

**Topical Seminars**  
**Preparation for the October 6, 2017 Seminar**

For the October 6 seminar, we will be discussing the topic “What is the Muslim experience in the United States.” Our guest presenter will be Iram Shakaut from Bear, Delaware. She asks that to prepare for this seminar, we have a look at the following websites:

<https://www.ispu.org/>

<https://yaqeeninstitute.org/en/homepage/>

<http://pewresearch.org/files/old-assets/pdf/muslim-americans.pdf>

And she asks that we think about the following questions:

1. What pressures are there from the main-stream American culture on a specific sub-culture?
2. What cultural compromises do Muslim immigrants have to make to assimilate in American culture?
3. How does the individual manage dual identity within the American culture?
4. What does American culture gain from its Muslim citizens?
5. Is the practice of Islam compatible with living and participating in a democratic form of government?

We will be doing things a little out of the ordinary for this session, in that we have asked Iram to speak briefly about her background and experiences emigrating to this country, living as a practicing Muslim in this culture and her decision to become an American citizen and what the experience is for her, her family, and her circle of friends and associates who are practicing Muslims in this society. Following this, we hope to have an interesting and spirited conversation on these topics.

The seminar lasts from 1:30 pm until 3:30 pm. As far as we know, we will return to the medium meeting room (check out the sign as you enter the front door to see if this has changed).

Thank you,

David and Aram