

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### *A Journey for Justice*

**Cooperstown, Oneonta** – As part of America's "War on Terror," hundreds of Muslims in the United States have been unfairly targeted, prosecuted, and convicted by the Justice Department under a new paradigm of "preemptive prosecution". One such man, Yassin Aref of Albany, was sentenced to 15 years in prison following a government entrapment operation. Recently, however, his defense attorneys have learned of previously suppressed evidence indicating that Aref, who is a Kurdish imam, had been misidentified. An appeal based on this new information is underway.



To bring awareness to the case of Yassin Aref and others facing injustice, Lynne Jackson, cofounder of Project SALAM (Support and Legal Advocacy for Muslims), has embarked upon a journey that will take her and other supporters on a 133 mile walk from Aref's home in Albany to Binghamton, New York. Upon completion of her *Journey for Justice*, Ms. Jackson will deliver a petition of signatures requesting serious consideration of Aref's appeal to the judge in Binghamton. During her eleven day walk, she will speak in various venues about Aref and his treatment, including detainment in two Midwest prisons known as "Little Gitmos." She will also address preemptive prosecution tactics used by the U.S. government including agent provocateurs, criminalization of charity finance, draconian material support laws, and guilt by association.

Come hear Lynne Jackson speak while she is in the Cooperstown and Oneonta areas.

- July 16<sup>th</sup> 7:00 pm      Cooperstown  
First Presbyterian Church in the adjunct chapel building  
Church St. and Pioneer St.
- July 18<sup>th</sup> 12:00 noon      Oneonta – sponsored by *Quakers-Butternuts Friends Meeting*  
Upper Room at First United Presbyterian ("Red Door") Church  
Enter via ramp off Roosevelt Ave. at Main St.

Both talks are free and open to the public. All are welcome. Refreshments served.

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