

Michael “Mikal” Saahir is a public servant with more than 31-years as a veteran with the Indianapolis Fire Department and he has been the Imam (leader) of Indianapolis’ Nur-Allah Islamic Center since 1992. He is a student of Imam W. Deen Mohammed. His religious duties include serving as Director for the Clara Mohammed Weekend School, leading Friday prayer service, and attending to the community needs of the Islamic center. Imam Mikal is also a columnist for the international publication *Muslim Journal*, and writes a monthly column for *The Indianapolis Recorder* titled *Al-Islam in America* that addresses issues Muslims and Americans in general may have about Islam. He has also been published in *Living City*, *Virgin Island Daily News*, and *The Criterion*. Twice Imam Saahir has completed the Hajj (pilgrimage) to the holy sites in Mecca, Saudi Arabia. He has made numerous visits to Rome, Italy and The Vatican in support of interfaith efforts between Muslims and the Focolare Catholic Community. Imam Mikal serves on numerous Islamic and interfaith boards including the National Alliance for Mental Illness - Indianapolis Faith CEP (Communities Education Project), Habitat for Humanity’s “House of Abraham” Committee, State Imams Shura (Consultants) of Indiana, The Muslim Alliance of Indiana, and the Interfaith Alliance of Indianapolis. Imam Mikal is a graduate of Martin University Summa Cum Laude with a BA Degree in Humane Exchange. He is the husband of Carolyn (30 years) and father of one daughter, Aline (Kita) and three sons, Mikal, Hamid, and Muhammed.