

BMPC2024 FAQS



2024 BLACK MUSLIM PSYCHOLOGY CONFERENCE

UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO | JULY 20-21, 2024

[BLACKMUSLIMPSYCHOLOGY.ORG](https://blackmuslimpsychology.org)



Q:

I'M NOT A BLACK MUSLIM. CAN I ATTEND BMPC? WILL I TAKE UP SPACE? WHAT IF I SAY/DO THE WRONG THING?

A:

BMPC is the ONLY national conference which intentionally and unapologetically **centers the concerns, strengths, histories and narratives of Black Muslims**, especially regarding the impact of white supremacy, racial trauma, wellness and healing. This is a conference in which the voices of those marginalized in other spaces are celebrated, supported, nurtured and validated. As a nonBlack Muslim or nonMuslim ally, this is an opportunity to witness this celebration and journey of self-love and self-determination. You are invited to witness, learn and appreciate the significant struggles **AND** collective strength of this community. **We ask that you attend and witness in a spirit of curiosity, humility and respect.**



Q:

I'M NOT A MENTAL HEALTH PROFESSIONAL [PSYCHOLOGIST, SOCIAL WORKER, ETC] OR AN ACADEMIC PERSON, CAN I ATTEND BMPC?

A:

At BMPC, we use and understand the term "psychology" in a broad sense - a term that includes overall **mental health, emotional wellness, and spiritual fortitude**. Since its inception in 2015, BMPC has been an INTERDISCIPLINARY gathering. Folks from various backgrounds coming together to explore Black Muslim healing and well-being. It is called the Black Muslim Psychology Conference because we prioritize the inner world (the thoughts, feelings, emotions, etc.) of Black Muslims. You **DON'T** have to be a mental health professional or even study psychology to attend. **You only need to have a genuine interest in the mental well-being of Black Muslims. If you believe in this mission, this space is for you.**



Q:

WHY FOCUS ON BLACK MUSLIMS? WHY NOT A PSYCHOLOGY CONFERENCE FOR MUSLIMS OF ALL BACKGROUNDS?

A:

Black/African Americans represent nearly 30% of the American Muslim community and must navigate experiences of marginalization and microaggressions on a daily basis. However, in the face of anti-Black racism and anti-Muslim bigotry, **we draw upon faith and deeply rooted spirituality, knowledge and wisdom to strive towards wellness.** BMPC was established in 2015 by Muslim Wellness Foundation and is the only conference in the country to explore our experiences of race, religion, trauma and healing. The conference gathers grassroots activists, youth leaders, community organizers, community members, religious scholars in conversation about the effect of continued systemic racism on the psychological well-being of Black Muslims and strategies to facilitate community healing. **We invite you to join us on this beautiful journey of discovery!**



Q:

IS THIS CONFERENCE JUST FOR AFRICAN AMERICAN MUSLIMS?

A:

Our use of the term **Black Muslim is inclusive** of all those who identify as Muslim and of African descent:

- Black African
- Black American/Descendant of Enslaved Africans in the United States
- Afro/Black Arab
- AfroLatinx
- AfroCaribbean/West Indian, etc.

Our convening is made up of a cross-section of our communities, and the space we have created at BMPC honors the linguistic, ethnic, sectarian diversity found within it. In fact, **our diversity and rich history is a source of strength and celebration!**



Q:

I CAN'T AFFORD THE REGISTRATION - IS THERE A DISCOUNT AVAILABLE? CAN I COME FOR FREE IF I'M ONLY GOING TO STAY FOR ONE DAY?

A:

Muslim Wellness Foundation established BMPC in 2015 and the growth of the conference as a resource to Black Muslim communities and others has been extraordinary. We are a small non-profit organization relying primarily on volunteer labor, donations and sponsorship in order to provide insightful, thoughtful, innovative, and quality programming. **We have done all we can [including offering a limited time holiday promo] to keep the registration fee as reasonable and inexpensive as possible; while ensuring that our attendees are well cared for throughout the conference weekend.** We invite community members, organizations and other institutions to support and sustain this groundbreaking work.

Become a BMPC2024 Sponsor:

blackmuslimpsychology.org/sponsor



Q:

THIS SOUNDS LIKE AN AWESOME CONFERENCE. WILL IT BE RECORDED OR LIVE-STREAMED?

A:

BMPC is grown into an incredibly nourishing and loving space - offering an opportunity for openness and vulnerability which is rare. Our attendees are invited to bring their whole selves and experience care, warmth and affirmation in community. While we would love to offer virtual access to this amazing gathering, **in the interest of the safety, security and comfort of our conference attendees, we have decided NOT to livestream our keynotes and workshops.** We will record these sessions and make them available [for a fee] for post-conference viewing at a later date.



Q:

I WOULD LOVE TO ATTEND HOMEPLACE: BMPC2024 SUMMER SOCIAL. DOES MY CONFERENCE REGISTRATION INCLUDE THIS EVENT?

A:

The cost of registration for **BMPC2024** [\$325/per person] includes access to both keynote sessions, all workshops, lunch {both days}, all day beverage and snacks. **HOMEPLACE: BMPC2024 Summer Social** is hosted by Angelica Lindsey-Ali [The Village Auntie]. It will include a book reading and signing with Warsan Shire and will feature performances by Drea d’Nur, and Tazeen & LuFuki. **Tickets for this event on Saturday July 20 at 7pm are SOLD SEPARATELY.** The cost is \$45 and includes buffet dinner. All are welcome to join us - **attendance at BMPC2024 is NOT required.** Come through!

For tickets:

bmpc2024.eventbrite.com

Register for Conference AND Social, or Social ONLY.