



Summer 2005

## Muslim Students Association (MSA)

2005 SEP Students, Illinois Wesleyan University

Follow this and additional works at: [https://digitalcommons.iwu.edu/odi\\_sep](https://digitalcommons.iwu.edu/odi_sep)



Part of the [Education Commons](#)

---

### Recommended Citation

2005 SEP Students, Illinois Wesleyan University, "Muslim Students Association (MSA)" (2005). *Summer Enrichment Program*. 17.  
[https://digitalcommons.iwu.edu/odi\\_sep/17](https://digitalcommons.iwu.edu/odi_sep/17)

This Article is protected by copyright and/or related rights. It has been brought to you by Digital Commons @ IWU with permission from the rights-holder(s). You are free to use this material in any way that is permitted by the copyright and related rights legislation that applies to your use. For other uses you need to obtain permission from the rights-holder(s) directly, unless additional rights are indicated by a Creative Commons license in the record and/ or on the work itself. This material has been accepted for inclusion by faculty at Illinois Wesleyan University. For more information, please contact [digitalcommons@iwu.edu](mailto:digitalcommons@iwu.edu).

©Copyright is owned by the author of this document.

## Illinois Wesleyan University Muslim Students Association History

Unidentified narrator: The Muslim Students Association at Illinois Wesleyan University was first organized in 1999. It was created with the intent to serve as a community support group for Muslim students on campus. The students wanted a place where they could pray together and talked to other Muslims about issues they faced. They were able to obtain a room in the chapel for these purposes. Originally, the MSA did not want to create a mission statement because they did not feel that it was important in achieving the goal of having a community support group. But in 2003, the MSA created a mission statement so that other people would know what the MSA was about. The first goal of the mission statement is to strive to provide an environment in which students can properly worship Allah, God, and practice the sunnah lifestyle of the prophet Muhammed. Peace and blessings be upon him. Muslims believe there is only one God whom they call Allah, the Arabic word for God, and that prophet Muhammed is his last messenger. Currently, the MSA is paying particular attention to two of the goals in their mission statement. They are striving to educate others about Islam and striving to promote unity and joint action among Muslim students on campus. To do so, the MSA brings Islamic speakers to campus during Wednesday chapel hours, which helps to educate others about Islam. They also get together, especially during Ramadan, the Islamic holy month of fasting, to do Quran, Islamic holy book, readings at dawn and sunset and pray together. In addition, the MSA gets together with the MSA at ISU to do different things like attend Islamic conferences. One year, the MSA went to Iowa for an Islamic conference with ISU's MSA. These activities help develop cohesion within the MSA and educate others about Islam. Though the MSA has always been a small organization, with no more than seven students per year, students in the organization know its importance. One alumni states, "The MSA is a unique organization on campus that we need to nurture." Muneerah Maalik, '01. The MSA brings students together that share a common belief, and helps these students create lifelong bonds with each other.