

# AKHBAR INSTITUTE OF HEALTH

- Jamal Abdullah Amin, M.D.  
Tallahassee, Florida

- Tarik Abdullah, M. D.  
Panama City, Florida

AL-AKHBAR INSTITUTES OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, INCORPORATED — is a private, non-profit, tax-exempt, educational institution registered with the Internal Revenue Service as 501 (c) (3) Corporation (No.52-104-0266).

Al-Akhbar Institutes was officially chartered by the State of Florida in 1974. According to the charter of Al-Akhbar Institutes — it may establish anyplace in the World — centers of spiritual and academic excellence to train and educate students primarily from the Islamic Community. The foundation for organization, development, and operation is Holy Quanic Law.

Al-Akhbar Institutes is one of the few Islamic oriented institutions established in the United States to be granted recognition and tax exemption by the Government. The best scholars available — Muslim and Non-Muslim, from East and West, from Developed and Developing Countries, will staff, administer, and maintain Al-Akhbar Institutes of Science of Technology.

Al-Akhbar Institutes — according to its charter can form different “Institutes” as its development allows. Hence, one of the first institutes established is AL-AKHBAR INSTITUTE OF HEALTH.

The nucleus of Al-Akhbar Institute of Health will be a 200 — 300 Bed Teaching/Training Hospital with all of the major medical and dental specialties represented. Training will initially begin in the para-medical and allied health fields. Research will be pursued with an emphasis on Third World Health Problems.

In-sha-Allah, future plans call for the training of Interns and Residents with Al-Akhbar Institute of Health developing into a major medical center with a local, national, and international referral system.

The Institute of Health was established first for the following reasons:

1. Potential support within America for a tax-exempt health care facility is greater than for any other type of institution. Such a facility stands the best chance of obtaining additional support from private, state, federal sources and becoming self sustaining.

2. Manpower is already available for a health institute because of the support of two major American health organizations (The IMA and the National Council of Minority Health). Also, there are hundreds of Muslim medical professionals scattered throughout the U.S. at other religious based medical centers — who are anxiously awaiting the chance to work at an Islamic Institution within the United States.

3. Medicine, is the least threatening of any type of project which may be introduced into any community within the United States which is developing like Northwest Florida. Health care is by far the most effective way to present Islam to non-Muslims in America. A health care institute fulfills a critical need and because the medical profession is so highly regarded in America — provides the best vehicle for future input into the socio-economic mainstream of American Society.

4. Because of the inevitability of Federal Health Insurance — any health care facility located in America will be financially secure. Specific Ways Islamic Countries can be of Assistance to Al-Akhbar Institute of Health

The Muslim Nation is expected to be the leading nation of the World — “You are the best nation evolved for mankind,” (Quran 3:10). However, in order for this goal to be reached it is absolutely essential that within the most powerful nation on this Earth there be developed an Islamic controlled, oriented, and operated

educational complex where all people of goodwill can assemble to receive an education guided by the tenets of Islamic Law. Specifically, Islamic Countries may be of assistance in the following ways:

1. Purchase Land and/or Medical Facilities in America which could then be leased to Al-Akhbar Institutes for a minimal fee. Islamic Governments could participate directly in an Advisory role. However, Al-Akhbar Institutes and the Islamic Medical Association will be directly responsible for the manpower required for staffing and maintaining Al-Akhbar Institute of Health.

2. A direct monetary and/or land grant from an Islamic Country to Al-Akhbar Institutes or other responsible American Muslim Organizations for the purchase and/or construction of a medical facility. Participating Nations could even provide Arabic architectural and construction expertise which is conspicuously absent from the American Scene. A team of foreign Muslim Consultants could come to America and live in the Northwest Florida Area to actively participate and co-direct the building of Al-Akhbar Institute of Health. The image of Arabs and Americans working together on a health project would set a good example for the spirit of Islamic Brotherhood throughout the World.

3. An Islamic Government could give a FINANCIAL GUARANTEE to Al-Akhbar Institutes — thus allowing Al-Akhbar Institutes to more easily obtain loans through standard banking channels.

4. Islamic Countries can support Al-Akhbar Institutes' applications for funds from American Corporations (Oil Companies, etc.) doing business with Islamic Nations. In this manner American Companies lose nothing because under the United States Tax Structure such contributions by American Companies are tax deductible.

#### Reasons for Deciding Upon the Northwest Florida Locale

The development of any Islamic Institute in America will encounter less hostility and disruption in a "developing" community like Northwest Florida. In Northwest Florida Al-Akhbar Institutes have been welcomed and would be allowed to participate fully in the areas' development. In America the wisest course of action is to go to an underdeveloped area and

then develop it as one would so desire. Al-Akhbar Institutes would encounter prolonged obstruction in any of the major urban centers of America like New York, Chicago, Boston, and Los Angeles.

Other important reasons for deciding upon this extremely strategic locale in Northwest Florida are as follows:

1. Strong endorsements and Pro-Arab feeling among Congressmen and other influential regional officials of the Northwest Florida Area. The political climate is such that the Northwest Florida Community is much more prone to support and sympathize with Arabic Nations.

2. Real Estate in Northwest Florida is increasing in value faster than any other real estate in the entire United States. During the past five years real estate in this area has increased by at least 300-400%.

3. Al-Akhbar Institutes will not be landlocked thereby limiting its potential growth and development. Northwest Florida's access to the Gulf of Mexico will make it highly possible to establish an international telecommunications system with Arab, Caribbean, and other Third World Nations in the future.

4. In Northwest Florida — Al-Akhbar Institutes will be geographically in a better position to spread the word of Islam to the approximately 100 predominantly Black Colleges and Universities scattered throughout the Southeastern portion of the United States. (It be noted that more Black Americans are joining Islam than any other group of Americans).

5. Northwest Florida has two major functioning ports in Pensacola and Panama City which welcome Arab business. Also, this area of Florida is very close to the Port of Mobile, Alabama which currently does a tremendous amount of business with the Arab World.

6. Northwest Florida has numerous natural resources such as navigable rivers, lakes, intra-costal waterways, Gulf of Mexico, rich forest and farming land. The climate is mostly sunny and very similar to the climate of most Middle Eastern Countries.

7. Northwest Florida has numerous Army, Navy, and Air Force Installations whose resources will be at the disposal of Al-Akhbar Institutes.

8. Three major Airports are located in Northwest Florida and negotiations are currently underway to establish an international airport at Pensacola, Florida. Local Officials have already

indicated that Arab investment in the Northwest Florida area would lead to the eventual establishment of international airline routes to and from the Arabic Middle East.

### Potential Benefits to Islamic Investors

Since the United States is the most visible nation in the World — the cause of "Da'wa" for spreading the message of Islam would certainly be served by Muslims who contribute to an American Islamic Institution. Islam is the only religion not represented by major institutions within America and health care is the most effective way to correct this situation.

No immediate financial profits can be realized by investors — but the positive public relations-image which will evolve from Arab participation in humanitarian projects in America — will certainly open many doors for future profit making business ventures. Other benefits to Islamic Investors are as follows:

1. A far greater number of Arab Students can be trained in an institution located within a country with as many resources as the United States and an institution showing preference to Islamic Students. It is highly unlikely that enough American Technicians will move to the Middle East to train Islamic Students. However, it is much more likely that American technology and resources can be more effectively mobilized and utilized at institutions established for specific purposes within America.

2. Al-Akhbar Institutes because of its Islamic foundation would help to slow down the "Brain Drain" which is being perpetuated by the traditional American and European institutions. Students trained in America in an Islamic environment would be much more inclined to return to their native countries. Presently, none of the leading American institutions have any moral or spiritual obligations to Islamic Students — economics appear to be their only motivation.

3. The Middle Eastern-like environment of Northwest Florida combined with the Islamic foundation of Al-Akhbar Institutes would ensure that foreign students received an education much more relevant to the situations existing in their homelands. Often when Arab Students train in the major urban Centers of America — they receive training which is not readily applied to problems in their native lands because of the dissimilarity in the environment of Arab

Countries and American Cities.

Means of Fiscal Support and Maintenance of Al-Akhbar Institute of Health

1. Direct Patient Billing
2. Third Party Payments from organizations like Blue Cross/Blue Shield, Medicare and Medicaid.
3. Student Fees and Tuition.
4. Supplementary and Complimentary funds from the numerous Federal Government Grants allocated to Health Care Facilities.
5. Contributions from Foundations and Corporations — especially those doing business with the Islamic World.
6. Private Contributions from all Americans of Goodwill but especially American Muslims.
7. Contributions from Islamic Governments and Private Citizens from throughout the World.

### Summary

Presently, in order to launch the Health Institute into a living reality — a full time Office of Development and Planning is being assembled in the Northwest Florida Area. This Office shall concern itself with the following goals:

1. Negotiations, selection, and purchase of a fully equipped hospital which could serve as the physical plant and the nucleus of the Institute of Health. (There are several health care facilities in the Northwest Florida Area for sale. Approximately 3 to 5 Million Dollars is needed for their complete acquisition).

2. Formulation of a curriculum and staff criteria for the granting of degrees in the para/allied medical fields such as x-ray technology, medical technology, physician assistants, etc.

3. Recruitment and hiring of a staff for a Training/Teaching Medical Facility.

It should be noted that included among the endorsers of AL AKHBAR INSTITUTE OF HEALTH are (1) the Executive Committee of IMA, (2) the National Council of Minority Health, (3) the Association of Muslim Social Scientists, (4) several U.S. Congressman, and (5) the Saudi Arabian Minister of Petroleum — Sheikh Yamani.

During November of 1976 — a handcarried proposal for financial assistance was presented directly to (1) the Saudi Arabian Minister of

Health (Dr. Gazairy), (2) the World Assembly of Muslim Youth in Riyadh, S. A., (3) the Kuwait Minister of Public Health (Dr. Al-Awadi), (4) the Dean of the Kuwait Medical School, and (5) Sheikh Al-Quazzaz of the World Muslim League in Mecca. Thus far there has been no concrete response from these sources.

However, the Founders of Al-Akhbar Institutes strongly feel that the Institute of Health must evolve out of a sense of "SELF HELP." As American Muslim Professionals – we live in the richest, most developed country in the World. Therefore, it is highly UnIslamic for us to look forward to our Foreign Brothers for the initial material wealth to launch this project into a living reality. We must not have a "welfare mentality" toward the oil rich Islamic Countries. Self Help is always the Bottom Line! Al-Akhbar Institutes will not only help to secure the righteous destiny of the Islamic World – but improve the quality of life for all Americans.

Muslims everywhere should take tremendous pride in this long overdue development. Tax exempt contributions and pledges are being

privately sought from individual Muslims, Governments, Islamic Organizations, and non-Muslim supporters from throughout the International Community.

We would like to make the following recommendations for adoption by this convention:

1. That the AKHBAR INSTITUTE OF HEALTH PROJECT be endorsed by the entire IMA Convention.

2. That the IMA set up a special "Development Fund" for the AKHBAR INSTITUTE OF HEALTH.

3. That a special "IMA Liaison Committee" be established to serve as full time Advisors to Al-Akhbar Institutes in any manner deemed appropriate not only for the Health Institute – but for the future development of proposed Institutes of Finance, Law, Agriculture, etc.

AL-AKHBAR INSTITUTES ask for your most sincere prayers and best wishes as we strive to achieve a scientific world safe for humanistic creativity and the joys of Islamic Spiritualism.

As-Salaam-Alaikum!