

TRANSCRIPT

A Victory Coalition Threat Assessment Concerning Zohran Mamdani

Can a “12er” Sharia-supremacist be Entrusted with the Security of N.Y.C.?

Frank Gaffney with Dr. David Wurmser,

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Media File: Webinar_Mamdani.mp4

BEGIN TRANSCRIPT

[00:00:00] **Frank Gaffney:** Welcome to this edition of the Victory Coalition’s now fairly regular briefing series devoted to a topic of paramount importance. It involves—not the Middle East exactly—but something very much related to it: namely, an ideology with an ominous agenda that could profoundly impact the people and the city of New York if one of its adherents is elected mayor in the upcoming election.

[00:01:00] We’re going to talk in considerable detail about that ideology and its agenda. It has been described as **Twelver Shiism**, in reference to the **Twelfth Imam**—whom Shia Muslims believe is their messianic figure (**the Mahdi**)—to be brought out of occultation under circumstances we’ll discuss. A prominent adherent is a man by the name of **Zohran Mamdani**, the Democratic candidate for Mayor of New York City.

We’re going to hear a great deal about him—his views on a variety of things—and, in particular, what it would mean if someone who holds views aligned with the leading forces in this ideology (at the moment, the mullahs of Iran) were to become responsible for the security of New York City—its people, infrastructure, and financial sector.

This will, in short, be one of the most important briefings brought to you by our Victory Coalition. You can follow what we do at VictoryCo.org, and I strongly commend to you the resources we’re making available, among the best of whom are our panelists. Today we’re going to lead off with a man who has been faithfully contributing to these programs all along: **Dr. David Wurmser**. He is a PhD, a now-retired lieutenant commander in the United States Navy who specialized in intelligence. He has served with great distinction in senior positions at the Department of State, the National Security Council, and the Office of the Vice President.

David is an extraordinary resource on national security writ large, especially in the Middle East. We've asked him to help us level-set on **Twelver Shiism**—what it is, what it seeks to accomplish—and set the stage for its implications if brought to New York City. David, welcome. Over to you, sir.

[00:03:47] **Dr. David Wurmser:** One thing that strikes me about the **Mamdani** phenomenon is this: of course conservatives in America are upset; of course Jews in America—especially those with a strong attachment to their historical peoplehood or faith, whether Orthodox, Zionist, or simply respectful of tradition—see **Mamdani** as a grave threat. That's understandable given what he's said.

Despite polls—likely inaccurate since they often fail to sample the large **Haredi/Orthodox** Jewish population in New York—there's a palpable sense of hostility. But here's what I've noticed: the people who are even more nervous, more upset, more terrified are **Iranians who fled the 1979 Iranian Revolution**—Jewish Iranians first, and even non-Jewish, Muslim Iranians.

Why would that be? You have to get down to the ideology behind **Mamdani. Twelver Shiism** is part of this, and let me explain how. People will say: Twelver Shiites have been around for a thousand years—there are scientists and scholars who were Twelvers—so why be particularly concerned now? Because the **modern revolutionary form** is different, and that's the phenomenon we're dealing with here.

Briefly: when Islam's leadership succeeded Muhammad, major tribes of Mecca chose **caliphs**. They did **not** first choose **Ali** (Muhammad's cousin and son-in-law), but appointed others before finally appointing Ali as the fourth caliph. Ali sought to reform corruption—challenging powerful governors like the one in Damascus. The resulting conflict produced the **Sunni-Shia split (Shi'at Ali**—the “party of Ali”—versus the **Umayyad** line, later the **Abbasid** caliphs).

Sunni caliphates continued through history (eventually Ottoman), while the **Shia** line focused on a chain of divinely guided **Imams**. **Twelver Shiism** holds that the **Twelfth Imam** entered **occultation** and will return as the **Mahdi**, whose emergence heralds an apocalyptic struggle culminating in the triumph of true Islam.

For centuries, Shiites were a persecuted minority and developed quietist strands. But the **Iranian Revolution** re-empowered Shia ideology **in power**—a dangerous cocktail. Two currents emerged: one is **Velayat-e Faqih** (rule of the jurist)—a philosopher-king model where a supreme leader rules in the Imam's stead; the second is a more **imminentist Mahdism**: the Mahdi's return is near, so prepare for cataclysm and confrontation. Both currents anchor to confrontation with the West.

Why do I think **Mamdani** fits this current? Because **modern Twelver politics are under the shadow of the Iranian Revolution**, and there are telltale signs—especially the

fusion of Marxism/third-worldism with Twelver Shiism, the **obsessive focus on the Jews and Israel**, and a **revolutionary posture** toward the West. **Mamdani** checks these boxes, and so does his milieu.

In short, **Mamdani** looks like a **bridgehead** for this revolutionary project into the West. He likely sees **New York**—the core of Jewish presence in America and a global financial center—as a kind of **Normandy beachhead** for an ideological invasion.

[00:14:57] **Frank Gaffney**: Thank you. This is brilliant. I particularly appreciate the **Normandy landing** analogy.

We'll turn next to a man who has been studying **Zohran Mamdani** closely for some time. In fact, he's the author of a brand-new book on the man and the phenomenon entitled ***Ayatollah on the Hudson: The Selling of Zohran Mamdani***. Another great contributor to the Victory Coalition and dear friend, **Robert Spencer**, the Director of **Jihad Watch** (jihadwatch.org). He's a Shillman Fellow at the David Horowitz Freedom Center, a columnist for *FrontPage Magazine* and PJ Media, and the author of—last I checked—over 30 books. Robert, thanks for finding time amid your book launch. Over to you.

[00:16:23] **Robert Spencer**: I want to concentrate—building on Dr. Wurmser's overview—on what **Mamdani** could **practically** do as mayor of New York to further the goals of both **Shiite revolutionaries** and **Marxists**, since he straddles both.

Many warn about the **damage** a Mayor Mamdani could do. That's true. But note: those **negative effects** are **essential** to his program—not accidental byproducts of naive idealism. **Marxism** and **revolutionary Twelver Shiism** both employ **chaos** to destroy the existing order so it can be replaced.

Twelver doctrines assert the Mahdi returns when Muslims face unprecedented persecution; some in Iran's leadership have openly mused that catastrophic war and mass casualties could hasten that outcome. A true believer **wants** societal unraveling. A Mayor **Mamdani** might **welcome** New York's dissolution into chaos as part of that trajectory.

There are practical angles too: Iran has previously dispatched **assassination teams** to New York. If a future team targeted an exiled dissident, would a Mayor **Mamdani** **impede**, **enable**, or **ignore** it? The media won't ask, fearing charges of "Islamophobia," even though **Mamdani's** public record (e.g., refusal to condemn "**globalize the intifada**," BDS activism) begs such questions.

He has **downplayed** his Islamic identity on the trail, selling himself instead as a provider of "free" socialist goodies—part of the effort to normalize socialism in the Democratic Party. Yet he has spoken in unmistakably **Marxist** terms ("seizing the means of

production”), and he’s said his **hatred of Israel** and commitment to **BDS** prompted his political career.

He is the **dream candidate** of the **red-green axis**: a union of hard-left internationalism and Islamist authoritarianism, packaged as “diversity” and “equity.” That makes him **profoundly dangerous** as mayor. There’s more in the book. Thank you.

[00:26:33] **Frank Gaffney**: Thank you, Robert, for the book and today’s presentation. This is required reading, whether you live in New York City or will be downstream of whatever damage occurs there—possibly physical, not just societal.

Next, a man whose professional career involved working **undercover** against the mullahs of Iran and other **sharia-supremacists** as an operative in the CIA’s clandestine service: **Charles “Sam” Faddis**. He’s been a frequent contributor to our programs and writes at **AND Magazine** (Substack). Sam, over to you.

[00:28:22] **Sam Faddis**: Let me dive deeper into what both previous guests touched on. **Twelver Shiites** believe the **Twelfth Imam**—the **Mahdi**—is hidden (associated with sites in Iran and Iraq) and will return to lead Islam to victory, subjugating the world through conversion or conquest.

To Americans this can sound abstract. It isn’t. For adherents, it’s **real** and **imminent**—**today or tomorrow**. And believers are **not** told to wait passively; they are **obligated** to **hasten** the apocalyptic confrontation.

That’s why a **nuclear Iran** is uniquely dangerous: leadership steeped in this ideology seeks **conflagration**, not deterrence.

Now imagine a man from this milieu as **mayor of New York**, effectively in charge of the **NYPD** and the security of airports, ports, and critical infrastructure. Look at **Mamdani’s** record: associates who justified **9/11**, proximity to an imam tied to the **1993 WTC bombing**, founding a **Students for Justice in Palestine** chapter (SJP acts as a political arm of **Hamas** in the U.S.). He hasn’t repudiated this rhetoric.

If he wins, the **federal government** will have to prepare to ensure New York’s security **despite** a mayor who **plays for the other team**.

[00:34:17] **Frank Gaffney**: Thank you, Sam. New York is our country’s most populous city and an economic heart. A Mayor **Mamdani** responsible for protecting that population from the ills his friends wish to visit upon us—make no mistake—would be a profound security problem.

Our next speaker, **Trevor Loudon**, has done unparalleled work chronicling the **enemies within**—books, films, extensive research on revolutionary networks now inside the wire. Trevor, the floor is yours.

[00:36:38] **Trevor Loudon:** In American politics we say “**follow the money.**” But with revolutionaries, you **follow the ideology.** The leaders of Iran don’t want shopping malls; they want to **convert the world** to their brand of Islam. The leaders of the CCP don’t care about money; they want to **dominate the planet.**

Zohran Mamdani embodies a fusion of **Frantz Fanon-style third-world Marxism**, traditional **Maoism**, **democratic socialism**, and **Shia Islam**. He’s a member of **Democratic Socialists of America (DSA)**—which is, functionally, a **communist** organization. DSA is tied to **Cuba**, building links with **Venezuela** and **China**, and overlaps with U.S. communist parties. It also cultivates a strong **Islamist** component (e.g., leaders and figures like **Linda Sarsour**; multiple DSA-aligned officials nationwide).

DSA today is explicitly **anti-Zionist**—to the point of disciplining members who express pro-Israel views.

Mamdani’s father has praised revolutionary movements and engaged in radical “anti-colonial” framing where terror by groups like **Hamas/Hezbollah** is reframed as “freedom fighting,” while **Israel** and **the U.S.** are labeled “terrorist.”

Expect **New York** under **Mamdani** to become a **counter-state**—driving out tax base and business, like **Detroit** under radical leadership, but with **jihadi** alignment layered on top. New York’s unique **NYPD intelligence unit**—a key reason there hasn’t been a post-9/11 mass-casualty attack—would be **gutted**, leaving the city **vulnerable**.

This will **energize** revolutionaries nationwide. DSA already has council footholds in cities like **Chicago**, **Los Angeles**, **Seattle**, **Portland**, **Madison**, **Detroit**. A **Mamdani** win in **New York** would be the **jewel in the crown**, inspiring both **political Islam** and **Marxist** cadres to escalate—stealth capture of school boards and councils, and, over time, **kinetic** action.

[00:57:35] **Frank Gaffney:** Thank you, Trevor—and thanks to all our participants: **Dr. David Wurmser**, **Robert Spencer**, **Sam Faddis**, and **Trevor Loudon**. This has been a chilling, true threat briefing.

We must ensure New Yorkers—especially those who haven’t yet voted—understand what’s on the line. This isn’t coordinated with any campaign; it’s an effort to restore **informed voting**, the bedrock of election integrity.

As we approach 250 years of self-governance, our republic is on the line. We may lose it to people explicitly seeking its destruction—whether in the name of a **golden age of Islam**, a **workers’ paradise**, or **globalist** rule by unaccountable elites.

The hour is late. Will we rise to ensure another 250 years of American greatness? We pray New Yorkers answer **yes**.

Thank you for participating. Please subscribe, share, and help us multiply the impact.
God bless you all.

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