

Rumi Night in Washington

September 28, 2026

- 18:00 - 18:30 **Guests' Arrival & Registration** - Welcoming/Light Snack
- 18:30 - 18:35 Welcoming Remarks by Former Ambassador of Afghanistan to the U.S./UK & Russia and Board Member of the Afghan Institute for Strategic Studies (AISS),
Amb. Said Tayeb Jawad.
- 18:35 - 19:00 Musical Performance by **LA Daf Ensemble.**
- 19:00 - 19:30 Launch of the Persian translation of the book "**Reopening Muslim Minds: A Return to Reason, Freedom, and Tolerance**" by **Mr. Mustafa Akyol**, Senior Fellow at the Cato Institute's Center for Global Liberty and Prosperity / Moderator: **Dr. Wahid Gulrani**, Adjunct Professor, Georgetown University.
- 19:30 - 19:40 Video Screening: **Jewish Cemetery in Herat.**
- 19:40 - 20:30 Keynote Address by **Professor Michael Barry**, Princeton University & American University of Afghanistan.
- 20:30 - 20:35 **Cake-Cutting Ceremony** Celebrating the **819th Anniversary of Rumi's Birthday.**
- 20:35 - 21:10 Celebrating Afghan Hindu/Sikh's Cultural Heritage: Music Performance by **Mukesh Pran & Masood Omari.**
- 21:10 - 22:00 **Dinner**



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