



**MUSLIM PUBLIC AFFAIRS COUNCIL-WESTERN NEW YORK CHAPTER**  
**6343 Transit Road, Depew, NY 14043 Ph: (716) 683-1840 Fax: (716) 683-1843**

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## **Current Crisis in Middle East**

**What:** **A SPECIAL COMMUNITY FORUM**  
*(A Discussion between a Lebanese, a Rabbi and a Palestinian)*  
**Open to public, free of charge.**  
*Light refreshments will be served.*

**When:** *Wednesday, September 20, 2006*

**Time:** *5:30---7:30 PM*

**Where:** *Flickinger Auditorium, Nichols School,  
1250 Amherst Street, Buffalo.*

**Panelists:** **Victor Khoury:**

**Dr. Fayiz Saknini:**

**Rabbi Charles Shalman:**

**Moderator:** **Khalid J.Qazi:**

*President, Muslim Public Affairs Council of WNY*

*For the bio/cv of the speakers, Please see page two or*

**Please check the web site:**

[www.mpac-wny.org](http://www.mpac-wny.org)

*Any question, call:*

*Bayram Arman  
(716) 774-1229*

*Zaid B. Islam  
(716) 316-1087*

*Khalid J. Qazi  
(716) 683-1840*

*This forum is a public service from Muslim Public Affairs Council of  
Western New York for the benefit of the entire Community.*

**A SPECIAL COMMUNITY FORUM**

*(A Discussion between a Lebanese Christian, a Jewish Rabbi and a Palestinian Priest)*

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**Panelists:**

- **Victor Khoury:** An Arab-American of Lebanese descent who was born and raised in Lebanon with college and vocational training in the US. He worked at API Delavan in East Aurora for 30 years in the field of production management, design engineering and in costing and pricing. As a founding member of SAVEONE Foundation and as a Board Member of MET Charity Club, Victor is closely involved with support of an orphanage as well as with the care of the poor and the needy in Lebanon. And as a lifetime parishner of St. John Maron Church in Williamsville, NY and a close follower of events in ME, in general, and Lebanon, in particular, Mr. Khoury is well versed with and knowledgeable about the current events of the Israeli-Lebanese conflict.

- **Dr. Fayiz Saknini:** Born and raised in Nazereth, Dr. Fayiz H. Saknini was educated in Palestine and employed by I. P. C. British Oil Company. He moved to Lebanon at the age of 21 where he graduated from the Baptist Theological School and the Baptist Theological Seminary. He was President of Lebanese Baptist Convention for several years during which time he established the "LOVE" Mission (Lebanese Oversees Village Evangels, Inc.) After his immigration to the US in 1976, Dr. Saknini completed Doctor of Sacred Theology from the Institute of Biblical and International Studies in Indiana. He is the Director of the "Arabic Bible Institute" in Georgia. He is a passionately and scholarly connected to the history and life of Palestine and Palestinians.

- **Rabbi Charles Shalman:** Born and raised in New Haven, Rabbi Shalman graduated from Yale University and was ordained a Rabbi at the Jewish Theological Seminary of America. He served for eleven years at Emanuel Synagogue in Oklahoma City where he was involved in civic organizations and served on the boards of a center for the homeless, a not-for-profit "Center for Counseling and Psychotherapy," and the Advisory Board of the local branch of the NCCJ. Rabbi Shalman has served Temple Shaarey Zedek in Amherst since 1995. He is active in the Jewish community, teaching adults and children at the congregation and at the Kadimah School. Rabbi Shalman is also involved in inter-religious activities. He and his wife, Sima, are proud parents of four children.

- **Khalid J. Qazi:** Founding President of the Muslim Public Affairs Council of Western New York and National Board member of The Council. Dr. Qazi is the most visible Muslim leader of WNY dedicated to building bridges among communities and to dispel xenophobia. He is a tireless worker and has been recognized with several awards, both locally as well nationally.