

19th Annual Conference
Michigan State University Muslim Studies Program
Free webinar registration [here](#).



Muslim Studies Program
MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

THEME: “DOES ISLAM HAVE A LIBERATION THEOLOGY? (MARCH 26-27, 2026)

Thursday, March 26, 2026

9:40-11:30am EDT Opening Remarks & Panel 1: *Definitions and Delineations of Islamic Liberation Theology*

Opening remarks by Nareman Amin, Titus Awokuse, and Mohammad Khalil

Esra Akay Dag, “Can Islam Have a Liberation Theology? Methodological Insights from the Catholic Experience”

Shadaab Rahemtulla, “The Prophet was an Entrepreneur’: Unearthing Islamic Theologies of the Right”

Celene Ibrahim, “Gender Justice and the Unfinished Project of Islamic Liberation Theology”

12:00-1:00pm EDT Panel 2: *From Individual to Communal Liberation*

Haroon Bashir, “Slavery, Abolition and Liminal Spaces: Negotiating Authority and Liberation in Islamic Thought”

Jawad Qureshi, “Theodicy instead of Liberation Theology? ‘Abdallah ibn ‘Umar (d. 73H/693CE) and the Fitnas of Early Islam”

2:00-3:00pm EDT Panel 3: *Malcolm X’s Legacy as a Liberation Theologian*

Martin Nguyen, “Malcolm X and the House of Pharaoh: Imagining a Theodicy and Ethics of Liberation in the American Muslim Present”

Junaid Rana, “The Sigh of the Oppressed: 100 Years of the Black Radical Tradition and Islamic Liberation Theology”

3:00-4:15pm EDT Keynote: Ebrahim Moosa, “Beauty, Truth, and Justice in Muslim Liberation Theology”

Friday, March 27, 2026

8:30-10:00am EDT Panel 4: *Liberation on a Global Scale*

Matthew Palombo, “Liberation Theology and the Somali Community: Decolonizing the Terrorism Discourse in Minnesota”

Iskander Abbasi, “The Earth as New Margins: Towards an Islamic Ecoliberation Theology of the Earth”

Shameer Modongal, “Reimagining Global Politics: Islamic Liberation Theology as Normative Framework”

10:30am-12:00pm EDT Panel 5: *Liberatory Lessons and Questions from the MENA Region*

Nermeen Mouftah, “Predicaments of Orphan Care: Scenes of Muslim Obligation and Abandonment”

Joseph Alagha, “Jihad al-Tabyyin and Jihad al-Lisan as a Liberation Theology”

Yasmin Moll, “Coexistence as Revolutionary Ethos: The Social Life of Theology in (What Could Have Been) the ‘New Egypt’”

12:00-1:15pm EDT Keynote: Sylvia Chan-Malik, “‘Eastern Sounds’: The Islamic Liberation Theology of Yusef Lateef”

1:15-1:30pm EDT Closing Remarks

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