

PRESS & GUIDE

Children of Abraham Day will promote unity and positivity



Farhat Qazi, creator of Children of Abraham Day, has been honored with a Spirit of Detroit Award from the Detroit City Council. (Courtesy Farhat Qazi)

By [PRESS AND GUIDE](#)

PUBLISHED: October 4, 2023 at 12:12 p.m. | UPDATED: October 4, 2023 at 12:12 p.m.

Each year, as we enter the holiday season, I am overcome by strong feelings of togetherness and harmony when I think of my friends, family, and community.

I am a Muslim by faith and often surprised that many people don't know that Judaism, Christianity, and Islam have a unique, common, and extraordinary origin.

Known as the Abrahamic faiths, these three major religions all trace their beginnings back to Abraham (Ibrahim), who was born in the Mesopotamian city of Ur almost 4,000 years ago. The sons of Ibrahim went forth to establish nations and become kings of the ancient world.

Jews, Christians and Muslims all believe in the same God that Abraham loved, followed and obeyed. The Old Testament, New Testament, and Quran all praise and revere this God. I strongly believe that celebrating this commonality will go a long way towards developing mutual respect and good will in today's divided world.

Currently, there is no common holiday that unites the Abrahamic faiths. My life's goal is to create a national holiday that recognizes the common origin of these religions, that I call Children of Abraham Day. The goal of Children of Abraham Day is to promote understanding and positivity between these three religions.

The vision for this day is a school celebration, where education and activities can be planned for children to learn about the common origin of Judaism, Christianity and Islam in a respectful, factual and objective manner and to allow forums for students to speak positively about these major religions.

The day will be inspirational, with meaningful activities and cultural food offerings. The right to religious freedom bestowed by our Constitution also should be taught and celebrated.

Governor Whitmer has declared the first Friday in December as Children of Abraham Day in Michigan. The Michigan House of Representatives has done the same. And, U.S. Senator Debbie Stabenow has acknowledged the day in the Congressional Record. The ultimate goal is to have a national holiday that is recognized across all fifty states.

To help increase awareness of Children of Abraham Day, plan an event in early December to celebrate these three major religions. Let's embrace our commonality, which provides the inspiration to find common ground for peace and harmony.

I feel an obligation to teach our children the common origins of these religions. I believe this will be key to future peace and harmony and will lessen the hatred among those who believe in the same God, the God of Abraham.

I hope I can count on your support for Children of Abraham Day.

Children of Abraham Day was created by Detroit area entrepreneur and philanthropist Farhat Qazi to encourage and promote religious unity and understanding of the three monotheistic religions – Judaism, Christianity and Islam.