

# News Journal

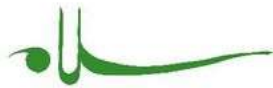
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We bring to you an important **supplement** to the February 2019 issue of the **News Journal**.

It is about the US electorate, Muslim candidacy, and charges of anti-Semitism. Overall it is a congratulatory situation for the Muslim Community in USA.

It is brought to you by the **Muslim Planet** Project. You can also enjoy it on the news journal **blog**.

May Allah bless you and your community.



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## Acknowledgments:

**Disclaimer:** Views expressed in the articles are those of their authors and do not necessarily represent the Muslim Planet Project.

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## Muslim Candidate Wins in the Commonwealth of Virginia

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By

**Professor A. R. Choudhary**

### Abstract:

Virginia Democrat Ibraheem Samirah on Tuesday became the second Muslim elected to the General Assembly, in a special election marked by allegations of anti-Semitism over a social media post deemed critical of US aid to Israel. Still Samirah easily beat his opponents (Republican Gregg G. Nelson and independent Connie H. Hutchinson) with 59 percent of the vote.

Yes we can!

## Introduction

Samirah, a Palestinian American dentist from Herndon, said he relied more on volunteers than elected Democrats in the days leading up to the election, as the party dealt with fallout from two of his social media posts from his college days regarding aid to Israel. The Jewish community misinterpreted a criticism of US policy regarding aid to Israel as being anti-Semitic. Much was made out of this misinterpretation to defame Samirah, and his Republican opponent played this defamation tune abundantly. Samirah says “It landed us in a position where we solely relied on grass roots”.

[Washington Post](#) reports that a right-leaning website wrote about Samirah’s Facebook posts from 2014. In one, Samirah shared a letter by musician Brian Eno about Palestinian civilian deaths caused by Israeli missile strikes in Gaza. The letter said funding Israel is like supporting the Ku Klux Klan. Samirah wrote above it “I’d say worse, but I’ll go along with Eno on this one”.