-West reconciliation. Harvard Arab Week Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts, USA.

<http://harvardarabweekend.org/>

- November 12, 2011, "*Arab Awakening or Arab spring*", Harvard Arab Week Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts, USA. <http://www.hbs.edu/>
- September 23, 2011, "*Importance of Knowledge in Islam*", first covenant, first attribute of Allah and first vow in the Holy Qur'an. Amsidul Islam, New Haven, Connecticut, USA. <http://www.masjidalislam.net/>
- April 22, 2011, "*Importance of: Read in the Holy Qur'an*". Actual, literal, metaphorical and spiritual aspect of reading Amsidul Islam, New Haven, Connecticut, USA. <http://www.masjidalislam.net/>
- March 23, 2011, "*Muhammad Rasullul Allah*". The importance of the person of Messenger to the Ummah of Islam. <http://markazonline.com/> Ssaqafa Ssunia, Kizhikoda (aka: Calicut), Kerala, India
- March 21, 2011, "*Arabic and Urdu Poetry*" Jamia Islamia, Kerala, India. <http://aljamia.net/>
- March 17, 2011, "*Role of Ulama in Islam.*" Muslim Scholars are at the heart of the Muslim Religion. If the heart is sound the whole Ummah is sound. Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi, India <http://jmi.ac.in/>
- March 14, 2011, "*O Lord: advance me in knowledge*". Importance of prayer, meditation and supplication to the Muslim. Dar-ul-Uloom Sabeelur Rashad, in Bangalore, <http://www.daruloom.org/institutions.html>
- March 11, 2011, "*Role of Ulama in Islam*" al baqiyatul salihat Madrasa, Vellore Tamil Nadu
- March 9, 2011, "*The significance of Ulama and fuqaha*" Jamia Mazaheri Uloom, Saharanpour, India <http://www.jamiamazahiruloom.com/>
- March 2, 2011, "*Ibn Rushd and the Other*" Darul uloom Deoband, UP, India <http://www.darululoom-deoband.com/english/index.htm>
- February 21, 2011, "*Arab Revolutions*" Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh, UP, India <http://www.amu.ac.in/>
- February 14, 2011, "*Allah with the believers*" Nadwatul Ulama, Lucknow, UP, India <http://www.nadwatululama.org/>
- May 14, 2010, "*Ummatan Wasata: Middle Nation*" WAAG Conference, Cairo, Egypt. http://waag-azhar.org/news_archive1.aspx?id=504
- May 31, 2009, "*Neighbors in Islam*". Side workshop with selected al Azhar scholars.

- WAAG Conference, Cairo, Egypt. http://waag-azhar.org/news_archive1.aspx?id=504
- May 22, 2009, "*B'nai Israel and Jews in the Quran.*"
Office of the Chief Rabbi of Zefat, Israel. http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Shmuel_Eliyahu
 - May 15, 2009, "*Rights of neighbors in Islam*"
Msjid Al Aqsa, Jerusalem <http://www.noblesanctuary.com/AQSAMosque.html>
 - April 10, 2009, "*What is the Middle-East Conflict about?*"
All-Saints Episcopal Church, Palo Alto, CA. <http://www.asaints.org/>
 - April 4, 2009, "*Neighbor's rights and obligations in the Qur'an.*"
Congregation Etz Chayim, Palo Alto, California. <http://etzchayim.org/>
 - March 28, 2009, "*Neighbors in the Qur'an*" B'nai Israel Congregation, Karaite Jews of America, Daily City, California <http://www.karaites.org/>
 - March 20, 2009, "*Listen to both sides before you judge*"
Muslim Community Association, Santa Clara, CA. <http://www.mcabayarea.org/>

Conferences, seminars and workshops

- December 8, 2011, Al Ghazali and His Influence, a workshop on the 900th anniversary of Al Ghazali, Graduate School of Arts and Science, Yale University. <http://www.yale.edu/macmillan/cmcs/alGhazali/index.html>
- July 3, 2011, Muslim Jewish Conference, “ anti-Semitism and Islamic phobia” Kiev, Ukraine. <http://www.mjconference.de/>
- June 13 to June 23, 2011, Yale University Center for Faith and Culture, Yale Reconciliation Program, Building Hope conference. Muslims, Christians and Jews Religious leaders, gathered for a 10 day conference and workshop at Yale. http://www.yale.edu/faith/rp/rp_hope.htm#statement
- November 6, 2011, Institute of Religion, New Haven, Connecticut, USA. <http://www.ldscs.org/iws1/index.aspx?p=60311>
- September 10, 2011, “the importance of faith in our community” International Church at Yale, <http://www.yale.edu/icy/>
- September 3, 2011, “the importance of Learning in Islam” Masjidul Islam, New Haven, Connecticut, USA. <http://www.masjidalislam.net/>

Profession

October 2008 to present: Ibn Rushd Institute, ("IRI") Palo Alto, CA USA

President and Executive Director

- Successfully assembled an advisory group (think tank) of religious Muslims, Christians and Jews in the USA to consider options for peace in the Middle East.
- The group helped compose and write the White Paper in support of the Mellata Ibrahim Initiative that gained support from various religious. Civil Society Organizations and Stanford University.
- Participated and discussed research papers on Islam-west dialogue concepts in Al Azhar University Graduates annual conference 2009.
- Participated and discussed Islamic moderate thoughts of Abuel Hassan el- Ashari at Al Azhar University Graduates annual conference 2010.
- Traveled by private car from Sails, Egypt to Safed, Israel on a fact finding mission and to meet the Chief Rabbi of Safed, June May 2009.
- Conducted several presentations and workshops about the religious nature of the Middle East conflict and ways to resolve the conflict.
- Earned the designation of Senior Fellow at the Foundation of Religious Diplomacy of New York, September 2009.

October 1988- October 2008 various real estate business and investment assignments were under taken as follow up:

- October 2004- October 2008 Salem Advisory, LLC Palo Alto, CA
Managing Director and Acquisition manager, Acquired and managed several real estate projects in the San Francisco Bay Area.
- October 2001- October 2004 First Real Estate, Cairo, Egypt

Managing Director and Appraiser provided real estate services to multi-national corporations doing business in Egypt.

Member of Associate Business luncheon Group, Maadi, Cairo

Member of the American Chamber of Commerce, Cairo Egypt.

- June 1998–June 2001, Tablighi Jama'at, New Delhi, India

Volunteer Worker, visited and taught Arabic and basic Islamic beliefs and values to small groups and mosques in southern India.

- June 1985-June 1998, First Financial Network, Palo Alto, CA

Founder and President, real estate investments and loans, Assisted first time home buyers in acquiring their first homes.

Professional memberships:

- Palo Alto chamber of commerce, Palo Alto, CA 1988 to 2008
- Associate Business Luncheon Group, Cairo, Egypt, 2003- 2010
- American Chamber of Commerce, Cairo, Egypt, 2001 to 2007