



# 相互尊重宗教種族文化



5月11日,在克利夫蘭市政府,相關組織隆重舉辦了伊斯蘭教的開齋節,當日在華人專業歌手黃麗清唱一曲美國國歌後,活動拉開了序幕,市議員 Blaine Griffin 致辭,他祝賀活動成功舉辦,感謝所有社團宗教領袖的參與。

Cleveland 的創始人, Zarina Siddiqi 和 Zahid Siddiqi 希望與他們的一些朋友和來自不同國家族裔的人一起慶祝今年的開齋節。



當日社區關係委員會亞洲聯絡員,也是本次活動組織者之一的陳家敏致開幕詞,歡迎所有來賓和政要。她表示:這是難得的機會,來自克利夫蘭的宗教和其他社團在疫後發生後第一次舉辦活動,目前世界發生戰爭,疫情還沒有徹底結束,感謝能有這麼多人來參與活動。她感謝所有幕前幕後人對本次活動的大力支持。宗教是人類離不開的精神領域,各大宗教有他們的共同經歷。

我亦有幸採訪了克利夫蘭回教領袖 Imam Abbas,他的爺爺 1937 年在克利夫蘭創辦了第一個 mosque,這本《Black Pilgrimage to Islam》介紹了他的爺爺(非裔),那年他 35 歲(書封面最後一人是他)。他在克利夫蘭高中當了 10 多年校長,並且他也是籃球教練。他本人重視教育,在採訪中他提到一個問題,他讓我看今天到會者有沒有非裔,一個沒有,我不得不思考宗教,因為宗教是人的靈魂深處需要依靠的,我們稱政治宗教都是世界領導者。

當今世界,影響力最大的有三大宗教:基督教、伊斯蘭教和佛教。伊斯蘭教的穆斯林他們和許多亞洲人一樣使用陰曆,所以今年伊斯蘭教最著名的開齋節是在 5 月 1 日至 5 月 2 日,是鑒于五月是所有在美國的亞洲人慶祝他們文化的亞洲月, Salaam

Sherron Brown 辦公室的區域代表 Mycheala Holley 也向 Siddiqi 夫婦表彰並贈送了一封特別揚信。

克利夫蘭 Salaam 組織是在 9/11 襲擊之後成立的。由於伊斯蘭極端主義基地組織襲擊了世貿中心南北塔樓、五角大樓和美國航空公司在賓夕法尼亞州向克斯維爾的 93 號航班,人們害怕穆斯林,尤其是外國出生的穆斯林。Zarina 立即通知她的老闆和她在 Metro Hospital 的同事,她是一名穆斯林,這樣人們就知道穆斯林不是他們應該害怕的人。更重要的是,伊斯蘭教是一種宗教而非種族。世界各地的穆斯林都信奉伊斯蘭教,他們不分種族,不分國籍。

本次活動非常成功,感謝來自市長辦公室和政府部門的 Angela Shute-Woodson, 也感謝提供美食,感謝前後忙碌策劃的組織人員。我們不分宗教不分種族,人人和人需要相互尊重。

# 2022 Eid al-Fitr Celebration at Cleveland City Hall of Asian Muslims in NE Ohio

By Chia-Min Chen

Eid al-Fitr marks the end of Ramadan. This religious holiday is celebrated by Muslims worldwide because it marks the end of the month-long dawn-to-sunset fasting. The fast of Ramadan encourages Muslims to practice self-restraint from not just eating and drinking, but more importantly from evil thought, speeches and actions. They are reminded to be compassionate and conscious of God and worship Him altogether. As the Prophet Muhammad had reported stated "Fasting is not just for the stomach, but also of the tongue, mind, and heart, so if someone insults them, let them recall within themselves that 'I am fasting'."

Chia-Min Chen, Asian Liaison from Community Relations Board opened the event by welcoming all the guests and dignitaries, followed by Ying Huang, who sang the National Anthem. Then, Ms. Chen introduced Grady Stevenson, Director of Community Relations Board, and he gave his remarks before introducing Blaine Griffin, Council President of City of Cleveland, who gave his speech. A proclamation was presented to Zarina Siddiqi and Zahid Siddiqi by Grady Stevenson and Angela Shute-Woodson, Senior Advisor Community and Government Affairs, to recognize Siddiqis' leadership and contributions over the decades in servicing people and community-at-large quietly yet dedicated to make greater Cleveland a better and safer place for all. Mycheala Holley, Regional Representative from Senator Sherrod Brown's office also presented a special letter of Recognition to Mr. and Mrs. Siddiqi.

Salaam Cleveland was founded after the 9/11 attack. Due to the Islamic extremist al Qaeda's attacks of the World Trade Center's north and south towers, Pentagon, and American Airline flight 93 in Shanksville, PA, people were afraid of Muslims, especially foreign-born Muslims. Zarina immediately informed her boss and her colleagues at Metro Hospital that she is a Muslim, so that people know Muslims are not people they should be afraid of. More importantly, Islam is a religion and not an ethnicity. Islamic

faith is practiced by Muslims all over the world, and they are of every ethnicity and every nationality.

Zarina started distributing Islamic literature in public libraries throughout greater Cleveland to educate the people. She also promoted unity and harmony to raise awareness and understanding between different faiths and ethnicities. She encouraged Muslim women to join charitable organizations, and together they raised money to print 18 booklets that Council on American Islamic Relations (CAIR) had put together. During all the volunteering work, a group of Muslim women came together under Zarina's leadership, Salaam Cleveland was founded.

Zahid helped his wife, together Salaam Cleveland extended their volunteering projects from east side to the west side of Cleveland. They are always busy helping people. It did not matter whether the people they help are Muslim or not. Through their humble, quiet but dedicated volunteering work over the decades, Zarina and Zahid Siddiqi have received the President's Volunteer Service Award from The White House and from the Corporation of National & Community Service.

Because Mr. and Mrs. Siddiqi have not only supported our Asian Liaison's work over the years,

but also they assisted her when she had a victim of domestic violence that needed immediate help.

The proclamation is just a simple way of letting the Siddiqis know that their years of sacrifice and hard work have not gone unnoticed by the City of Cleveland. We need more people like Zarina and Zahid to make Cleveland, a safer and friendlier place to live, to play and to thrive in.

Eid al-Fitr is also known as the Sweet Eid or the Sugar Feast because it is a time for friends and families to visit to celebrate together. Families gathered and friends greet one another, presents are given, new clothes are worn, and the graves of relatives are visited. Because the Muslims use a lunar calendar, like many Asians, this year's Eid al-Fitr fell on May 11th - May 2nd. Given May is Asian Heritage month for all Asians in America to celebrate their heritage, the founders of Salaam Cleveland, Zarina Siddiqi and Zahid Siddiqi wanted to celebrate this year's Eid, the Festival of Breaking the Fast, with some of their friends and Imams from several mosques in greater Cleveland at Cleveland City Hall Rotunda. Asian Muslim leaders of Indian, Pakistani, Egyptian, Bangladeshi, Syrian, Palestinian, Canadian, and American descent all came; Imams came too. It was the first time that Asians celebrated one of



# 在美國改造自己



# 最美的風景在心裡

有三樣東西,這三樣東西無法挽留:時間,愛和金錢,昨天和今天,上一分鐘和下一瞬間只要你心情改變,天堂與地獄就在你的心裡呈現。

這幾天發生的事在加利福尼亞州的一個台灣裔教會的槍擊案,打死一名醫生並打傷其他五人的男子是移民自中國的美國公民,他仇恨台灣,帶著槍、鐵鏈和大量燃燒瓶,從拉斯維加斯開車來到位於加州爾灣的教會行兇。

我的朋友 May 電話告訴我,她朋友平時時也去這個教堂,那天她有事沒有在現場,她說原來都是在電影里看到的東西都成了事實。最難過的就是那一位當場被兇手打死的醫生,他是陪母親前來參加教會聚餐的,這位醫生平時不去教會的,是因為父親剛往生不久,孝心陪母親去教會聚會,看片中安排是不是有點過分,可就是這麼巧合,那位醫生還和兇手搏斗。

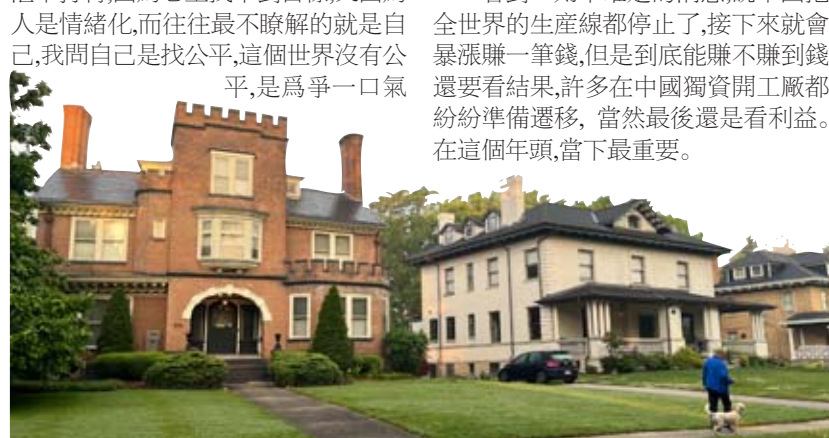
這個世界變了,是因為人心變了,在疫情防控和戰爭遲遲不結束,物價怎麼飛漲,人的心情就和股票一樣起伏不定,人在恐懼中生活,但這個世界上最好的良藥還是善良。好朋友在上海有高級住宅出租,他告訴我,因為疫情他沒有收房租,客戶們沒有出門,他們說他們沒有錢付房租,如果我朋友一定要他付房租,他們把房子弄得一場糊塗。倒楣的還是我朋友,他是智慧的人,已經知道問題和解決問題的方法,看到一則不確定的消息,說中國把全世界的生產線都停止了,接下來就會暴漲賺一筆錢,但是到底能賺不賺錢還要看結果,許多在中國獨自開工廠都紛紛準備遷移,當然最後還是看利益。在這個年頭,當下最重要。

最近我看到一份 Ohio Mid-west Life News 只有八頁報紙,基本都是廣告,政治宗教,我很想認識這位能讓報紙在這個年代做得風生水起的人,我的黎巴嫩做報紙 PROFILE NEWS Ohio 社長朋友 Pierre Bejjani 介紹我認識了 Jeffrey J. Jemison,我們聊得非常愉快,Jeffrey 的家族做報紙已經有 95 年的歷史,他本人學的專業是 Mechanical,後來還當過牧師,現在又是社長,他笑著對我說,他還有許多不同職業。他告訴我他做牧師就是想認識更多牧師,可以幫助他孩子心靈成長,真是一個有心的父親。

我們還聊到許多其他的,尤其是他讓我申請一下重要的證件,這對我有幫助,我是連聽都沒有聽過,我做了報紙都 20 年了,慚愧。

現在發現許多事情都是因為自己的無知無能又找不到智慧的鑰匙,在迷茫中打轉,因為心里找不到目標,又因為自己是情緒化,而往往最瞭解的就是自己,我問自己是找公平,這個世界沒有公平,是為爭一口氣。

還是掙錢,想想一口氣要比錢貴,也許錢能解決的都不是大事。這幾天發生的事在加利福尼亞州的一個台灣裔教會的槍擊案,打死一名醫生並打傷其他五人的男子是移民自中國的美國公民,他仇恨台灣,帶著槍、鐵鏈和大量燃燒瓶,從拉斯維加斯開車來到位於加州爾灣的教會行兇。



早在 2 個星期前,辛辛那提著名華人房地產經紀人徐曉潔在休斯敦考察投資項目,真巧他遇到休斯頓媒體大俠李蔚華,曉潔說她來自俄州,李大俠問認識伊利華報浦瑛嗎?曉潔馬上給我打了電話,並且說希望我能去看看辛辛那提在 2022 年 5 月 14 日的首屆亞太裔文化傳統晚會,她會幫我租好酒店,我答應一定去學習。

晚會在百年劇院 Memorial Hall OTR 隆重舉行,中西部第一位亞洲市長印度裔後裔 Aftab Pureval 給予晚會高度評價,當晚節目主持是當地電視台主播。本次晚會由俄州裔裔聯盟(AACO)與俄州南部非裔美國人協會(FASO)、印度文化協會(I-CA)和美中文化藝術聯盟(ACCA-US)聯合舉辦。AACO 為辛辛那提分會主席叢浩女士十分熱情地介紹他們舉辦這次活動花了 5 個多月時間,大家都很出力支持,尤其主講人和贊助單位都非常到位,曉潔表示辛辛那提華人積極參與主流社會活動,現任印度裔市長競選的時候,她為他拉了捐款 \$25,000,她本人參與各個族裔社團董事會,辛辛那提的商會她也是創辦人之一。

當日看到幾百名來自華人社區、印度裔社區、菲律賓裔社區和其他社區的參與者和朋友在在劇院觀看高品質的文藝演出。感謝 Aftab Pureval 市長、Stephanie A. Smith, Chantel Raghu 博士和 Roy Nickerson,感謝他們鼓舞人心的演講。

叢浩女士表示:我們要感謝所有讓這次活動成功舉辦的志願者,他們使我們的社區組織成爲一個積極向上的團體,還要特別感謝贊助商(五三銀行、寶潔公司、

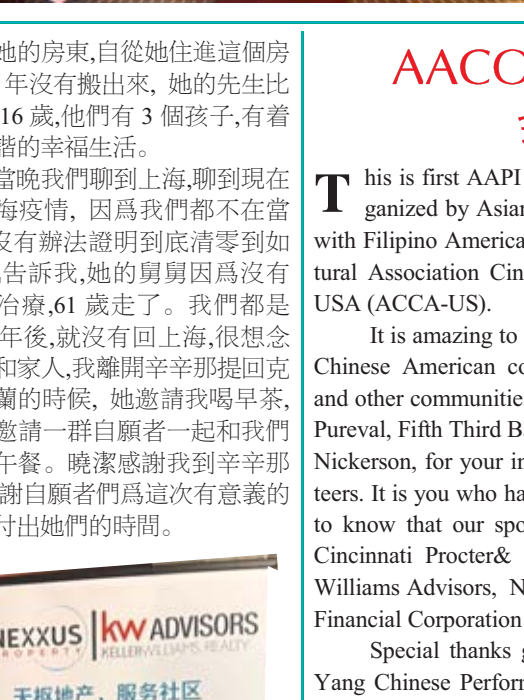


NEXXUS 地產公司、孟博士學院和辛辛那提金融公司的鼎力支持。當晚,藝術家們表演了一台讓人難忘的精彩節目,特別是現在疫情還沒有真正結束,在這樣一個困難的時刻,他們帶來的藝術和音樂給人欣慰。見到 2008 年創辦



nese Performing Arts Center 的創始人楊冰,多年不見,楊冰培養了一批批優秀舞蹈人才,楊冰告訴我,今晚表演的就是 10 年前還剛剛學舞的小不點,時間飛快,看到楊冰教了這麼一群可愛的學生,楊冰告訴我,她的一位學生現在已經在好萊塢了。

當晚還有為年輕人頒獎活動,他們是積極參與、為公共服務做出貢獻的亞裔青年,獲得亞太裔青年領袖獎,他們是希望是未來。



# AACO 辛辛那提分會主席 叢浩女士 講話

This is first AAPI heritage Gala was a huge success. The Gala was organized by Asian American Coalition Ohio (AACO), in partnership with Filipino American Association of Southern Ohio - FASO, India Cultural Association Cincinnati, and @Alliance of Chinese Culture & Arts USA (ACCA-US).

It is amazing to see several hundred participants and friends from the Chinese American community, Indian community, Pilipino community, and other communities all united under one roof. Thank you, Mayor Aftab Pureval, Fifth Third Bank Stephanie A. Smith, Dr. Chantel Raghu, and Roy Nickerson, for your inspiring speeches. We would like to thank all volunteers. It is you who have made our community a better place. It is assuring to know that our sponsors (Fifth Third Bank, Procter & Gamble GO Cincinnati Procter & Gamble - Cincinnati Xiaojie Shau Zavon, Keller Williams Advisors, Nexxus Property, Dr. Meng Academy, and Cincinnati Financial Corporation) have believed in us.

Special thanks go to all the wonderful performers and artists Bing Yang Chinese Performing Art Center Winton Woods High School @Joy Flower Music Center NrityArpana School of Performing Arts, Julie Spangler, Shuo Feng and Filipino American Cultural and Performing Arts - FACPA. It is comforting to have you heal our hearts through art and music at such a difficult moment. We are especially inspired by the Asian American youth who have actively contributed to civic engagement and public service. We extend our warmest congratulations to Sam Cao, Harsha Ramesh, and Daphne Constantinides on winning the AAPI Youth Leadership Awards. You are our future.

This is just the beginning of the wonderful journey we embark on. Our Asian community will become stronger by sustaining our unity while maintaining our differences. We look forward to working with all of you again!

