## Outgoing Leadership



Imam Abdullah G. Mansaray National Chairman National Muslim Council of Liberia



Atty. Alhaji Vaforay A.M. Kamara Vice Chairman for Administration



Alhaji David Kiazolu Vice Chair for Operation



Sheikh Farouk Konneh Deputy Mufti



Alhaji Sekou Fofana Secretary General



Cllr. Musa S. Sidibey Treasurer



Haja Adama Jawandoh Financial Secretary



# Inaugural Statement

seek Allah's protection from Shayittan Rajeem, the outcast. I start in the name of Allah, The Most Merciful and The Most Compassionate. I testify with all certainty that whomever Allah blesses with His guidance, no one can mislead, and whomever Allah does not bless with His guidance, no one can save. Therefore, we ask Him for His mercy and guidance.

- His Excellency, the President of the Republic of Liberia, Dr. George Manneh Weah
- Honorable members of the diplomatic corps here present
- Our distinguished partner from Inter-Religious Council of Liberia, the Liberia Council of Churches
- Our esteemed friends and well wishers

I greet you with the greeting of peace: Assallaamu Alaikum wa rahamatullaahe ta'aalah wa barakaatuhu, which means "Peace, Mercy and Blessings of the Most High be unto you."

I thank Allah, The Most Capable, Who has made this gathering possible for all of us. We ask Him to have mercy on those who started this journey with us but did not see this day. Those include: Sheikh Kafumba F. Konneh, Bro. Moifee Dulleh, Sheikh Maami Kromah, Dr. Abubakar Bah, Sheikh Swaliha Salumba Kanneh, Imaam Alhaji Tamba Yonda, Imaam Oldman Saa Bangaly etc.

This occasion, Mr. President, distinguished guests, fellow Liberians, climaxes an important and hugely historic milestone in the anal of Islamic History in this country, which, with all honesty, we thought would have lost its significance without your presence. For this, we are exceedingly honored and grateful. Thank you!

The Muslims in Liberia, in the midst of lack of meaningful progress over several years, characterized by disunity, excessive greed and continuous quest for personal wealths and glory; corruption, envy and hate, became semblance of a failed Ummah.

The widows and orphans amongst us were largely abandoned, our Islamic education system collapsed, our homes became multi-faith, our brothers and sisters in public services no longer saw corruption and injustice as crimes; our school-going children no longer saw immorality, indecency and cheating as offenses that corrupt society and subject to severe punishment by Allah. In short, we had started to totally forget that, accountability on the Day of Judgement is a Divine Promise with severe punishments awaiting the guilty ones.

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Allah, praised be to His name, The Most High, said in the Holy Quran Surat: *\":\\"*Verily, Allâh does not change the condition of a people until they (first) change their ways and their minds." Over the years, no dispute about it, we have changed from good to bad, the consequence of which we have suffered. But now we have started a new journey to change from bad to good. Today's ceremony marks an important turn in that direction of change for the better. And as Allah has promised, we, with our hearts wide opened, ask You The Almighty, to protect our efforts towards a united Ummah, enable us to give our children the best upbringing, make us lovers of justice indiscriminately, and people who serve others and put Liberia first with honesty, commitment and sincerity.

To reach this far, it took men and women, unbelievable strength and characters, vision and determination, who did not only put their money in the exercise but sacrificed their valuable times, withstood barrage of assassinations on their characters, became victims of rumours and lies that were meant to divide us further and even endanger their security and safety with the State. But Allah, The Almighty Is Sufficient for whomever that depends on Him. As the Quran States: "Say : the truth has come and the falsehood has vanished and indeed the falsehood was meant to vanish". The National Muslim Council 's Institutional Reform exercise started in 2016 and unfolded as follows:

- A Nationwide Consultation to sample the views and aspirations of Muslims in the 15 political subdivisions of Liberia on the status of the Council.
- Drafting of a new constitution to reflect the outcome of the Nationwide Consultations
- Dissolution of the then leadership and constituting new inclusive interim national leadership
- Inviting religious experts and legal minds to give guidance on relevant provisions of a new draft constitution.
- Conducting a 2-week validation process and adoption of the new constitution.
- Mobilization of resources to carry out major renovation of the offices and conference hall of the headquarters
- Launching a nationwide membership drive and
- Hosting the General Assembly and conducting a new corps of officers.

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To our diplomatic families, the United States Embassy, EU, Mano River Union, ECOWAS, including Egypt, Libya, Morroco, Saudi Arabia, we say thank you. We are grateful for decades of traditional supports to the people of Liberia, especially to the Muslims, and particularly in the areas of Islamic education and development. We whole heartedly thank you, and we look forward to a re-energized partnership.

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To the Muslims of Liberia, men, women and youths, especially those with qualifications, thank you for watching the process, but the time to sit on the fence is over. The Muslim Council is for all Muslims, be an Imaam, Islamic scholar, businessman, market woman, medical doctor, nurse, politician, lawyer, student etc. You do not have to be only an Imam or Islamic scholar before you play a part. That self-serving notion that the Council is for religious people only, is the one that deprived the Council of the most sophisticated, contemporary expertise to serve the Muslims of Liberia.

Many at times, we have seen you quick to point fingers when crises happened but seldom you take upon yourselves the responsibility to be there in the first place to avoid the crises. Sad enough, majority of you do not even know where the National Muslim Council of Liberia's Headquarters are. This call goes on to all of you. Let us make this Council functional, inclusive and participatory as much as possible.

The just ended general elections brought on board, not less than five renown Muslim lawyers including a female Counsellor; people from diverse professions and tribes were elected, never before in the history of the National Muslim Council of Liberia

To gallant members of the Institutional Reform Committee under the stewardship of the former Associate Justice of the Supreme Court Bench; and to the out-going interim Leadership, we know the journey has been a very turbulent one, but we thank Allah Almighty Who, based on your sincerity, your good intention, enabled you to stand your ground. This monumental achievement will remain your legacy forever. May Allah reward you abundantly for your works. Thank you.

And finally, to the Government of Liberia, under the dynamic leadership of His Excellency Dr. George Manneh Weah, we say: thank you for the leadership over the years. The Reformed National Muslim Council of Liberia, signals the coming of a new era.

An era for greater partnership with the government on national issues for the betterment of our country. The Council will stand hands in hands with the Governenment and all its development partners to lead the way for effective delivery of social development programs to all communities including the Muslim homes.

Islam is peace and is here to stay, to promote our shared values for the sake of humanity, reconciliation and peaceful co-existance.

I Ask Allah Almighty for His favor upon all of you "Do not despair, certainly, Allah Is with us" Thank You.

## Brief Profile and Mission of the National Muslim Council Brief Profile

The National Muslim Council of Liberia was established in1974 to serve as an umbrella organization of the Ummah (Community) to steer the affairs of Muslims of Liberia, seek their welfare, protect, defend and promote their rights and interests within the spirit of Islamic teachings and mutual collaboration for greater contribution for national development, peace and security of the Liberian State.

#### Vision

The National Muslim Council of Liberia envisions a vibrant and an all-inclusive Muslim Council with solid institutional foundation working to achieve harmony and social cohesion.

#### Mission

The National Muslim Council of Liberia seeks to promote the true teachings of Islam in Liberia, to protect and defend equal rights for all persons in Liberia, enhance the socioeconomic wellbeing of Muslims, foster reconciliation and unification in the Liberia body politic and strengthen the participation of Muslims in national policy formulation and decision-making.

Core Values

- a. Moral uprightness
- b. Pragmatic.
- c. Respect for the Elderly and compassion for the Young.

G	PROTC	COL	Posponsible
Time		Agenda Item	Responsible Person
1.	Tajweed/O	pening Prayers	
2.	Welcome Statement/Introduction of the Program. Tajweed/Quranic Recitation		Vice Chairman/Administration
3.			
4.	Introductio	on of the Keynote Speaker	Mawata A. Dukuly Student, Seku I. Sheriff High School
5.	Keynote Address		
6.	Induction of Officers Elect/Biye-ah:		Former Liberia Ambassador Extraordinary & Plenipotentiary accredited near Riyah, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia
	A. National Executive Council		Hon. Boakai A. Dukuly Commissioner, National Elections Commission
	B. Board of GovernorsShi		ekh Abdul Karim Al Kash A Meye Philanthropist, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia
	C. Majlis F	atwaah (Council of Islamic Jurists)	Mohamemd Kheybich Head of Saudi Delegation
7.	Official Tu	rning OverIn	naam Abdullah Gassimu Mansaray Outgoing Chairman, National Muslim Council
8.	Induction Address		
9.	Tajweed/Quaranic Recitation		Ibrahim Sow Student, United Dawah Ummah
<u>10</u> .	Special Statement		H.E. Dr. George M. Weah
11.	Remarks		President, Republic of Liberia
	A. H.E. Michael A. McCarthy United States Ambassador accredited near Monrovia		
	B. H.E. Urban Sjostrom Swedish Ambassador accredited near Monrovia		
	C.	Rev. Dr. Samuel Reeves President, Liberia Council of Churches	
	D. H.E. Ambassador, Federal Republic of Nigeria accredited near Mon.		
	E. H.E. Josephine Nkrumah, Representative of the ECOWAS Commission		
	F.		
11.	Vote of ThanksImaam Abdullah Gassimu Mansaray Former Chairman, National Muslim Council		
12.	Benedictio	n/Closing Prayers	Former Chairman, National Muslim Council
		Saidu Mustapha Vasco Nyei Asata Dukuly Kabineh M. Ja'neh	INAUGURAL COMMITTEE Atty. Alhaaji Vaforay Musa Kamara Abdulrahman Sow Alhaaji Momolu Vannie Victoria Koiquah

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#### **Strategic Plans** Ten years strategic plan for education

#### Vision

A strong Muslim Community with adequate capacity for a successful and competitive academic journey for the young people in our quest for a professionally self-sufficient Ummah.

#### Mission

Establish standard institutions of dual education in all counties in Liberia in addition to several tertiary education institutions; to enhance the continuous training and capacity building of Imams and scholars, in order to produce professionals of all walks for fostering the growth and development of Islam and Muslims in Liberia.

#### Goal

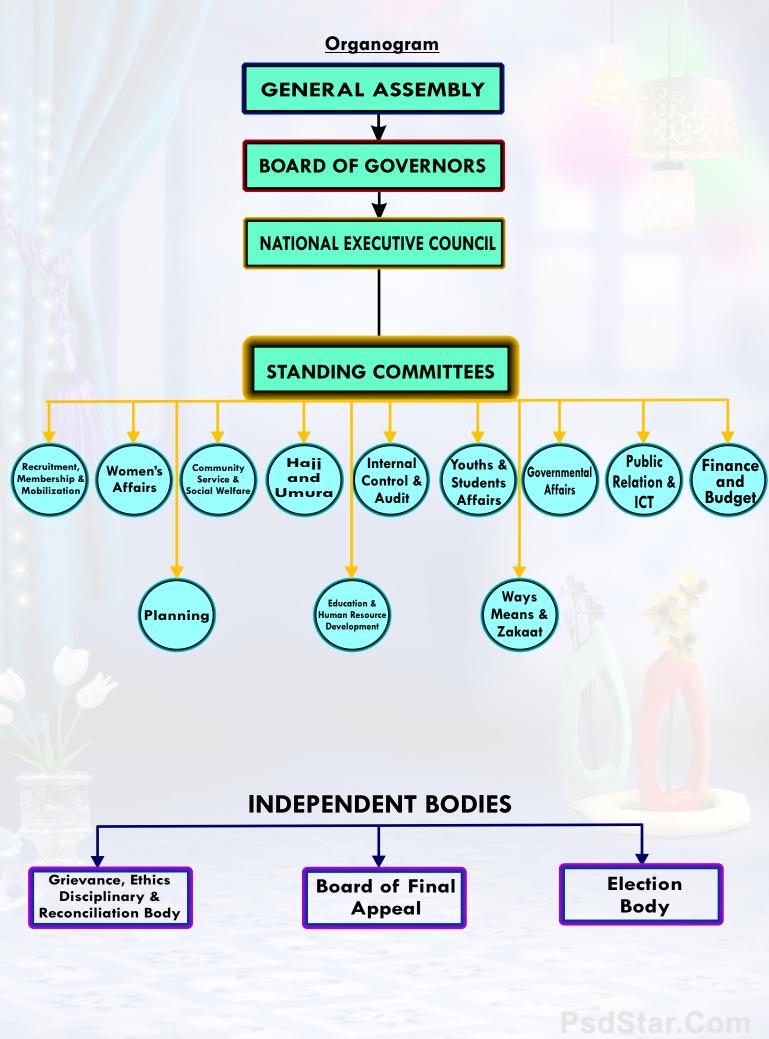
Improve equity for access to quality education for the acquisition of requisite capacities for transformative social and economic services delivery.

#### Objectives

- 1. Establish one boarding school for girls from 7-12 grades
- 2. Establish ten elementary schools in rural Liberia
- 3. Establish eight secondary and senior schools in eight counties
- 4. Establish the first Muslim-owned and Muslim-run tertiary educational institution
- 5. Establish one nursing college
- 6. Award 25 scholarships annually for graduate and post graduate studies abroad.

#### **Outcomes:**

- Over ten thousand economically disadvantaged boys and girls receive quality and affordable primary, secondary and senior education around the country with ease.
- Over a thousand high school graduates receive quality and affordable higher education every year in various academic disciplines including nursing and Islamic studies
- Quality of healthcare improved through training and service delivery
- At least 25 graduates with advanced degrees return to Liberia every year.



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## Alhajii Abraham F. Sheriff NATIONAL EXECUTIVE CHAIRMAN



Sheikh Mohammed M. Konneh National Vice Chairman For Administration



Sheikh Abdulrahman I. Sow VICE CHAIRMAN FOR OPERATIONS



Dr. Abbas S. Kanneh NATIONAL VICE CHAIRMAN FOR RELIGIOUS AFFAIRS



Sister Amna V. Sherif VICE CHAIRPERSON FOR WOMEN'S AFFAIRS



**A.F. Kuku Reeves** NATIONAL SECRETARY GENERAL

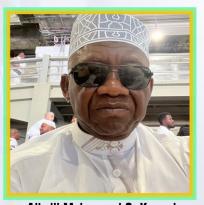


Vannie S. Momolu NATIONAL DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL

## **BOARD OF GOVERNORS**



**CIIr. Alhajii Swaliho Sesay** CHAIRPERSON, BOARD OF GOVERNORS



Alhajii Mohammed S. Kromah VICE CHAIRPERSON, BOARD OF GOVERNORS



CIIr. Massa Jallabah RECORDING SECRETARY, BOARD OF GOVERNORS



Haja Adama Jawandoh BUDGET OFFICER, BOARD OF GOVERNORS



Alhajii Garfee Swaray MEMBER, BOARD OF GOVERNORS



Alhusine A. Sow MEMBER, BOARD OF GOVERNORS



Clir. Yahyah Kromah MEMBER, BOARD OF GOVERNORS



Imam Mohammed Kaba MEMBER, BOARD OF GOVERNORS

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Ayouba Sidiki Dukuly MEMBER, BOARD OF GOVERNORS



Sheikh Sheku Dakowah MEMBER, BOARD OF GOVERNORS



Sister Mama Sanvee Kamara MEMBER, BOARD OF GOVERNORS



Imam Salleh Abbass Selleh Kanneh HEAD, BODY OF IMAMS

## **MAJLIS FATWAH**



Dr. Abbas Salleh Kanneh NATIONAL GRAND MUFTI



Sheikh Abdullah Kromah MEMBER, MAJLIS FATWAH



Sheikh Abubakar Soumaoro MEMBER, MAJIS FATWAH



Sheikh Imam Muhammed Mustapha Balde MEMBER, MAJIS FATWAH



Sheikh Alhassan Layee Kenneh MEMBER, MAJLIS FATWAH



Sheikh Foday Kemo MEMBER, MAJLIS FATWAH

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Sheikh Fuard Kabba MEMBER, MAJLIS FATWAH



Sheikh Musa Sheriff MEMBER, MAJLIS FATWAH



Ali Kamara MEMBER, MAJLIS FATWAH

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