

**MUHAMMAD ALI RELIGIOUS FREEDOM ICON &
PEACE ADVOCATE
A CELEBRATION OF MUHAMMAD ALI'S
BIRTHDAY**

MUHAMMAD ALI INSTITUTE FOR PEACE & JUSTICE – JANUARY 17, 2017



MUHAMMAD ALI & VIETNAM WAR

MUHAMMAD ALI, A DEVOUT MUSLIM, FOUGHT A COSTLY LEGAL BATTLE TO RECOGNIZE HIS RELIGIOUS COMMITMENT TO PEACE. HIS REFUSAL TO JOIN THE MILITARY DURING THE VIETNAM WAR WAS A CALL HEARD WORLDWIDE THAT PEACE, NOT WAR, WAS THE ANSWER TO OUR CONFLICTS.

MUHAMMAD ALI - RELIGIOUS FREEDOM ICON

GOALS OF TODAY'S PROGRAM & DISCUSSION

- **WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE COMMITTED TO PEACE TODAY?**
- **HOW DO WE MAINTAIN OUR COMMITMENT TO RELIGIOUS FREEDOM AND PEACE IN A WORLD WHERE WAR IS PREVALENT?**
- **WHAT IS THE ROLE OF OUR ENTIRE COMMUNITY IN SUPPORTING RELIGIOUS FREEDOM?**

DID YOU KNOW MUHAMMAD ALI IS RECOGNIZED WORLDWIDE FOR HIS REFUSAL TO GO TO WAR IN 1967?

In 1967, Muhammad Ali refused induction into the U.S. Armed Forces due to his religious beliefs

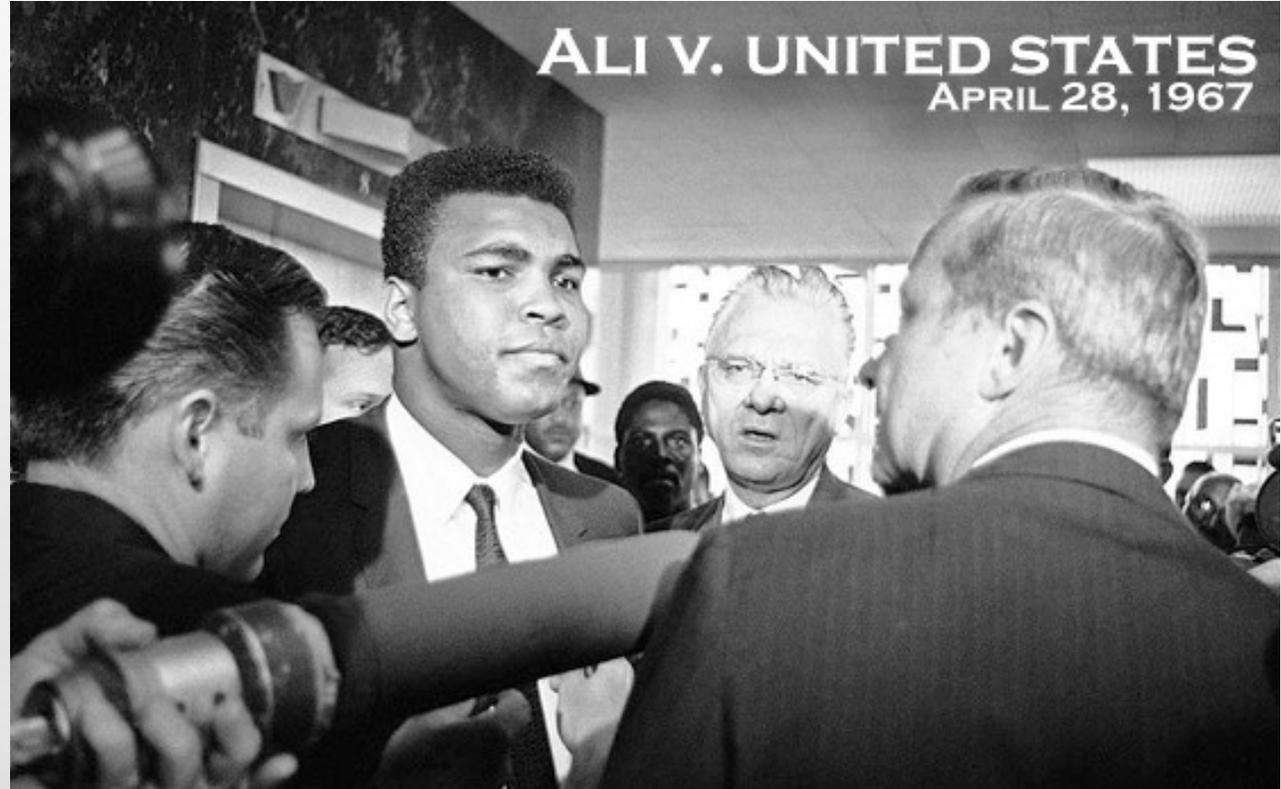
He was arrested, fined, stripped of his boxing license and title, and initially found guilty of draft evasion

Muhammad Ali paid the price for his beliefs and convictions



DID YOU KNOW MUHAMMAD ALI IS RECOGNIZED WORLDWIDE FOR HIS REFUSAL TO GO TO WAR IN 1967?

- **MUHAMMAD ALI PAID THE PRICE FOR HIS BELIEFS AND CONVICTIONS**
- **IT TOOK FOUR YEARS, FROM 1967 TO 1971, FOR THE SUPREME COURT TO REVERSE HIS DRAFT EVASION CONVICTION AND FIND THAT MUHAMMAD ALI HAD CONSTITUTIONALLY PROTECTED RELIGIOUS BELIEFS**
- **ALI REGAINED HIS TITLE IN 1974 AND RETIRED FROM THE RING IN 1981**



MUHAMMAD ALI -- IN HIS OWN WORDS

- [HTTPS://WWW.YOUTUBE.COM/WATCH?V=HEFMYRWLZ68](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HEFMYRWLZ68)
- [HTTPS://WWW.YOUTUBE.COM/WATCH?V=WCOBOGWEDYK](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WCOBOGWEDYK)

TODAY'S SPEAKERS

- **REV. JASON CROSBY, PASTOR ,CRESCENT HILL BAPTIST CHURCH**
- **DR. RUSS VANDENBROUCKE, PROFESSOR ,UNIVERSITY OF LOUISVILLE**
- **MARIAM BA, MUHAMMAD ALI SCHOLAR, PRESIDENT OF MUSLIM STUDENTS ASSOCIATION, UNIVERSITY OF LOUISVILLE**

QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

- **WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE COMMITTED TO PEACE TODAY?**
- **HOW DO WE MAINTAIN OUR COMMITMENT TO RELIGIOUS FREEDOM AND PEACE IN A WORLD WHERE WAR IS PREVALENT?**
- **WHAT IS THE ROLE OF OUR ENTIRE COMMUNITY IN SUPPORTING RELIGIOUS FREEDOM?**
- **DO SIMILAR RISKS TO WHAT MUHAMMAD ALI EXPERIENCED EXIST FOR THOSE WHO STAND UP FOR RELIGIOUS FREEDOM?**

QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

- **LOOKING OUR CURRENT POLITICAL LANDSCAPE DO YOU THINK THAT RELIGIOUS FREEDOM IS IN JEOPARDY?**
- **WHAT DO YOU THINK WE CAN DO AS A NATION, STATE, COMMUNITY, OR INDIVIDUALLY TO ENSURE THAT RELIGIOUS FREEDOM CONTINUES?**
- **ARE THERE ACTIVITIES/PROGRAMS DO YOU THINK THE CITY IS DOING WELL AROUND INTERFAITH RELATIONS? WHERE DO YOU THINK THE CITY COULD DO BETTER? (WHAT'S MISSING?)**
- **WHAT OPPORTUNITIES DO YOU SEE WITHIN THE CITY (EVEN IF YOU CAN'T PARTICIPATE)?**

THANK YOU FOR JOINING THE DISCUSSION!

- **APPLY TO THE ALI SCHOLARS PROGRAM**
- **APPLICATIONS AVAILABLE ON THE MUHAMMAD ALI INSTITUTE WEBSITE**
WWW.LOUISVILLE.EDU/ALIINSTITUTE/
- **APPLICATIONS DUE JANUARY 31, 2017**