

Let us look at some of the teachings and Islamic principles:

1. The human being is inherently a sacred creation. It is forbidden to transgress against any human being, irrespective of color, ethnicity, or religion. The Qur'an says:

*"We have honored the descendants of Adam."*  
[17:70]

2. It is forbidden to kill a human soul unjustly. Killing a single person is to God as heinous as killing all of humanity, just as saving a single person from death is as weighty as saving the lives of all humanity. The Qur'an says:

*"If anyone killed a person except as recompense for murder or spreading havoc in the land, then it would be as if he killed all of humanity. And if anyone saved a life, it would be as if he saved the lives of all humanity."*  
[5:32]

3. It is forbidden to impose a religious faith upon a person. The Qur'an says:

*"There is no compulsion in religion."*  
[2:256]

A person will not even be considered a Muslim if he or she accepted Islam under duress.

4. The message of Islam asserts that human relationships must be established

on the highest moral standards. Prophet Muhammad said:

*"I was only sent to perfect good conduct."*

The Qur'an says:

*"We sent aforetime our messengers with clear signs and sent down with them the scripture and the balance so the people could establish justice"* [57:25]

Therefore, spoiling the environment, spreading havoc on earth, perpetrating violence against innocent, is a conduct that is reviled by God.

In the Qur'an we read:

*"Do not make mischief in the earth after it has been set in order."* [7: 56]

5. Justice for all people is their inalienable right. Oppressing them is forbidden, irrespective of their religion, color, or ethnicity. The Qur'an states:

*"And whenever you speak, speak justly, even if a close relative is concerned."* [6: 152]

6. Dialogue and invitation must be done in the best possible manner. The Qur'an says:

*"Invite to the way of your Lord with wisdom and good preaching and argue with them in the best manner"* [16:125]

Finally, here is a quote we like to mention from the Mayor of Folsom City, **Mr. Steve Milkos**:

*"I encourage all Folsom residents to remember that we have much to gain by learning from those who have different beliefs and backgrounds. Let's keep an open mind as the mosque is constructed and show our Muslim neighbors the respect and tolerance they deserve"*

ISF  
Islamic Society of Folsom



Folsom Mosque

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## Our Community

We are a small but very vibrant and inclusive community of about three hundred families. We are loyal Americans and participate in all the National events year after year. Most of us are computer professionals, Medical doctors, Managers working for large employers in and around Folsom.

We love peace and our religion advocates the same. We have been in Folsom for the past fourteen years living in harmony with fellow residents. If you look into the crimes committed in and around Folsom, you will not find a single one committed by our community members.

We are totally an independent Muslim community. We do not have any affiliations with any organization in or outside the USA. We are not funded and/or governed by any other religious organization or assembly.

We are a non-profit religious organization founded in 1994 to serve the Muslim community of Folsom and surrounding regions and was duly registered with the State of California and compliant with Federal IRC 501 (C)(3).

## Islam - A peaceful religion

A true Muslim cannot be a terrorist and a terrorist is not a true Muslim. We therefore denounce all terrorists and their associations.

We condemn the ruthless bombing and unjust killing in the name of Islam and Muslims.

On the contrary, Islam is a peaceful religion and our new Mosque will uphold the same. We have been in Folsom since 1992 and we have not caused any activity that demonstrates terrorism or hate crime.

We have families and children. We are also concerned about terrorism like any other citizen.

## New Mosque

We want to practice our religion of Islam. Offering Prayers in congregation daily and on Fridays is one of the obligations of our religion.

Initially our community was small and needed only a smaller facility. Over the years we have grown and needed bigger facility. So far we have rented couple of facilities and once again, we have outgrown our current facilities.

We want to live in harmony with our neighbors. We also would like to provide an excellent academic environment for our children. Hence a new facility/Mosque.

It will be called **Masjid Bilal**. Our community is very excited and looking forward to this Mosque.



The site, which is located at the intersection of Levy Road and Sibley St. in Folsom, will be developed over the next two to three years to accommodate a Prayer hall (Mosque), Classrooms and Multi-Purpose Halls (Assembly/Dining, etc).

The building is two-story structure with a total area of about 30,000 sq ft; will have an exterior façade designed to reflect the characteristics of traditional Islamic architecture with a Minaret and a dome to enhance the beauty of the Mosque.

Many cities in USA have welcomed and allowed such Mosques to be built. Some of the Mosques can be found in several cities across USA, for example, Washington D.C, Fremont, Hayward, Los Angeles, San Diego, California and throughout in New York, Texas, etc.

The project is programmed to provide for Religious Services and Functions, Lectures and Educational purposes only.

The facility will house a private Elementary School which will be open to the public that will follow the academic standards prescribed by the Department of Education, State of California.

A playground for the children is proposed for the School. The school will operate between the off peak hours of 8:30 AM to 3:30 PM. Our main services will take place on Fridays between noon and 2:00 PM.

Men, women and children of all faiths are welcome to attend our services which will be in English followed by Arabic, the language of The Qur'an.

We met all the requirements of the Folsom City's Planning department and therefore the Planning commission approved and granted us the Planned Development Permit for this Mosque.

## Dealing with other Nations

There are a number of basic principles and moral values that govern our dealings with other nations.

These were set forth 14 centuries ago by the messenger of Islam, Muhammad (Peace be upon him).

This was before human rights organizations existed and before there was a United Nations with its international charters.