Back to School: Education Is an Investment in the Future

As a new school year begins, we are reminded that education is a proactive process. Many parents who later struggle with their children's behavior, values, or identity may not have taken the necessary steps early enough to provide the right educational foundation.

Raising and educating a child is one of the most complex responsibilities we face. In many fields, a mistake can be corrected or contained. But mistakes in education can have consequences that extend far beyond one individual—they can affect an entire generation. That is why we must invest in our children early, intentionally, and consistently.

At Nahda Weekend School, we believe education should do more than transfer information. It should build character, strengthen values, develop Islamic identity, and empower children with the tools they need to continue learning throughout their lives.

Our program focuses on:

- Qur'an & Qur'anic Reading: Our goal is that, by Allah's permission, your child can learn to read directly from the Qur'an within one year. We believe empowering children with the tools of knowledge is more valuable than simply having them memorize information they may later forget.
- Arabic Language: Building the language skills that connect our children to their heritage and Islamic tradition.
- Islamic Ethics & Character: Developing strong values, manners, responsibility, and compassion.
- Seerah: Learning from the life and example of the Prophet Muhammad ﷺ.

We continue to innovate, improve, and bring a fresh spirit to Islamic education, with a new environment and a dedicated, talented team committed to helping our children learn, grow, and thrive.

This year, Nahda Weekend School has moved to Nahda's new headquarters, providing our students with a new space to learn and grow:

📍 **8840 Ridgeland Ave, Oak Lawn, IL**

Take the first step today. Register your child and invest in the foundation that will shape their future.

Enroll Now!

AL NAHDA NEWS

Nahda Weekend School Hosts Open House Ahead of the 2026–2027 School Year

Nahda Weekend School hosted an Open House to welcome returning and new families ahead of the 2026–2027 school year.

The event gave families an opportunity to learn more about the school's programs, meet teachers, and prepare for a new year of learning and growth focused on Qur'an, Arabic, Islamic studies, character, and confidence.

Monthly Nahda Dialogue Explores Prophetic Leadership and Muslim Public Life

Nahda Center hosted its Monthly Nahda Dialogue, featuring Muslim American activist and CAIR Co-Founder Rafee Q Jaber.

The discussion explored lessons from the Prophet Muhammad's ﷺ public leadership and political experience, and how they can inform Muslim public life, civic engagement, and community leadership in America today. The evening brought community members together for meaningful discussion and reflection.

Nahda Center Leadership Visits Judge Rouhy Shalabi at Maywood Courthouse

Nahda Center leadership visited Judge Rouhy Shalabi at the Maywood Courthouse, Fourth Municipal District of the Circuit Court of Cook County, in an effort to strengthen community engagement and build meaningful connections through public service.

Nahda Center Founder and Director Ghassan Ballut and Communication Director Abubaker Qurt had the opportunity to observe court proceedings, meet members of the judiciary and court staff, and learn more about the important role of the judicial system.

The visit also highlighted Judge Shalabi's historic service as the first Palestinian-American Muslim judge in Cook County and provided an opportunity to share Nahda Center's growing programs and services, including education, youth development, healthcare, food assistance, religious programming, and civic engagement.

Nahda Center expressed its appreciation to Judge Shalabi for his warm welcome and dedicated service, while inviting members of the court community to visit the Center and learn more about its work.

MEET OUR TEAM

Other Highlights

Ilhan Omar Wins Democratic Primary

U.S. Rep. Ilhan Omar has won the Democratic primary in Minnesota's 5th Congressional District with more than 80% of the vote, advancing to the November general election.

Rashida Tlaib Wins Democratic Primary

U.S. Rep. Rashida Tlaib has won the Democratic primary in Michigan's 12th Congressional District, defeating Shanelle Jackson and Byron Nolen. She will advance to the November general election and seek a fifth term in Congress.

Abdul El-Sayed Leads in Michigan Senate Poll

Democratic Senate candidate Abdul El-Sayed leads Republican Mike Rogers 50% to 45% among likely voters in the latest Michigan State University poll, signaling a highly competitive race ahead of the November election.

Britain Accuses Israeli Settlers of Ethnic Cleansing, Bans Settlement Goods

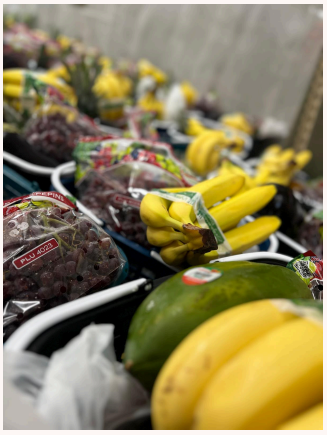
Britain has accused Israeli settlers of carrying out ethnic cleansing against Palestinians in the occupied West Bank, with the Israeli government accused of tolerating the abuses.
London also announced a ban on imports of goods produced in Israeli settlements in the West Bank, alongside other restrictions on settlement activities.
The move comes as part of a joint initiative involving 12 countries targeting trade linked to illegal settlements.
The countries warned that settlement expansion and settler violence are undermining the two-state solution and the establishment of a Palestinian state.

Israel continues its genocide in Gaza

Israel continues its genocide in Gaza, while the severity of the attacks and the organized and systematic assaults by Israeli settlers in the West Bank have escalated. The number of martyrs in the Gaza Strip has reached approximately 1,334 since the announcement of the ceasefire on October 11 last year through September 2026. The number of martyrs in the West Bank since the beginning of the current year has reached 96, killed by occupation forces and settlers. Settlement activity is expanding to include more Palestinian land, and the movement of Palestinians between governorates in the West Bank has become a major risk due to the unchecked threats posed by settlers.

Warning graphic: A harrowing image of the child Wafaa Akkila, who was struck by an Israeli missile in western Gaza while returning home from school.

Serving Our Community



Salwa Food Pantry Continues Serving the Community

In August, Salwa Food Pantry held two food distributions, providing *3,229 pounds of fresh fruits and vegetables to 135 families* in our community.

With the support of *18 volunteer shifts*, our team continues to provide nutritious food while serving families with dignity and care.

We are grateful to our volunteers, donors, and community partners whose continued support makes this work possible. Together, we are strengthening our community, one family at a time.

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